



# **Biosecurity**

## **Operational Plan Report 2019/2020**

**September 2020**



**Biosecurity  
Operational Plan Report  
2019/2020**

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## Introduction

This Operational Plan Report (the Report) has been developed to serve dual purposes. That is, to meet the requirements of an annual report on the Operational Plan in accordance with section 100B of the Biosecurity Act 1993 and also report on various other work functions of the Biosecurity Section at Council, as detailed in Part Two of the Biosecurity Operational Plan 2018-2028.

**Part One** will report on each programme within the Regional Pest Management Plan 2018 (RPMP) that became operative on 1 October 2018. There are 34 programmes within the RPMP, of which 30 are for invasive plant species, two for invasive animals, one for an invasive bird and one for a marine pest.



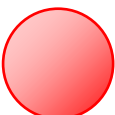

**Part Two** will report on various other biosecurity services and/or initiatives that Council has decided to implement or support.

**Part Three** details a summary of performance against targets for the 2019/2020 year and also over time.

**Part Four** details the annual review of the Operational Plan 2018-2028 in accordance with section 100B(1)(b), including any changes to the operational plans as a result of the review.



## Performance Scoring System

The Operational Plan outlined a number of targets for both RPMP programmes and other initiatives. Measures against these targets will be used to assess performance of implementation. A coloured 'traffic-light' system – outlined below – will be used to indicate the 2019/2020 performance against the respective target.

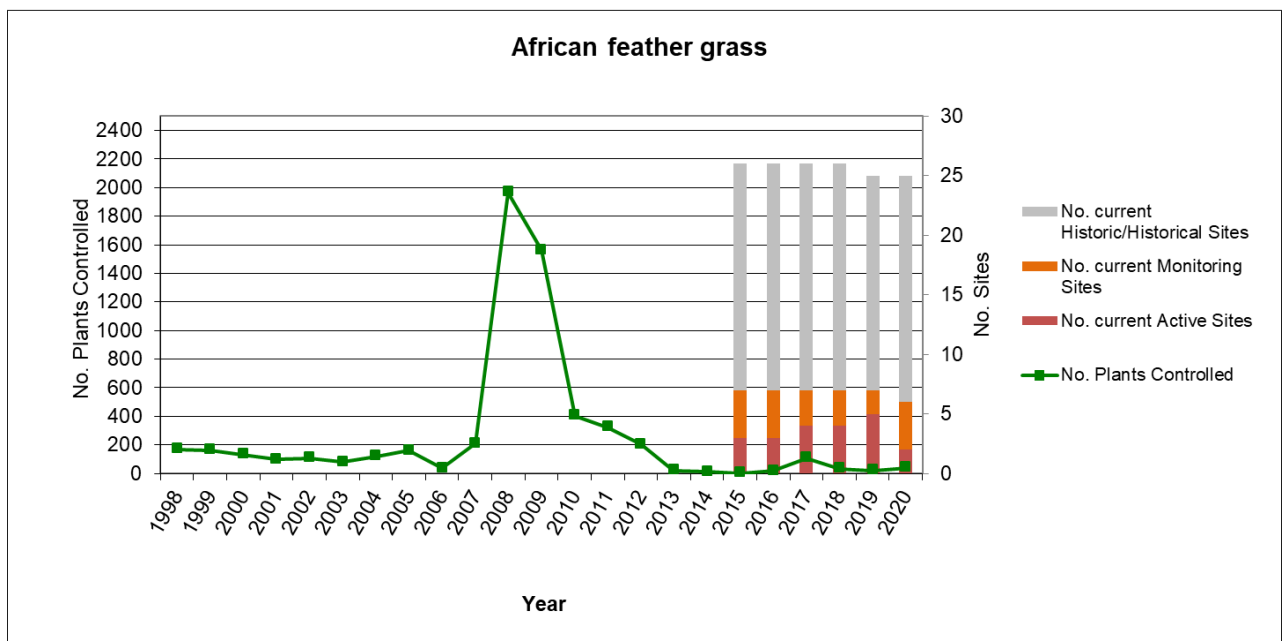
| Symbol  | Definition   |
|---|--|
|  | Achieved.<br>All actions have been taken with the measure achieved.  |
|  | Almost Achieved.<br>Actions have been undertaken but the measure has not been fully achieved for reported reasons.                           |
|  | Not Achieved.<br>Actions have not been undertaken to the level required or not been undertaken at all and the measure has not been achieved. |
|  | Not applicable.<br>No actions were required to measure against the target.   |

## Part One - Regional Pest Management Plan Programmes

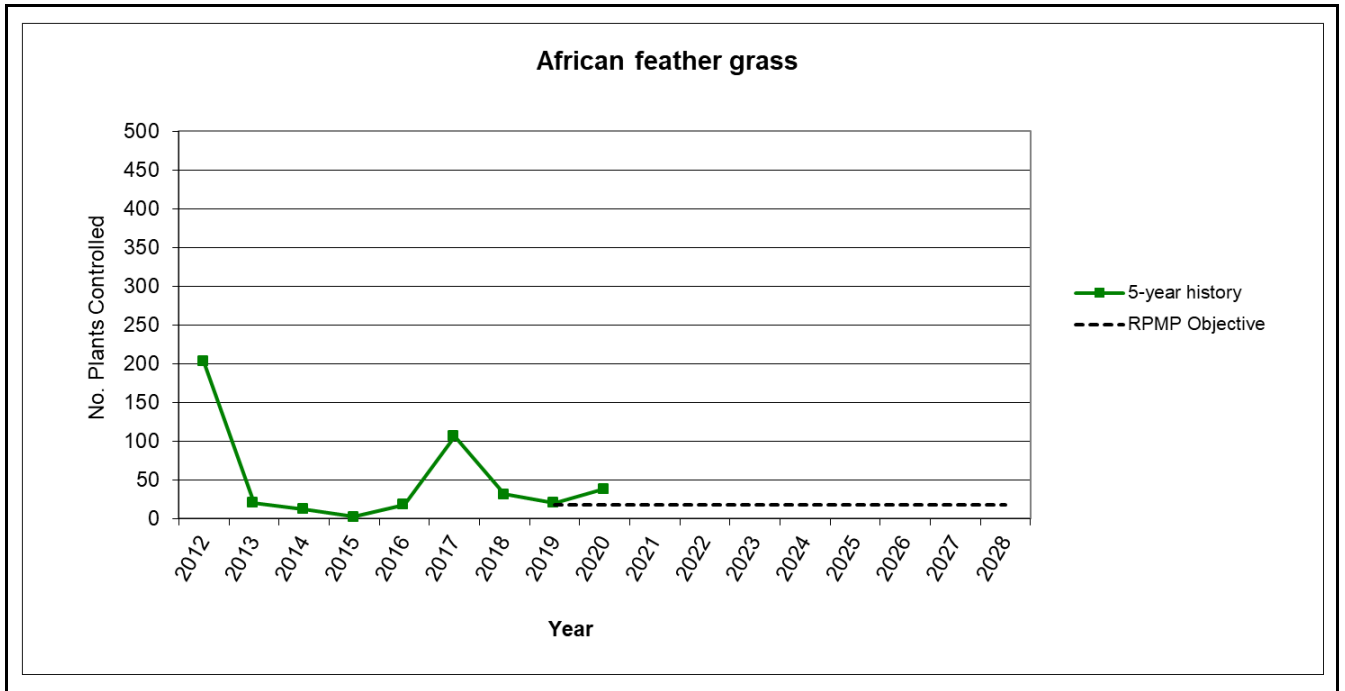
### 1. African feather grass (*Pennisetum macrourus*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control African feather grass ( <i>Cenchrus macrourus</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 1.1</b>          | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | All 7 (100%) high priority sites were visited. 38 plants were destroyed from 2 of those sites, compared to 20 plants found over 4 sites in 2018/2019            |                   |          |
| <b>Target 1.2</b>          | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | Of the 18 historical sites, 11 sites were visited for surveillance activities during the 2019/2020 season. No re-occurrence of African feather grass was found. |                   |          |



**Programme trend:**



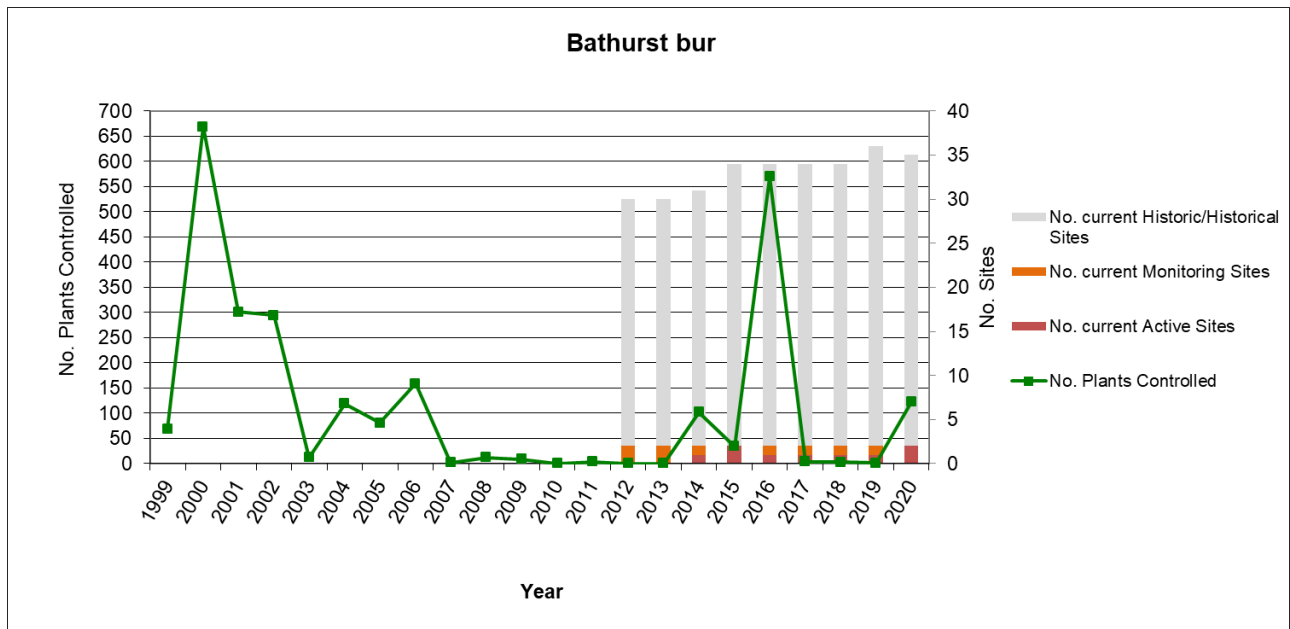


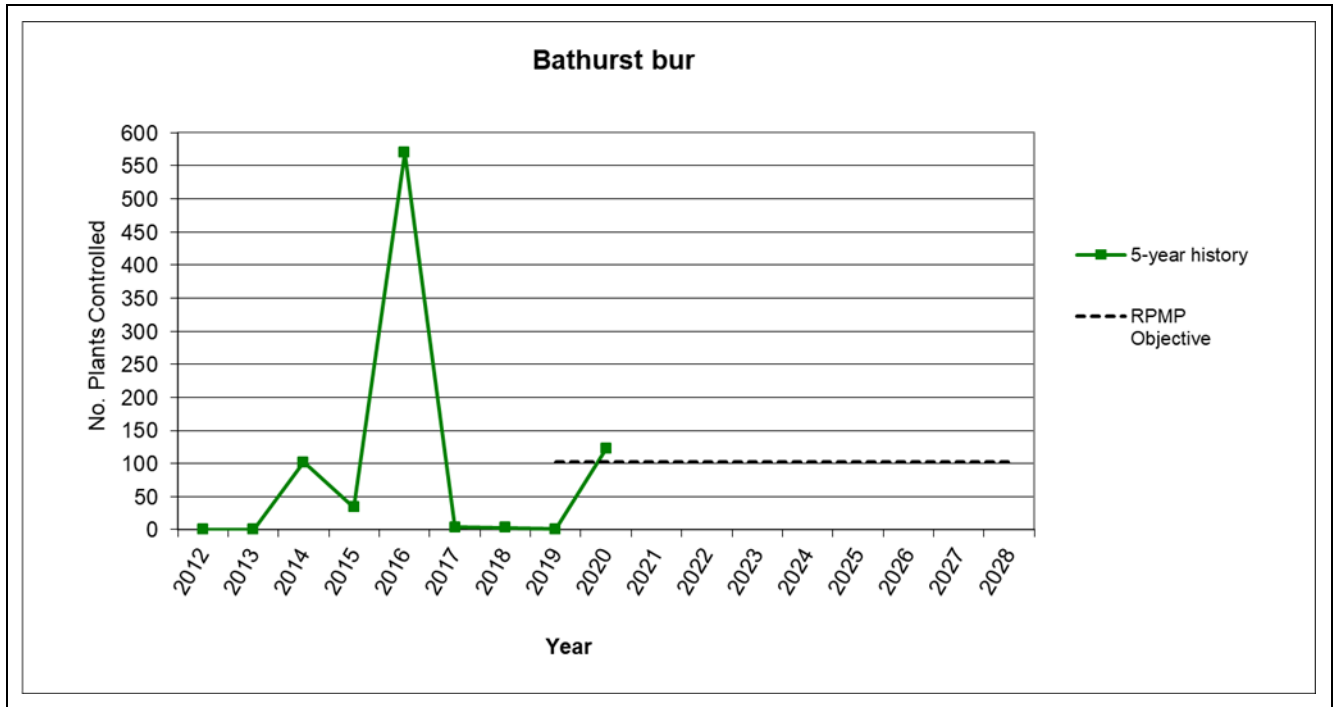


## 2. Bathurst bur (*Xanthium spinosum*)



| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control bathurst bur ( <i>Xanthium spinosum</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2014 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 2.1</b>          | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | 100% of high priority Bathurst bur sites were visited for control activities for 2019/2020. 7 plants were destroyed from the one and only site categorised as high priority at that time.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 2.2</b>          | Each year, 10% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance, plus any site known to have had soil disturbance within the last 12 month period.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 10 sites out of 34 sites with a historical status were visited for surveillance activities during 2019/2020. Large numbers of large plants were found at one site, and the site has now been re-categorised as active. No historical sites were known to be subject to any soil disturbance. |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**

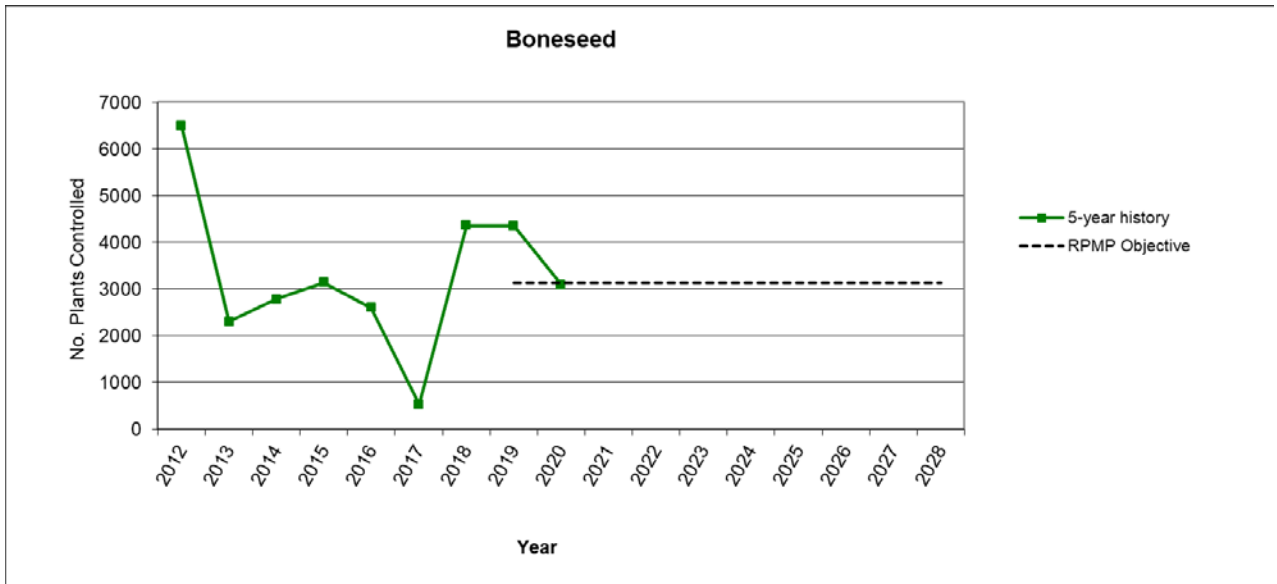
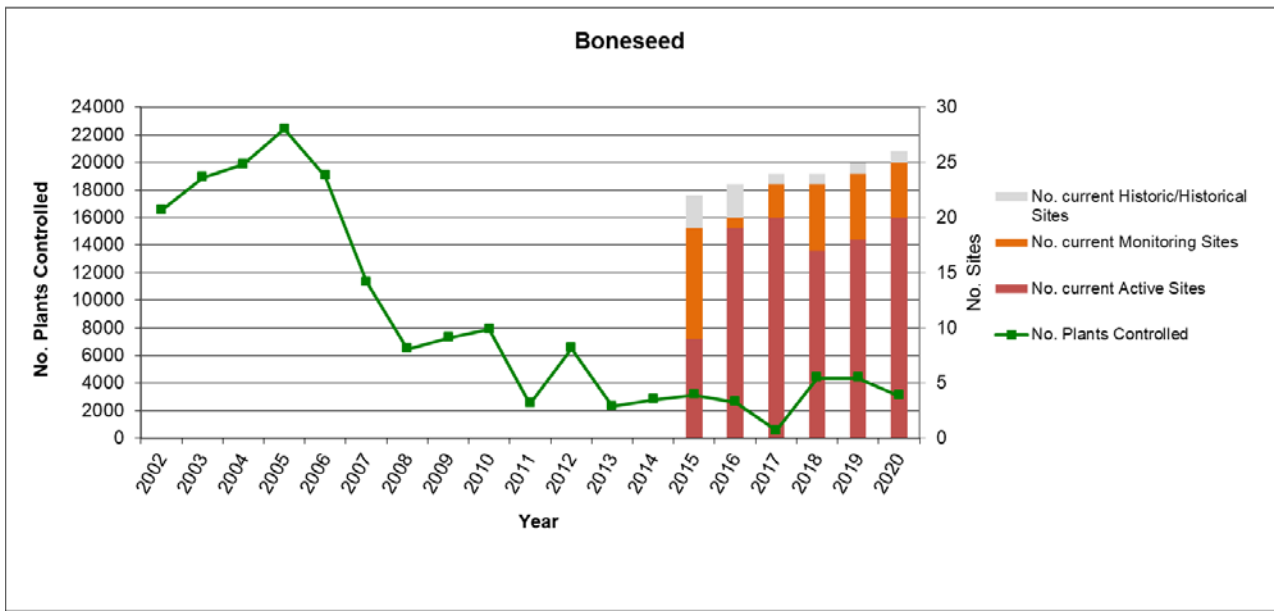




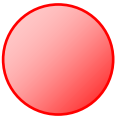

### 3. Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)

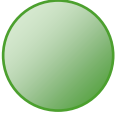
| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control boneseed ( <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2015 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to by the Department of Conservation (DOC) and Council that includes the management of boneseed.</p> <p>Operational activities are pre-planned each year and are delivered by either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Council staff and/or contractors, or;</li> <li>b) Joint operations between DOC and Council staff and/or contractors (predominantly Queen Charlotte Sound/Tory Channel sites), or;</li> <li>c) DOC staff (Kenepuru Sound, Ocean Bay sites).</li> </ul> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 3.1</b>          | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 100% of sites with a status of active or monitoring were visited during 2019/2020.   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 3.2</b>          | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | There is currently only 1 recorded historical boneseed site and this site was visited for surveillance in February 2019. As a result, there were no sites scheduled for surveillance in 2019/2020. |                   |          |

Programme trend:




#### 4. Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)

| Exclusion   | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|---|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <p><b>Objective 1</b></p> <p><b>Objective 2</b></p> <p><b>Operations overview</b></p> | <p>Over the duration of the Plan, control broom (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) in the Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone (excluding the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area), Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p>*A baseline assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the Plan commences.</p> <p>Over the duration of the Plan, control broom (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) across the remainder of the district, in situations where the presence of broom on boundaries threatens adjoining land clear of or being managed for broom, to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p>Council staff will actively deliver communication, compliance and surveillance activities within the respective RPMP programme Zones. This will be to ensure occupiers are aware of the RPMP obligations and follow through with an adequate level of control to meet RPMP programme objectives. Surveillance will also assist to form accurate datasets of infestations that can also assist occupiers target control efforts.</p> <p>Council staff will also follow-up and investigate situations that come to their attention where broom is against a boundary and potentially threatening adjoining land.</p> |   |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 4.1</b></p>  | <p>By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made, and metrics set, for the purposes of setting longer term programme trend monitoring for broom within the control zones.</p>  |   |                   |          |
| <p>2019/2020</p>  |   | <p>Not achieved</p> <p>Work in this area is continuing given a balanced (cost/benefit) monitoring metric for such a programme is proving difficult to establish.</p> <p>This is being addressed as part of the Operational Plan review – see Part Four.</p>   |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 4.2</b></p>  | <p>Each year, undertake inspection and/or surveillance activities in all three zones.</p>  |   |                   |          |
| <p>2019/2020</p>  |   | <p><u>Waima/Ure</u></p> <p>Surveillance was undertaken from the Ure Road, only one dead plant was found. A number of landowners were spoken to after the compliance returns went out, landowners indicated that there were very few broom plants found.</p> <p><u>Upper Wairau</u></p> <p>Inspections of land within this Zone were carried out. There were no issues this year, an improvement on the 2018/2019 season.</p> <p><u>Upper Awatere</u></p> <p>Given all occupiers within the Zone have very active management programmes, the nature of Councils operations are more surveillance and information gathering. This is often done in conjunction with property inspections assessing rabbit population abundance. There are a few instances of where follow-up maybe needed in 2020/2021.</p> |                   |          |


|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <b>Target 4.3</b> | Each year, any situation that comes to Council's attention with regard to broom is against a boundary and potentially threatening adjoining land is investigated, and compliance with the Rule determined, within 5 working days. |   |
| <b>2019/2020</b>  |    | During the 2019/2020 year, Council did not receive any complaints regarding broom on property boundaries. |

## 5. Brushtail possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*)

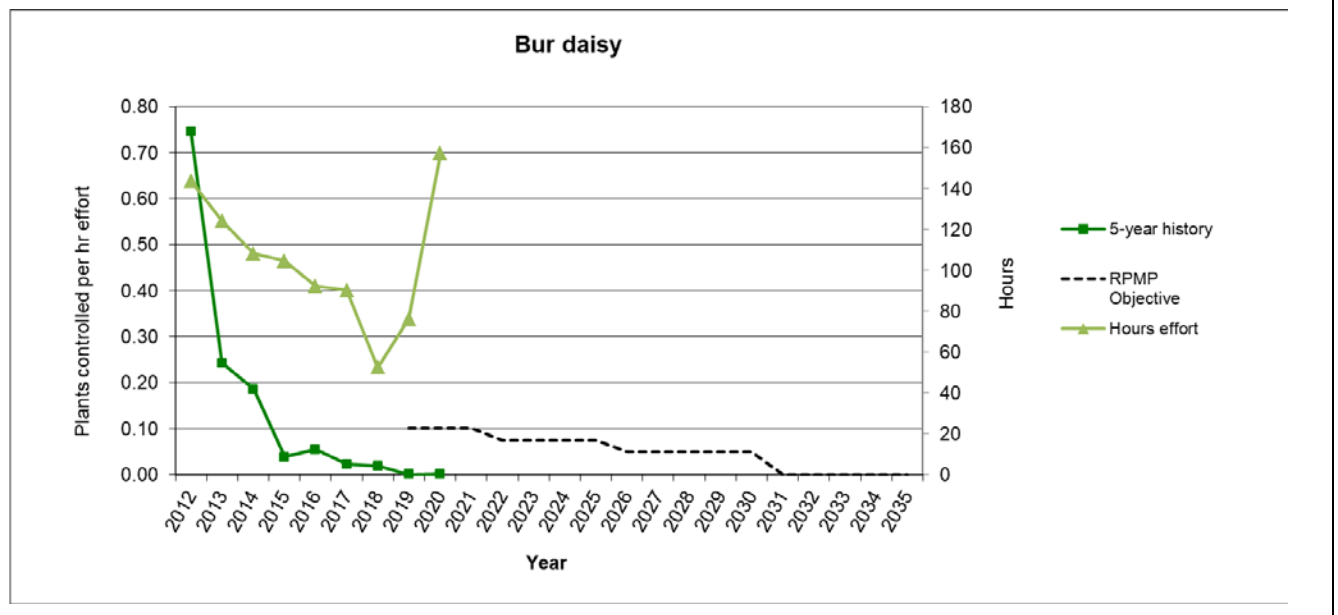
| Exclusion  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment                | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>   | Over the duration of the Plan, prevent the establishment of brushtail possums ( <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> ) on islands currently known to be possum-free in the Marlborough Sounds (see Appendix 4 and Map 4 of the RPMP) to prevent future impacts on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b>   | <p>A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to by DOC and Council that covers the process for investigation/response regarding a detection of a brushtail possum on a 'free' island.</p> <p>In all instances, joint decision-making is to occur.</p> <p>Surveillance activities on the islands include both active activities (on predominantly 'pest-free' islands wholly occupied by DOC), and passive where there is a reliance of reports.</p> <p>Education activities will occur within the community ensure the brushtail-possum free status of the islands, especially the large islands of Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville and Arapaoa where there is a mix of public and private land, is well understood and to report suspected sightings.</p> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 5.1</b>  | Each year, any situation that comes to DOC and/or Council's attention with regard to a report of a brushtail possum on any of the islands listed in the RPMP Programme, has an investigation started within 24 hours.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | No reports were received in 2019/2020. |                   |          |
| <p><b>Status of brushtail possums on designated islands:</b></p> <p>Have been historical detections</p> <p>Not established</p> |  |  |                   |          |





## 6. Bur daisy (*Calotis lappulacea*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective 1</b>         | By 2035, bur daisy ( <i>Calotis lappulacea</i> ) will be controlled to zero density, where no plants are found in the preceding 5 years, in the Marlborough district to prevent adverse effects on the economy.                          |  |                   |          |
| <b>Objective 2</b>         | By the end of the term of this Plan, bur daisy ( <i>Calotis lappulacea</i> ) will only be found at densities less than or equal to 0.1 plants per man hour effort in the Marlborough district to prevent adverse effects on the economy. |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 6.1</b>          | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | 157 man-hours of surveillance/control activities were undertaken at the only known Bur daisy site known to exist in Marlborough. Only one plant was found. If a future trend determines that increased surveillance activities does not correlate to an increase in plants found, then future management plans to scale back those activities can be considered. |                   |          |

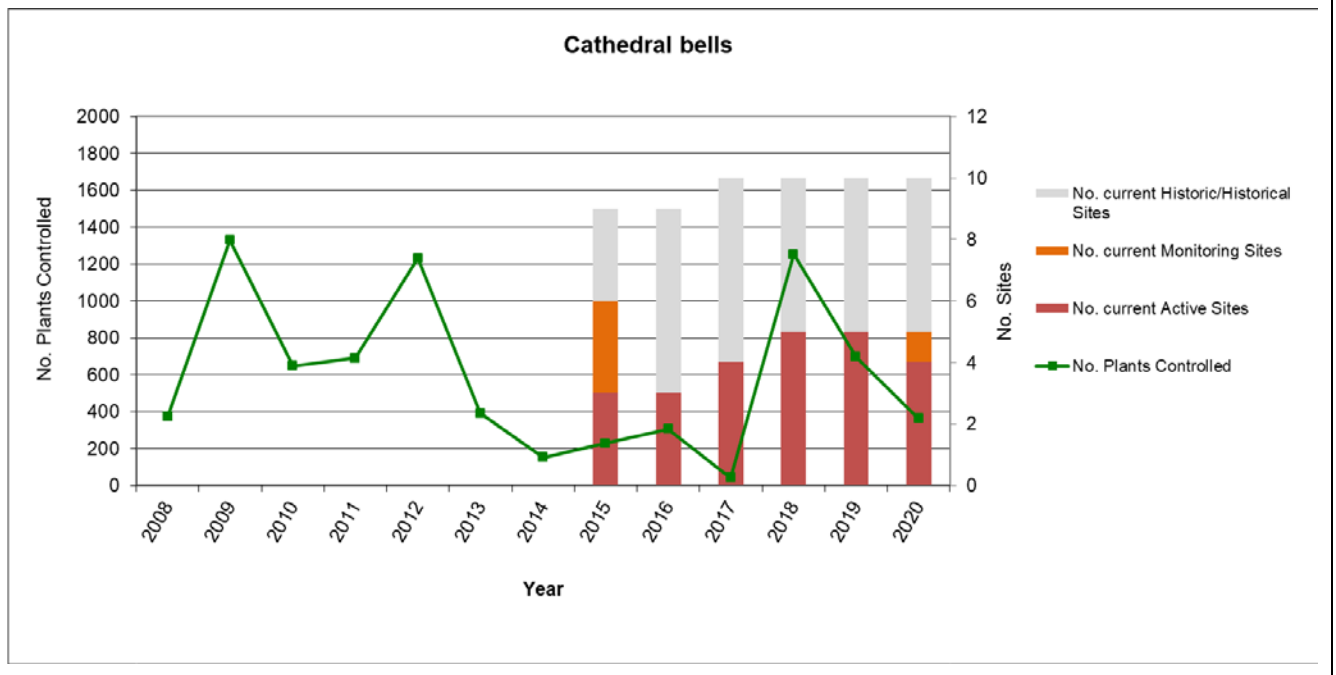
**Programme trend:**

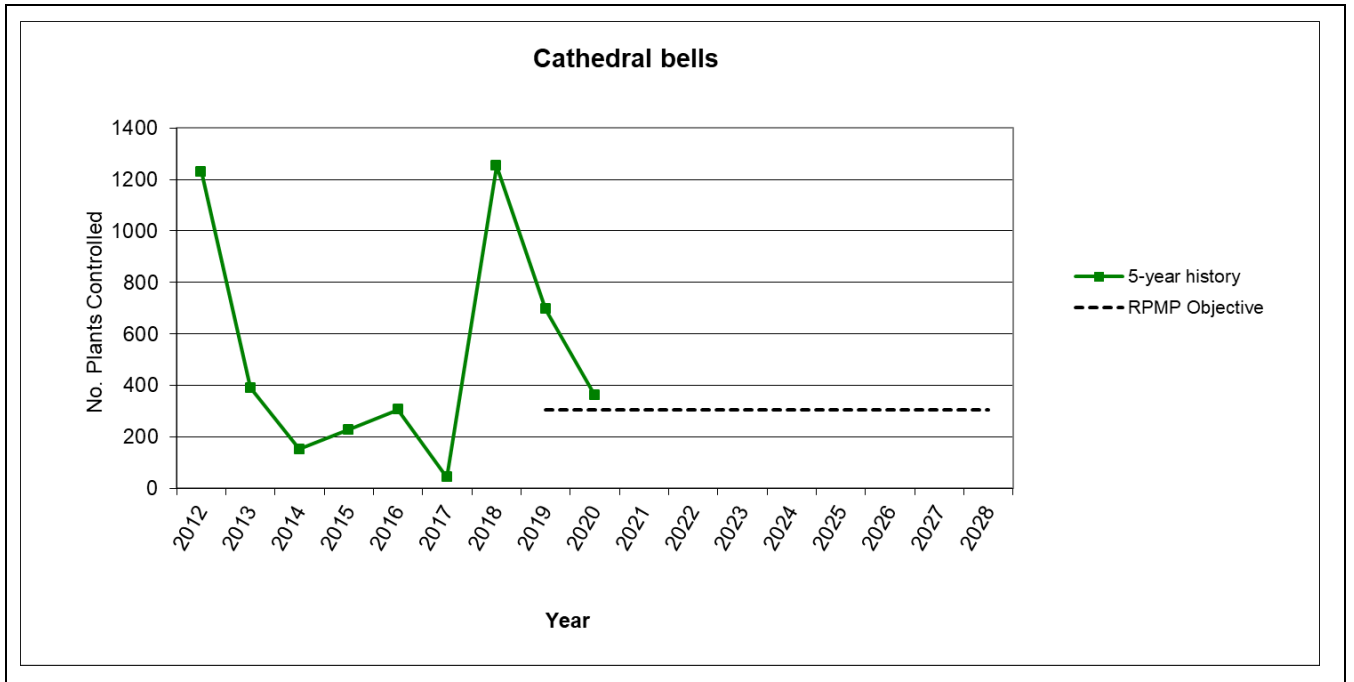


## 7. Cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*)



| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control cathedral bells ( <i>Cobaea scandens</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to by DOC and Council that includes the management of cathedral bells.</p> <p>DOC staff will undertake all operational activities. This is due to the current sites being aligned geographically with existing DOC operations and an acknowledgement by DOC as being a key beneficiary of intervening at these small numbers of sites.</p> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 7.1</b>          | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | All five sites with the status of 'active or 'monitoring' were visited in 2019/2020. The number of plants found at the wedge point infestation has decreased since 2018. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 7.2</b>          | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Three out of five historical sites were visited for surveillance activities to determine any re-occurrence of cathedral bells. No plants were found.                     |                   |          |






**Programme trend:**

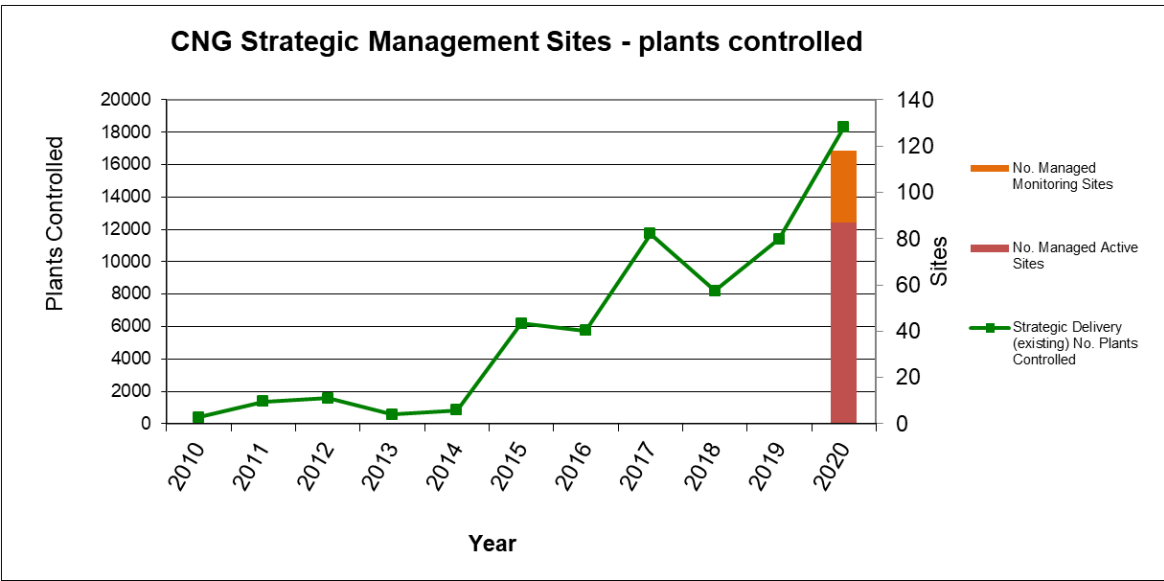
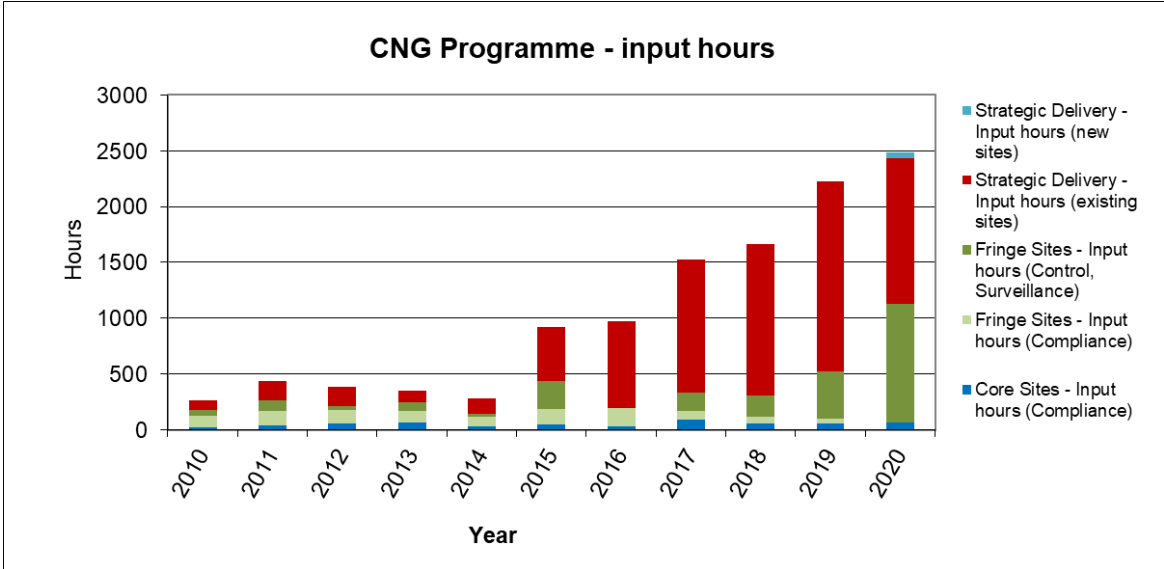
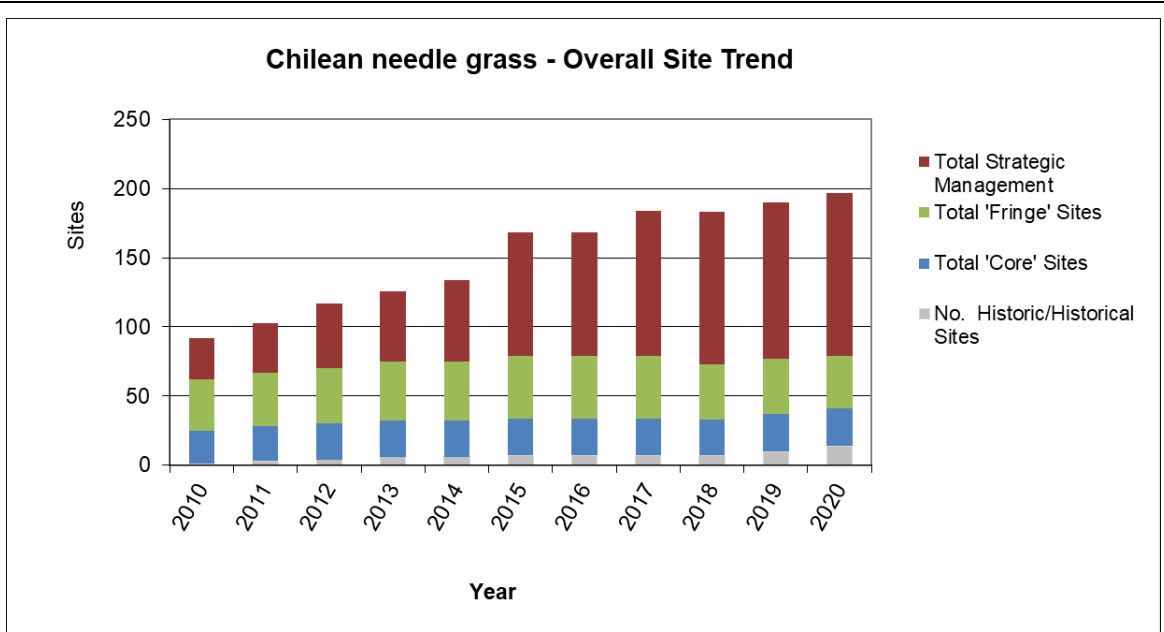


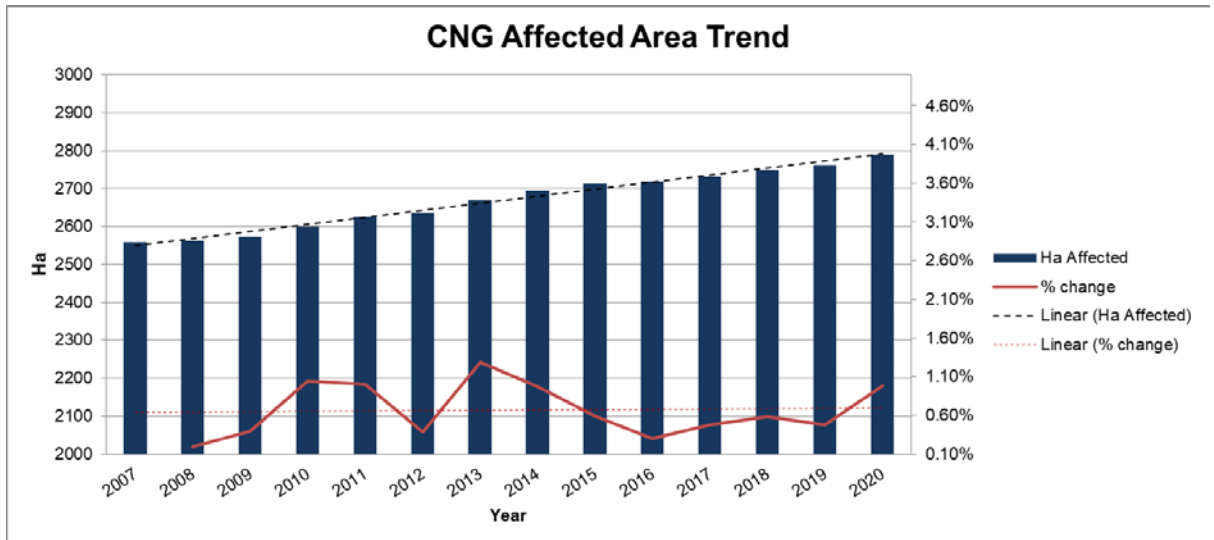


## 8. Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | <p>Over the duration of the Plan, control Chilean needle grass (<i>Nassella neesiana</i>) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to baseline levels* to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p>*A baseline assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the Plan commences</p>  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>There are multiple facets to the Chilean needle grass programme delivered by Council. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff and/or contractors will undertake strategic management of Chilean needle grass on the majority of sites. These are commonly the newer or smaller, scattered infestations.</li> <li>• Active facilitation to develop management plans, and undertake compliance function where necessary, on the more heavy infested sites.</li> <li>• Agree upon, and then where identified, provide cost sharing on the implementation of management plans.</li> <li>• Work alongside the Chilean Needle Grass Action Group and any other related projects to ensure work programmes are aligned and work in together as far as practicable.</li> <li>• Continue to deliver ongoing communication, education and awareness initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>Note: there are other work programmes Council delivers outside of the RPMP that can have an influence on the Chilean needle grass programme. See Part Two.</p> |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 8.1</b>          | <p>By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made for the purposes of monitoring the longer term programme objective for Chilean needle grass.</p>  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | <p>The baseline assessment to monitoring the Chilean needle grass programme will utilise the following metrics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Output data from the service delivery works carried out by Council across the majority of sites; and</li> <li>2. The trend in the growth* of land area affected utilising Council's spatial dataset</li> </ol> <p>* Data is continually added to this dataset and not removed. Therefore it is the rate of increase used as the measure not absolute numbers.</p> |                   |          |
| <b>Target 8.2</b>          | <p>Each year, an inspection is undertaken, or contact is made with the occupier, on 100% of sites that have an infestation of Chilean needle grass, where the occupier has a control obligation.</p>   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | <p>Active facilitation and/or inspection occurred for 100% of sites.</p>  |                   |          |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Target 8.3</b>  | Each year, carry out required management work, on 100% of sites that have an infestation of Chilean needle grass where Council undertakes strategic management. |  |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | Control work visits by staff and/or contractors occurred on 100% of these sites.   |
| <b>Target 8.4</b>  | Each year, any report of potential Chilean needle grass received by Council is investigated within 2 working days.  |  |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | Council received 4 reports of suspected Chilean needle grass in 2019/2020. All reports had an investigation started within 24 hours of receiving the report.   |
| <b>Target 8.5</b>  | Each year, a minimum of 200 hours of surveillance is carried out on land not previously known to have an infestation of Chilean needle grass.                   |  |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | A calculated total of 2,061 hours of staff and contractor time was spent on surveillance activities outside of previously known infested areas.  |
| <b>Target 8.6</b>  | Provide support to the Chilean Needle Grass Action Group or any other related project where there are shared outcomes.  |  |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | Council managed a specific budget on behalf of the Chilean Needle Grass Action Group in 2019/20. This was used to contract NZ Landcare Trust to deliver facilitation services for the group and fund other group-initiated expenses. |
| <b>Target 8.7</b>  | Each year, a minimum of 6 sites without any infestations of Chilean needle grass – but are identified as being at risk - are visited for active surveillance.   |  |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | A total of 6 sites without known populations of CNG where and checked throughout the flowering season.   |
| <b>Programme trend:</b>  |   |  |
| The following trend datasets are being used by Council to monitoring the progress of the Chilean needle grass programme. |   |  |

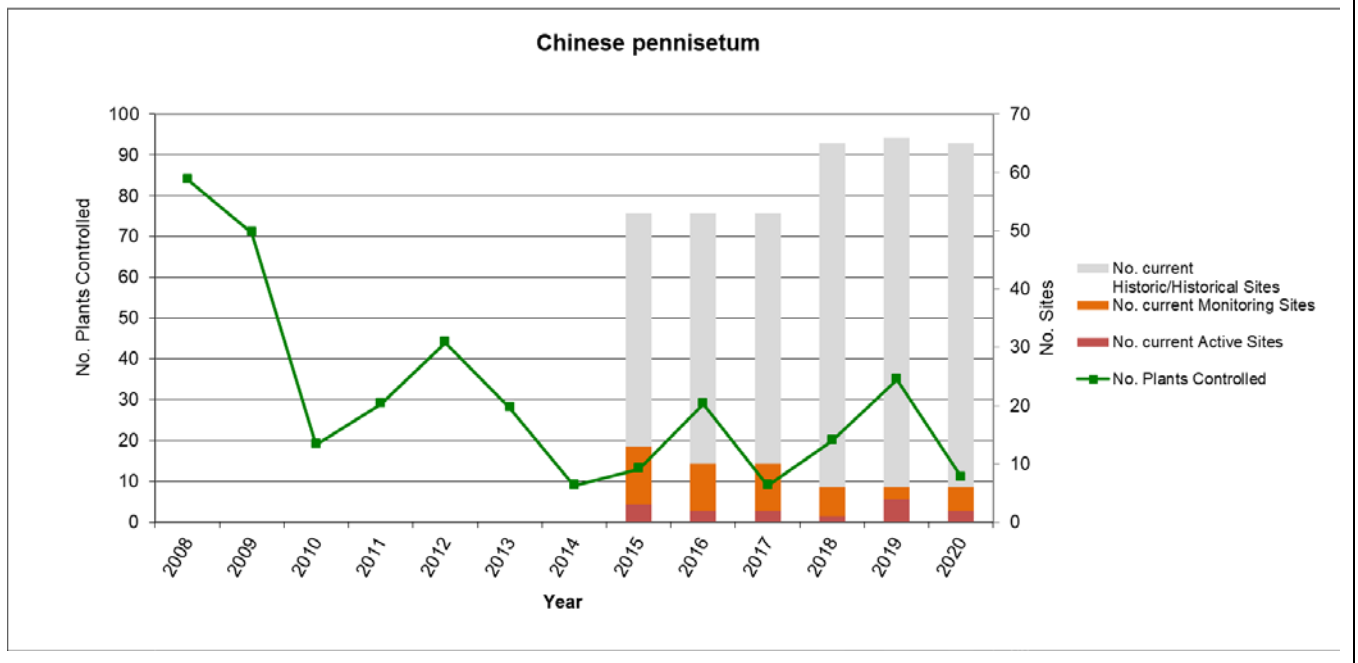




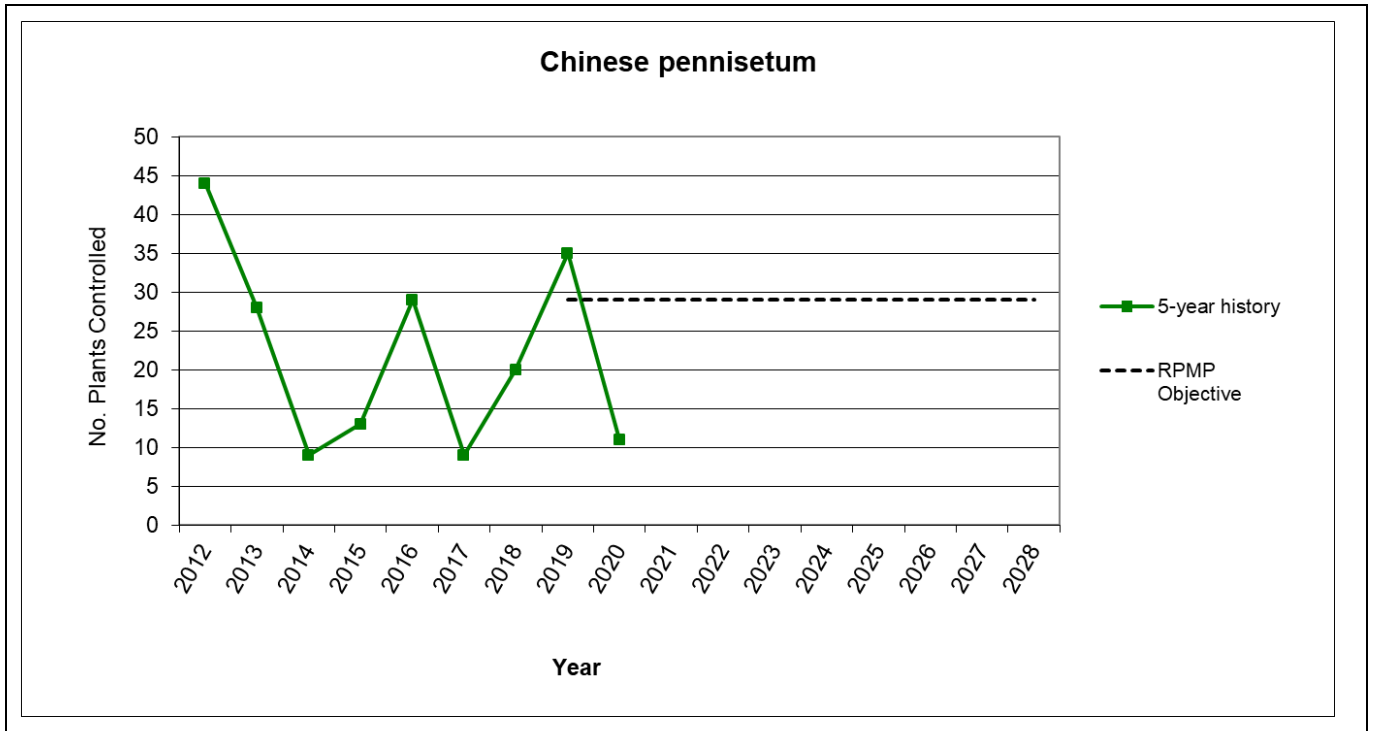
## 9. Chinese pennisetum (*Pennisetum alpecuroides*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|-------------|--|-------------------|----------|
| <p><b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control Chinese pennisetum (<i>Pennisetum alpecuroides</i>) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> |             |  |                   |          |
| <p><b>Operations overview</b> Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.</p>  |             |  |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 9.1</b> Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.</p>   |             |  |                   |          |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>  |             | <p>All Chinese pennisetum sites with a status of 'active' or 'monitoring' were visited for control/surveillance activities.</p>  |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 9.2</b> Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.</p>   |             |  |                   |          |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>  |             | <p>A list of all known historical sites was generated to prioritise a 3 yearly inspection cycle to ensure that one third of historical sites are inspected each year. 19 historical sites prioritised and inspected during 2019/2020</p> |                   |          |



**Programme trend:**



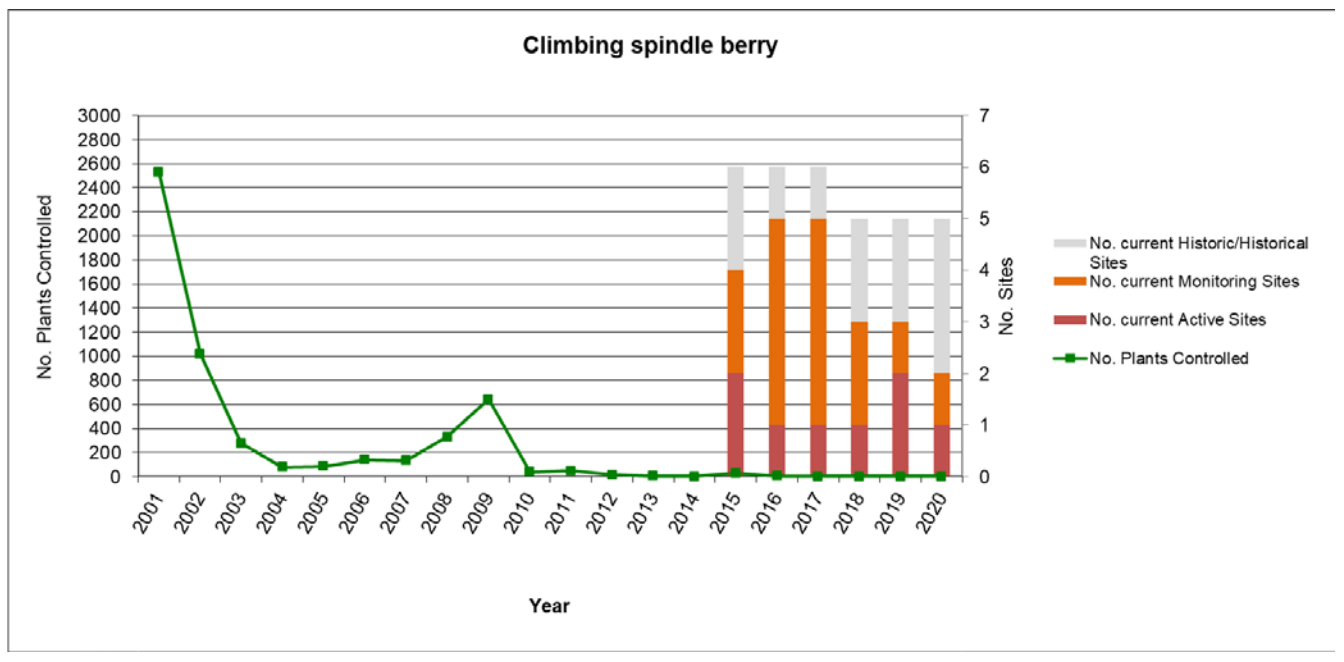


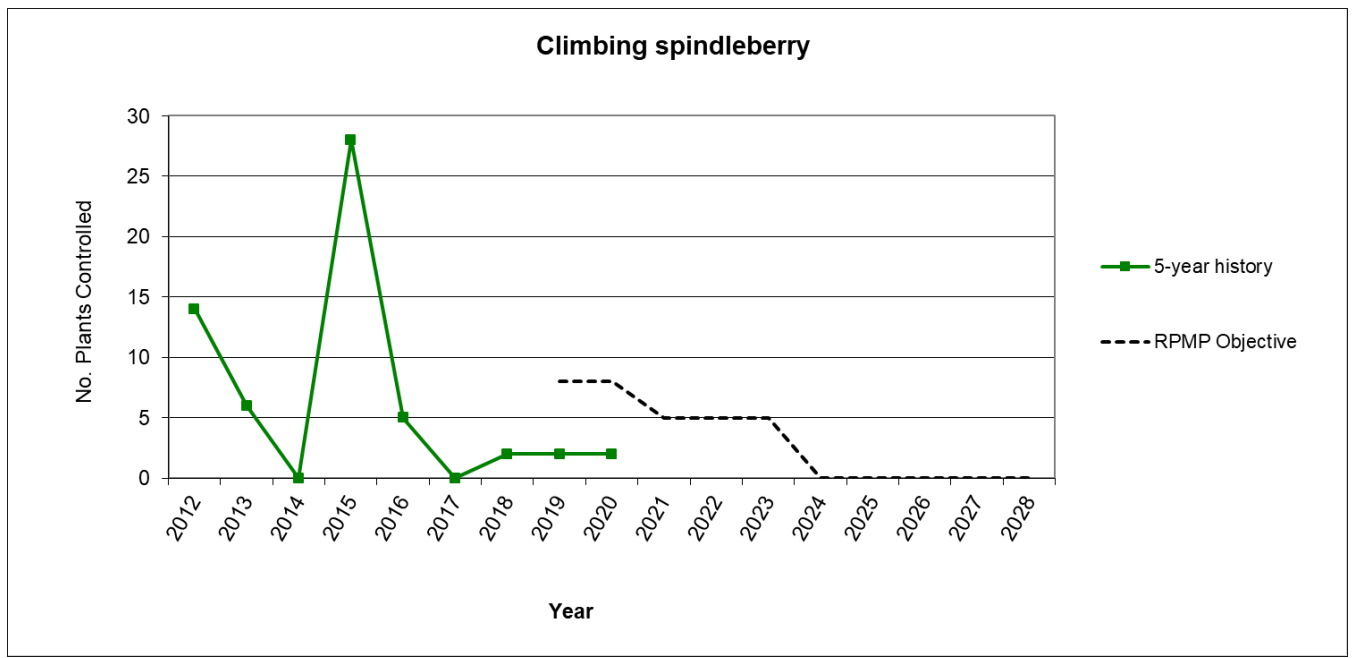
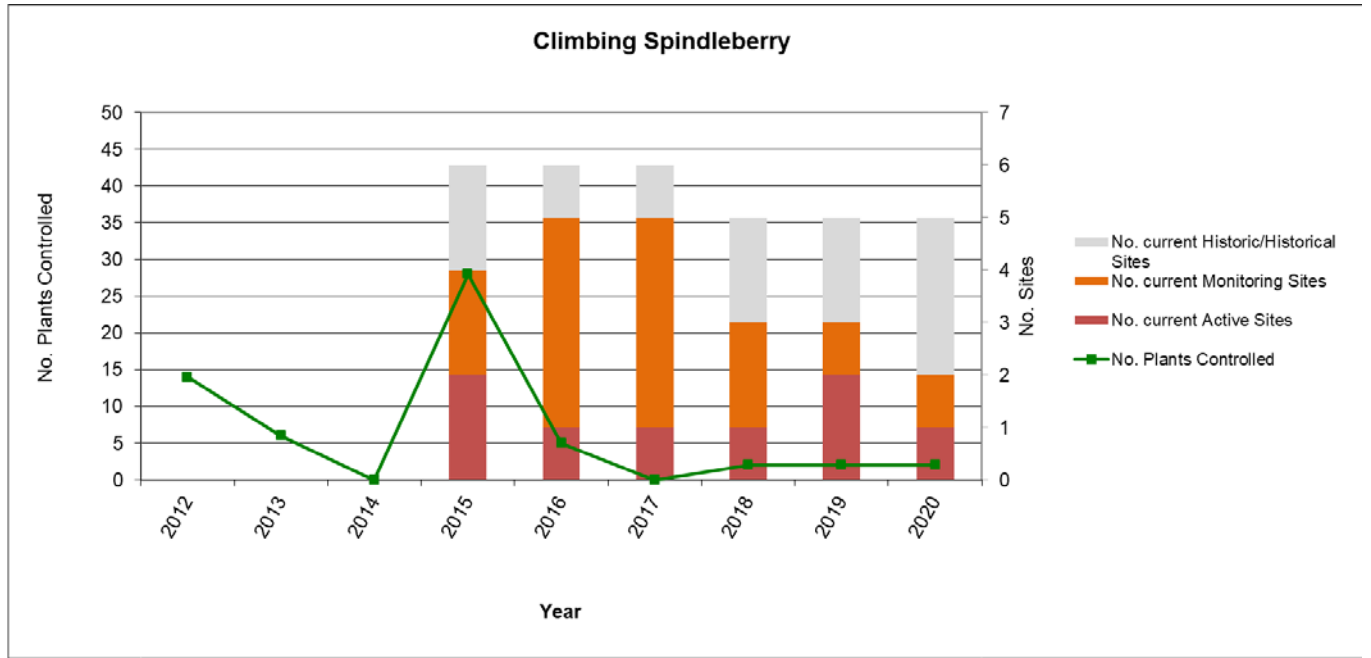


## 10. Climbing spindleberry (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)




| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | By the end of the term of this Plan, climbing spindleberry ( <i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> ) on all known sites in the Marlborough district will have been controlled to zero density to prevent adverse effects on the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to by DOC and Council that includes the management of climbing spindleberry.</p> <p>DOC staff will undertake all operational activities. This is due to the current sites being aligned geographically with existing DOC operations and an acknowledgement by DOC as being a key beneficiary of intervening at these small numbers of sites.</p> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 10.1</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | All 'active' and 'monitoring' sites were visited for 2019/2020. Plant numbers remain low and are on track to potentially eradicating this plant from the region in future. One monitoring site was re-categorised to historical. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 10.2</b>         | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | All historical sites were visited and no plants were found. A site formerly classified as a monitoring site was re-categorised as a historical site, bringing the total historical sites to 3 in 2019/2020.                      |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**

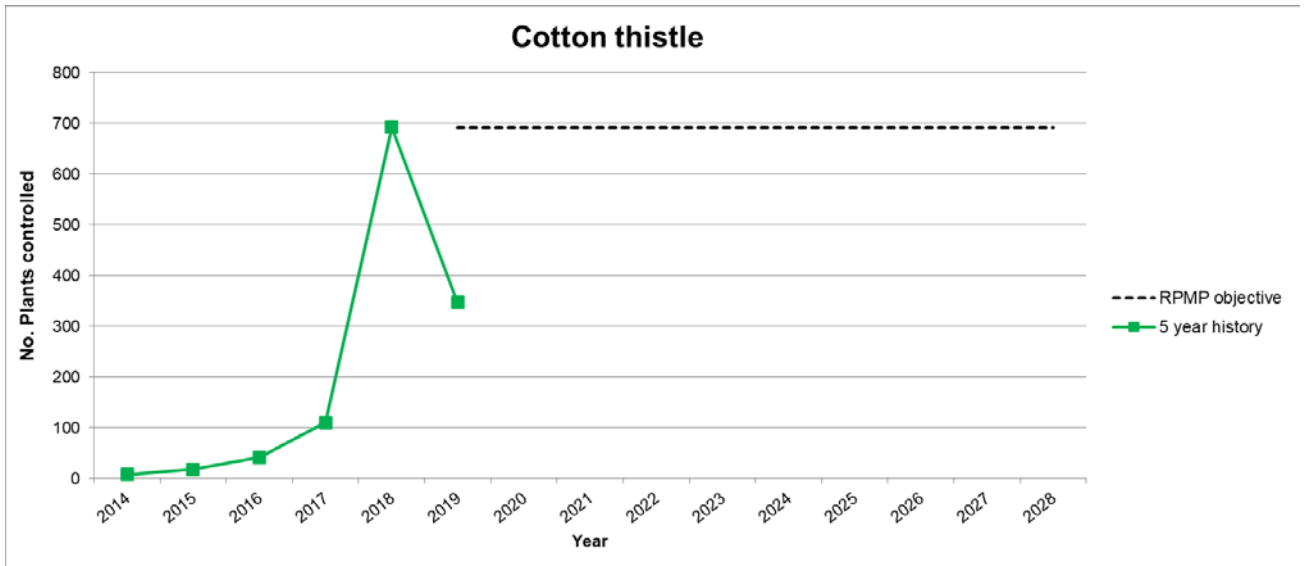
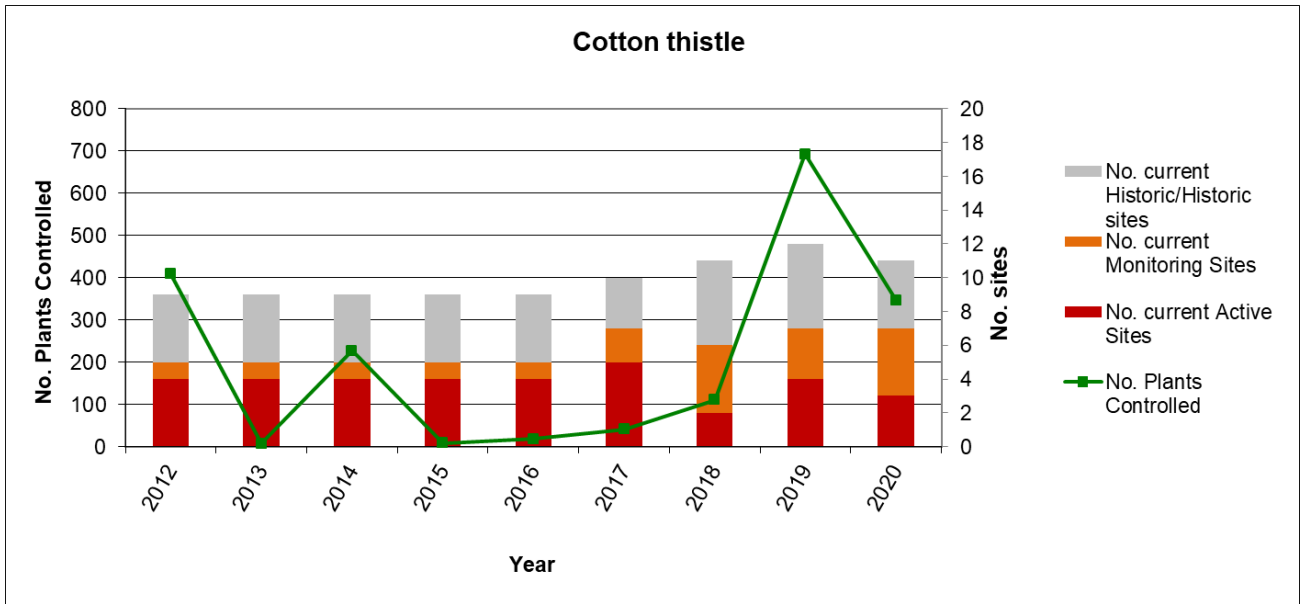





## 11. Cotton thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control cotton thistle ( <i>Onopordum acanthium</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to baseline levels* to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.<br><br>*A baseline level assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the Plan commences. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 11.1</b>         | By 30 June 2019, a baseline population assessment has been made for the purposes of setting the longer term programme objective for cotton thistle.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | The long term RPMP objective is to maintain cotton thistle numbers below 2018/2019 baseline level (692 plants) for the current number of known sites.   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 11.2</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | All sites with a status of active or monitoring were visited in 2019/2020. Thistle numbers have continued to drop as the plants numbers found at a new site 2018/2019 have reduced in density as result of concerted control efforts. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 11.3</b>         | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Four out of five historical sites were visited for surveillance activities in 2019/2020. No reoccurrence of cotton thistle was found at those sites   |                   |          |

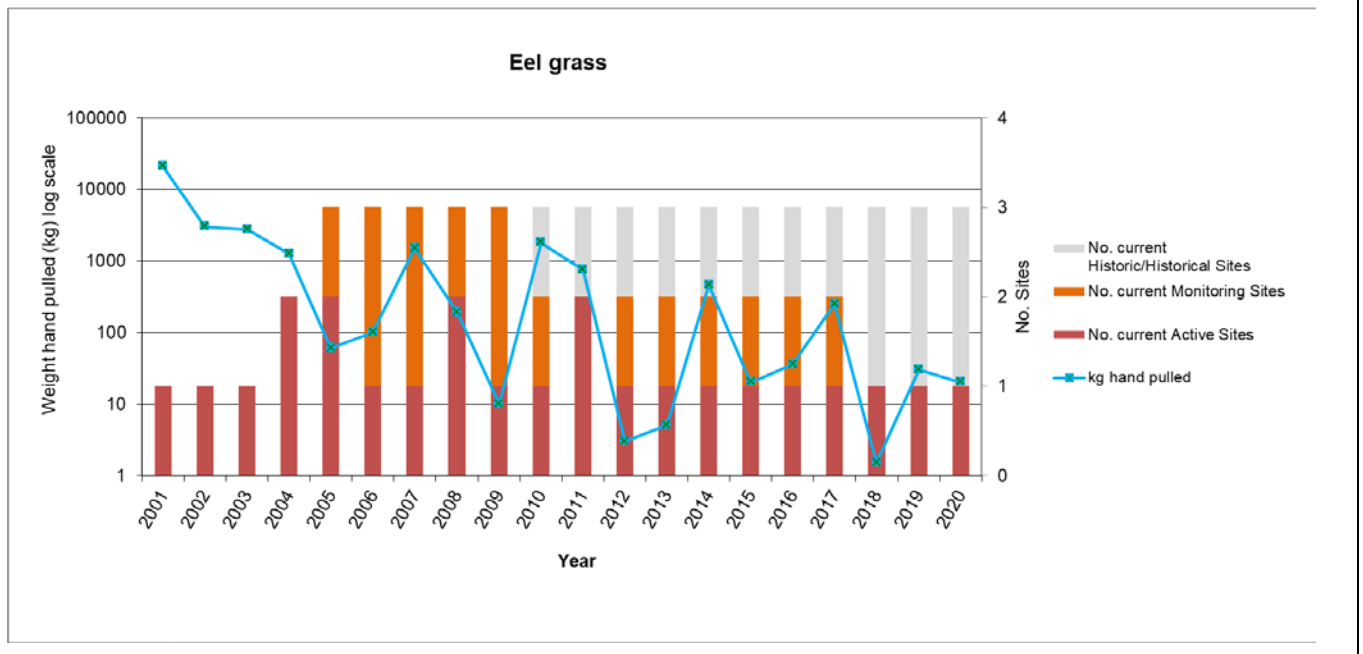
Programme trend:

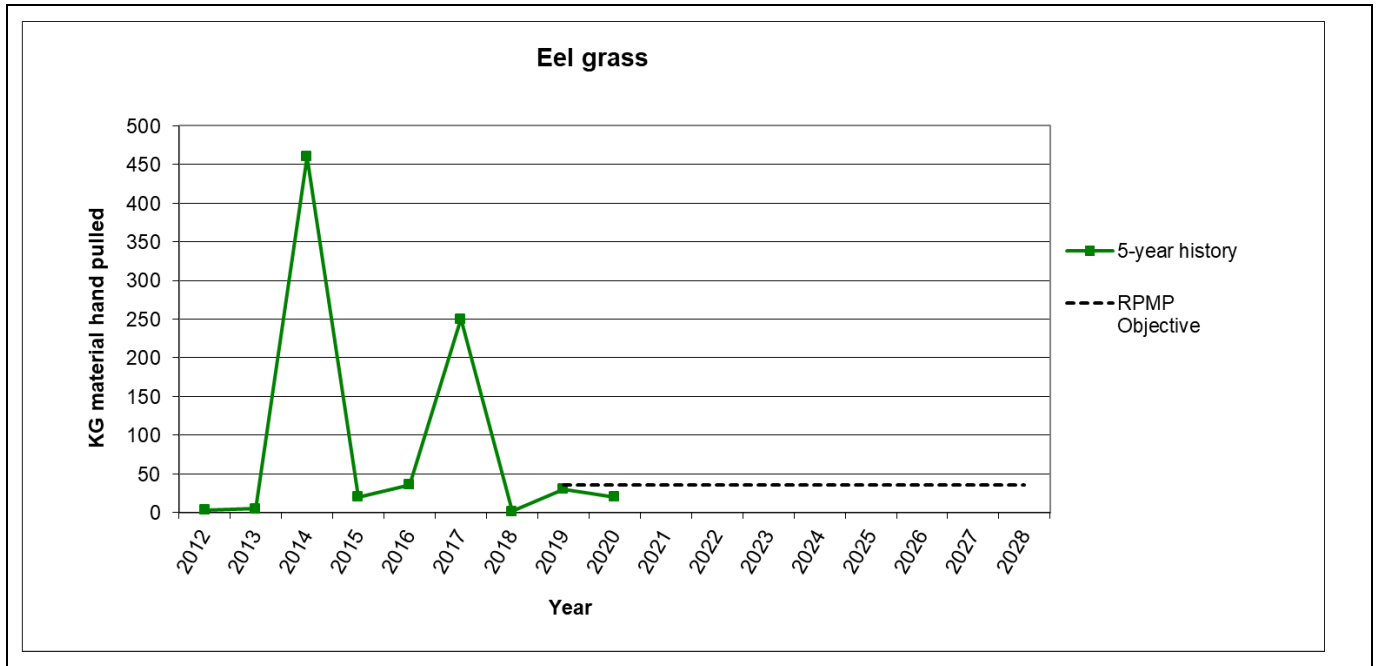


## 12. Eel grass (*Vallisneria australis*)



| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control eel grass ( <i>Vallisneria australis</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 12.1</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | All active/monitoring eel grass sites were visited in 2019/2020. Around 20 kilos of silt contaminated with eel grass rhizomes was removed from Waterlea Creek (20 kilos less than previous year). |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**

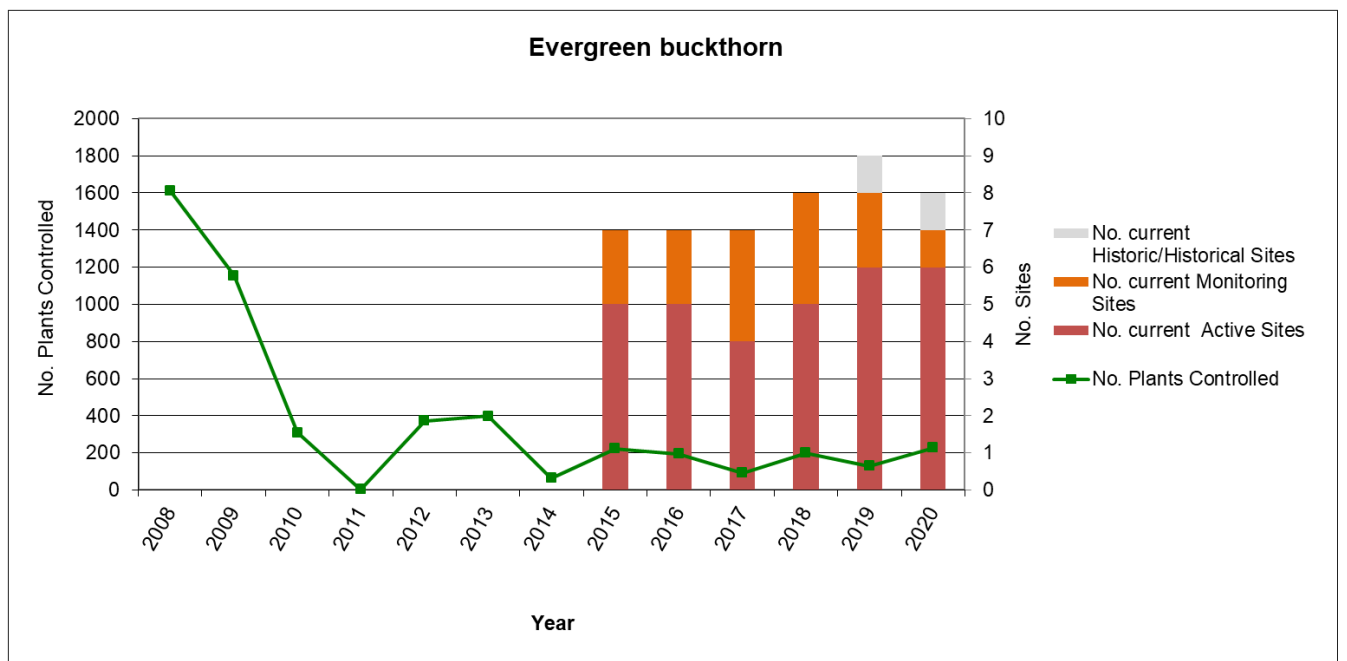




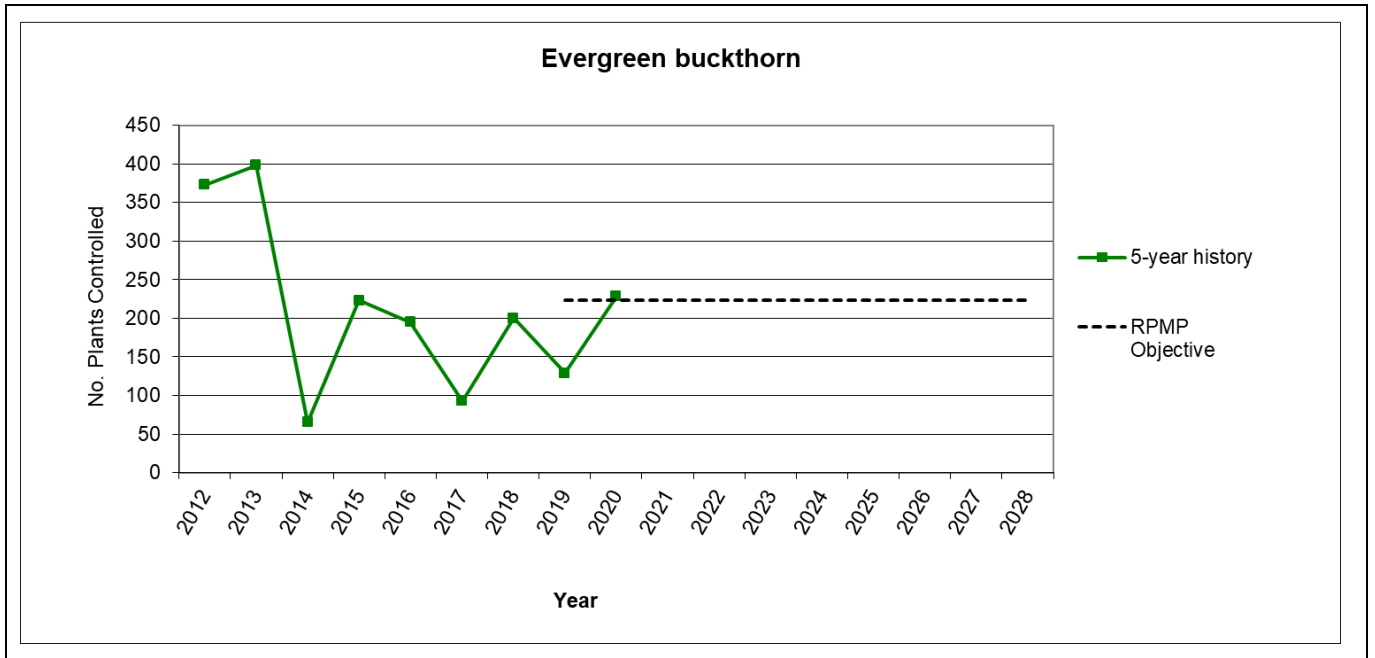
### 13. Evergreen buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*)

| Exclusion   | Eradication | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led   |
|---|-------------|---|-------------------|--|
| <p><b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control of evergreen buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2015 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p><b>Operations overview</b> A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to by DOC and Council that includes the management of evergreen buckthorn.</p> <p>Operational activities are pre-planned each year and are delivered by either:</p> <p>a) DOC staff, or;</p> <p>b) A joint operation between DOC and Council staff and/or contractors.</p> |             |   |                   |  |
| <p><b>Target 13.1</b> Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.</p>   |             |   |                   |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |             |    |                   | <p>All active and monitoring evergreen buckthorn sites were visited in 2019/2020.</p>  |
| <p><b>Target 13.2</b> Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.</p>   |             |   |                   |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |             |  |                   | <p>The only historical site was not visited for surveillance activities due to the remote nature of the site and resource shortages.</p> |



**Programme trend:**



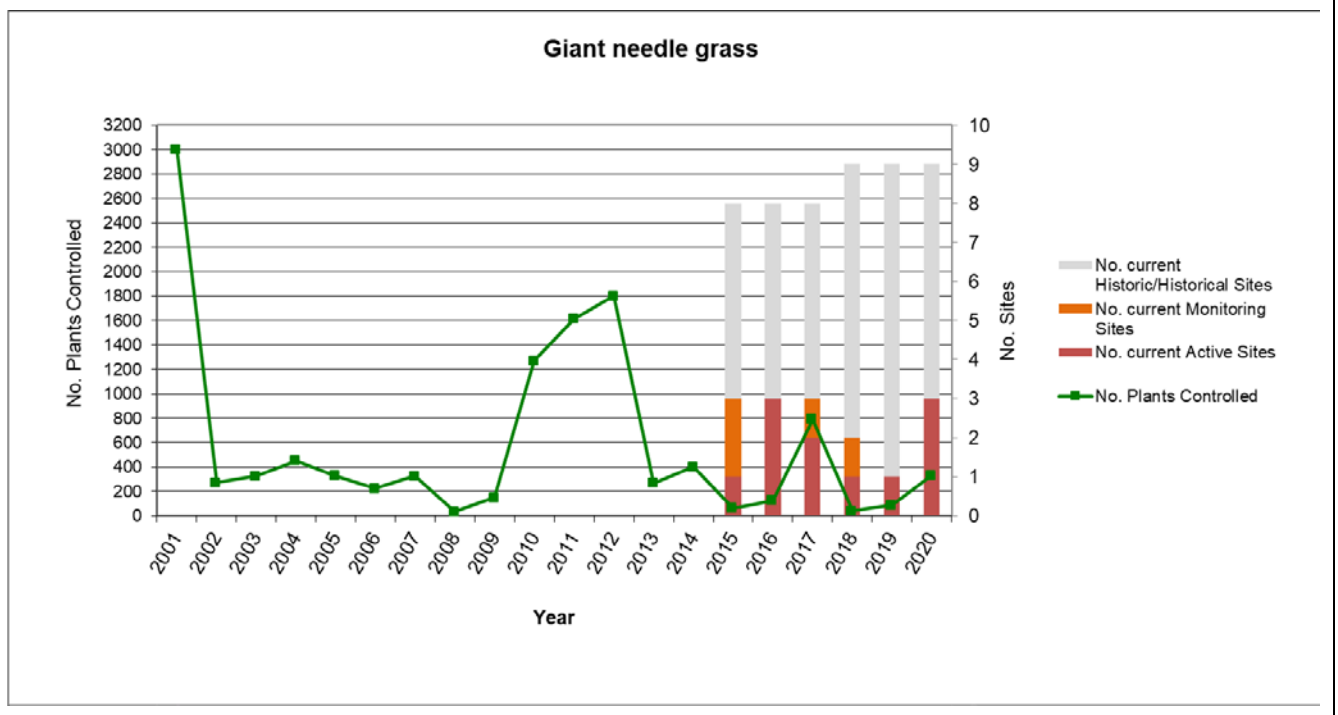


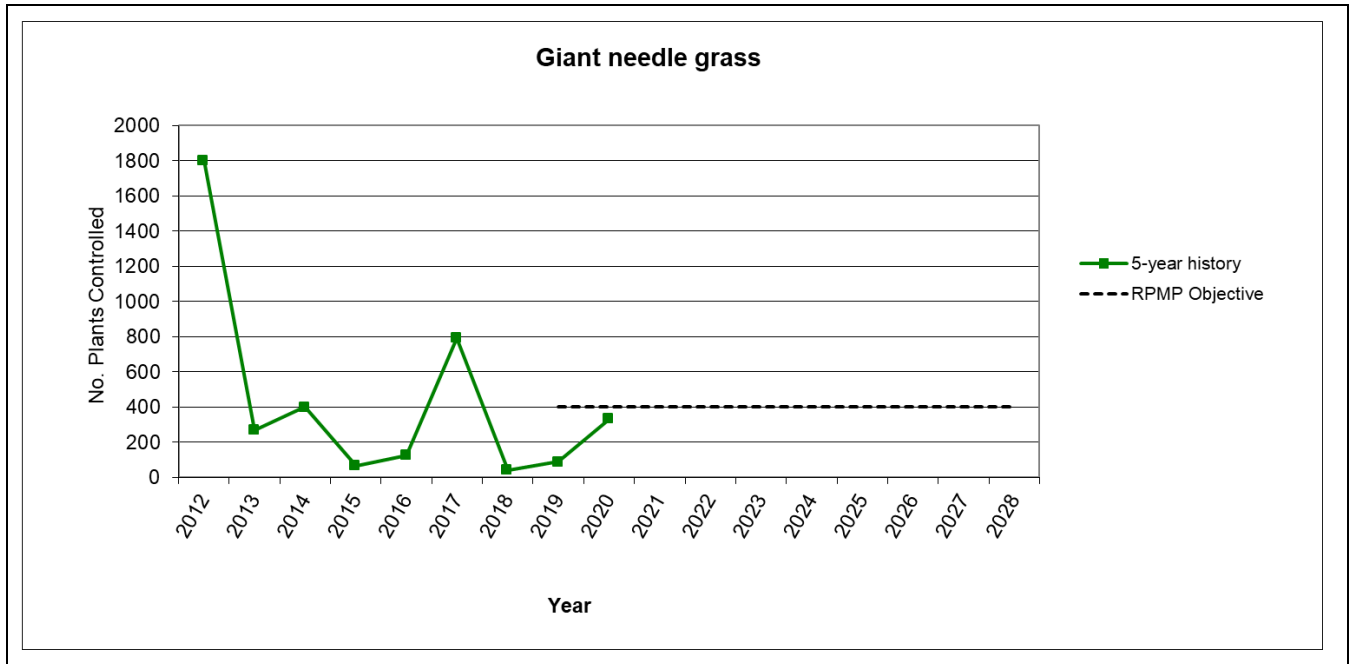


### 14. Giant needle grass (*Austrostipa rudis*)

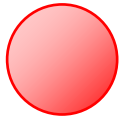

| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           |  | Over the duration of the Plan, control giant needle grass ( <i>Austrostipa rudis</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2014 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing.                    |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> |  | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 14.1</b>         |  | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | 100% of all high priority sites were visited for control work. The number of plants found remained below the RPMP objective.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 14.2</b>         |  | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |  | 3 out of 8 historical sites were visited for surveillance activities. Low numbers of giant needle grass were present at two of those sites, lifting the number of sites with an 'active' status at the end of 2019/2020 to 3. |                   |          |


**Programme trend:**








## 15. Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective 1</b>         | Over the duration of the Plan, control gorse ( <i>Ulex europaeus</i> ) in the Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone and the Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>Objective 2</b>         | Over the duration of the Plan, control gorse ( <i>Ulex europaeus</i> ) across the remainder of the district, in situations where the presence of gorse on boundaries threatens adjoining land clear of or being managed for gorse, to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>Council staff will actively deliver communication, compliance and surveillance activities within the respective RPMP programme zones. This will be to ensure occupiers are aware of the RPMP obligations and follow through with an adequate level of control to meet RPMP programme objectives. Surveillance will also assist form accurate datasets of infestations that can also assist occupiers target control efforts.</p> <p>Council staff will also follow-up and investigate situations that come to their attention where gorse is against a boundary and potentially threatening adjoining land.</p> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 15.1</b>         | By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made, and metrics set, for the purposes of setting the longer term programme objective for gorse within the control zones.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | <p>Not achieved</p> <p>Work in this area is continuing given a balanced (cost/benefit) monitoring metric for such a programme is proving difficult to establish. This is being addressed as part of the Operational Plan review – see Part Four.</p>   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 15.2</b>         | Each year, undertake inspection and/or surveillance activities in all three zones.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | <p><u>Waima/Ure</u></p> <p>Surveillance was undertaken from the Ure road. A number of landowners were spoken to after the compliance returns went out, landowners indicated that there were very few Gorse plants found in the area.</p> <p><u>Upper Wairau</u></p> <p>Inspections of land within this Zone were carried out. There were no issues this year, this is an improvement on the 2018/2019 season.</p> <p><u>Upper Awatere</u></p> <p>Given all occupiers within the Zone have very active management programmes, the nature of Councils operations are more surveillance and information gathering. This is often done in conjunction with property inspections assessing rabbit population abundance. There are a few instances of where follow-up maybe needed in 2020/2021.</p> |                   |          |

|                    |   |                                   |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Target 15.3</b> | Each year, any situation that comes to Council's attention with regard to gorse on a boundary potentially threatening adjoining land is investigated, and compliance with the Rule determined, within 5 working days. |                                   |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | No such complaints were received. |

## 16. Kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | <p>Over the duration of the Plan, control kangaroo grass (<i>Themeda triandra</i>) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to baseline levels* to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p>*A baseline assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the Plan commences.</p>   |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>There are multiple facets to the kangaroo grass programme delivered by Council. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff and/or contractors will undertake strategic management of kangaroo grass on the majority of sites. These are commonly the newer or smaller, scattered infestations.</li> <li>• Active facilitation to develop management plans, and undertake compliance function where necessary, on the more heavy infested sites.</li> <li>• Continue to deliver ongoing communication, education and awareness initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>Note: there are other work programmes Council delivers outside of the RPMP that can have an influence on the kangaroo grass programme. See Part Two.</p> |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 16.1</b>         | By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made, and metrics set, for the purposes of setting the longer term programme objective for kangaroo grass within the control zones.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | <p>A baseline population assessment has been made using control work data from the last 4 years from sites not subject to the active compliance programme, to determine a base line for setting long-term programme objective for kangaroo grass.</p> <p>The long-term RPMP objective is to keep kangaroo grass at or below the 2016/2017 levels.</p> |                   |          |
| <b>Target 16.2</b>         | Each year, an inspection is undertaken, or contact is made with the occupier, on 100% of sites that have an infestation of kangaroo grass, where the occupier has a control obligation.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 100% percent of sites (11 properties) subject to an active compliance programme were inspected.   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 16.3</b>         | Each year, undertake surveillance, and carry out required management work, on 100% of sites that have an infestation of kangaroo grass where Council undertakes strategic management.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 100% percent of sites subject to a programme where Council undertakes strategic management were visited and control undertaken if required.   |                   |          |

**Target 16.4**

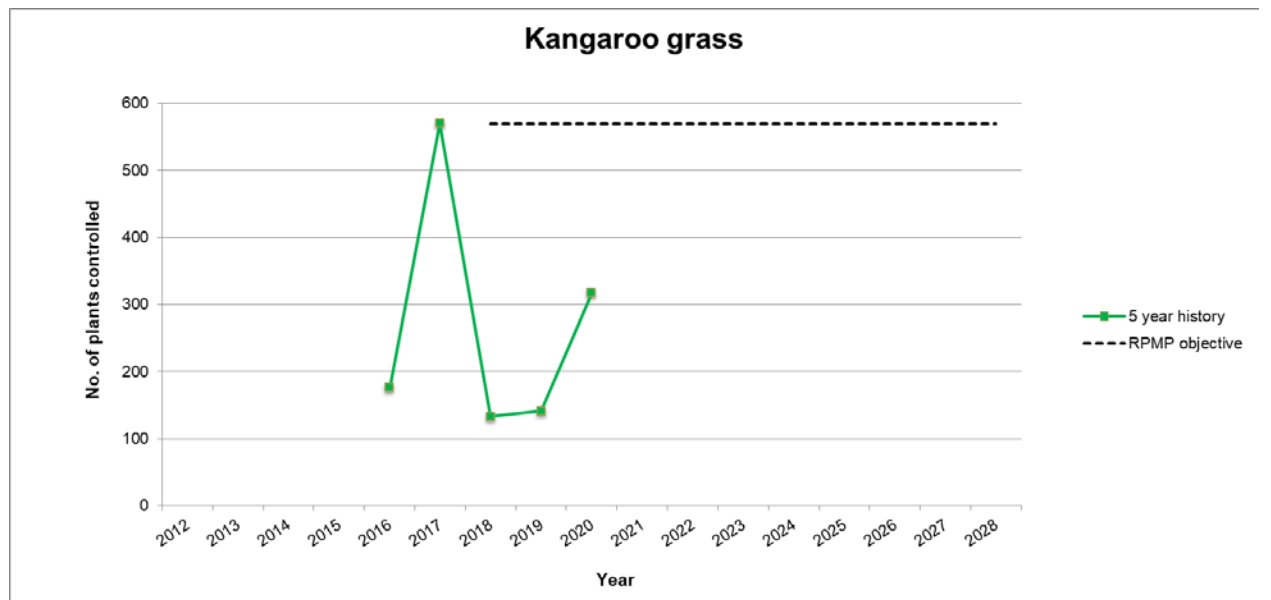
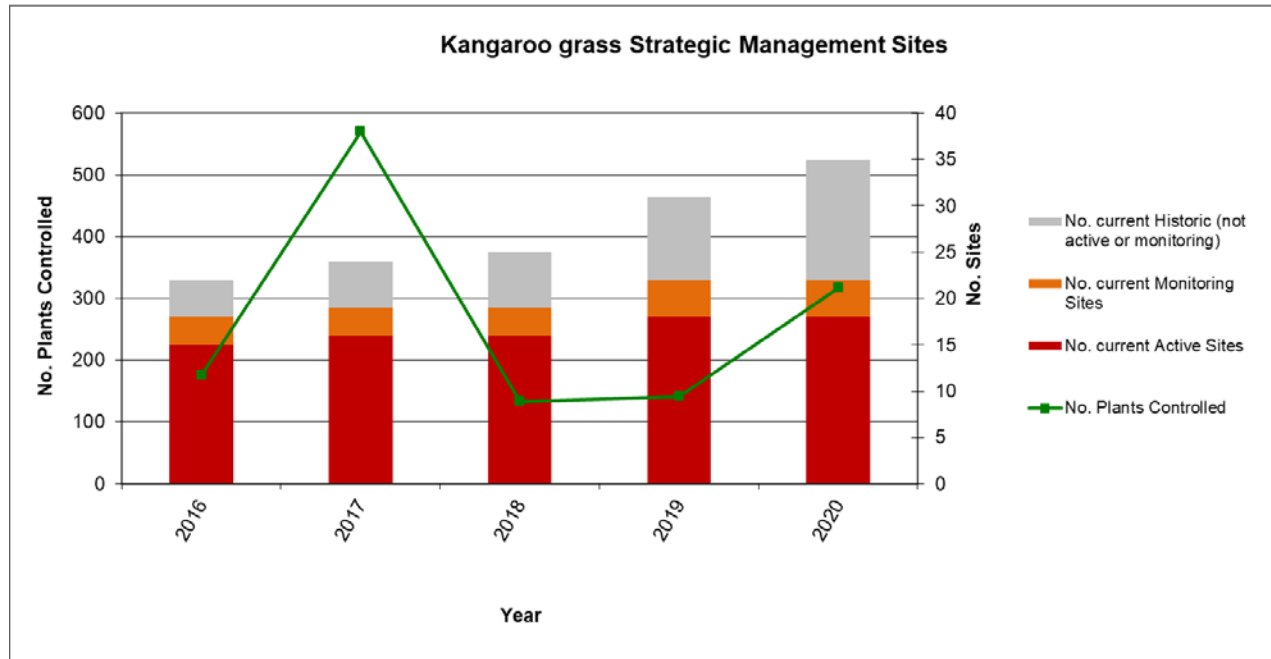
Each year, a minimum of 20 hours of surveillance is carried out on land not previously known to have an infestation of kangaroo grass.

**2019/2020**





A calculated total of 97 hours of staff and contractor time was spent on surveillance activities outside of previously known infested areas.  
No new kangaroo grass infestations were found in 2019/2020.

**Programme trend:**

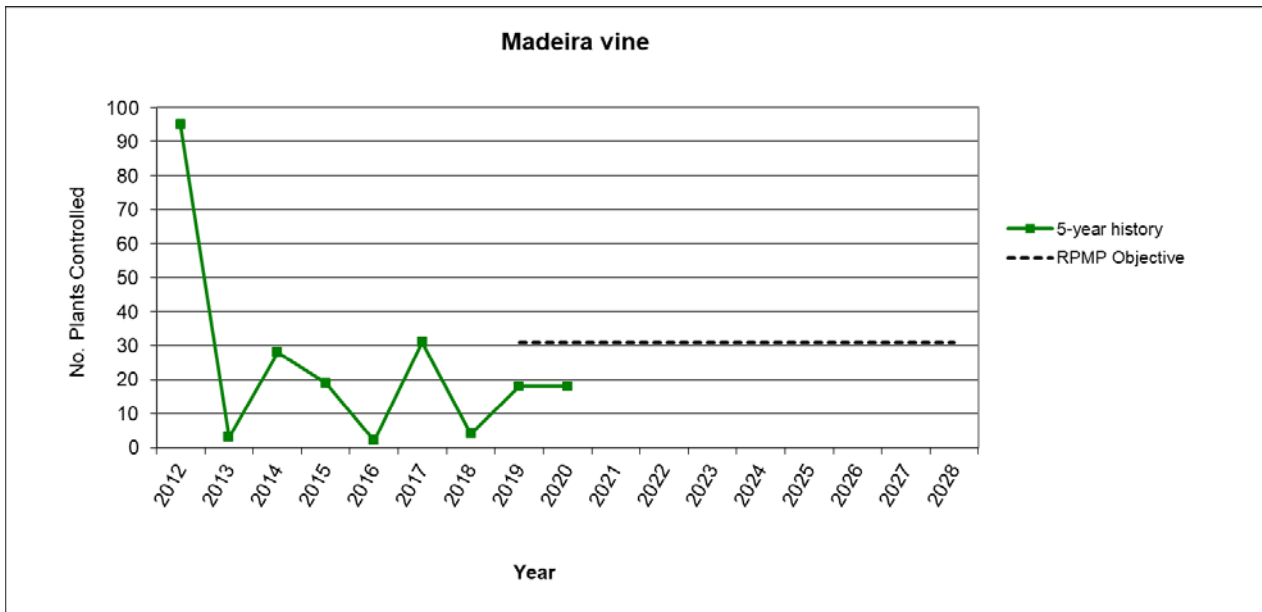
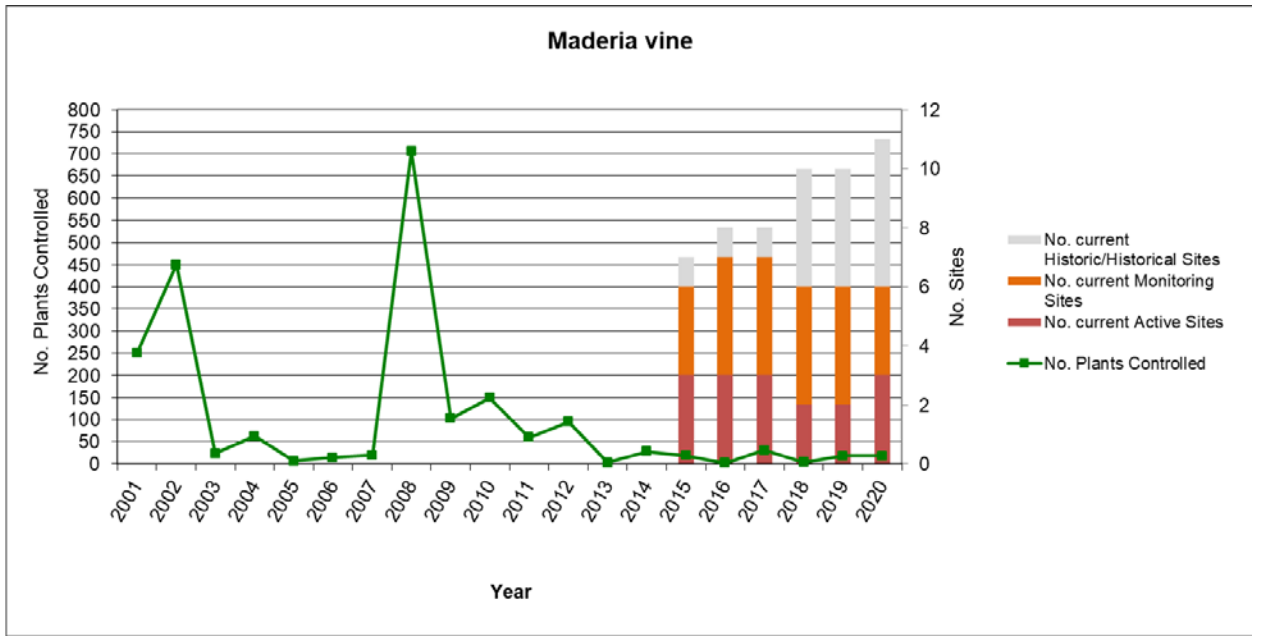


## 17. Madeira vine (*Anredera cordifolia*)


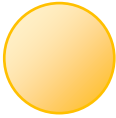

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control madeira vine ( <i>Anredera cordifolia</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2017 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to by DOC and Council that includes the management of madeira vine.</p> <p>Operational activities are pre-planned each year and are delivered by either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Council staff and/or contractors (Blenheim, Seddon, Ward sites), or;</li> <li>b) DOC staff (Marlborough Sounds sites).</li> </ul> <p>DOC staff will undertake all operational activities for the sites within the Marlborough Sounds. This is due to the current sites being aligned geographically with existing DOC operations and an acknowledgement by DOC as being a key beneficiary of intervening at these small numbers of sites.</p> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 17.1</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | All 'active' and 'monitoring' sites were visited for control in 2019/2020. 7 man hours resulted in the destruction of 19 plants. These plants were found across four active sites. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 17.2</b>         | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 2 out of 4 historical sites were visited and no plants were found.   |                   |          |




Programme trend:



## 18. Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, prevent the establishment of Mediterranean fanworm ( <i>Sabella spallanzanii</i> ) in Marlborough to eliminate adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>There are multiple facets to the Mediterranean fanworm programme delivered by Council. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specialist dive contractors will undertake surveillance and removal of Mediterranean fanworm within areas where it has been detected previously. Currently that is only Picton Marina.</li> <li>Specialist dive contractors will undertake targeted surveillance in areas of high risk of ingress into Marlborough. There are currently Waikawa Marina, Waikawa Bay, Picton Port, Shakespeare Bay, Okiwi Bay, Elaine Bay, Duncan Bay, Endeavour Inlet, Ship Cove and Oyster Bay (Port Underwood).</li> <li>Responding to reports of suspected Mediterranean fanworm and/or fouled vessels that have recently arrived and undertaking compliance action if necessary.</li> <li>Deliver ongoing communication, education and awareness initiatives as is appropriate in conjunction with the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership</li> </ul> <p>Note: there are other work programmes Council delivers outside of the RPMP that can have an influence on the Mediterranean fanworm programme (see Part Two – Specific Projects).</p> |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 18.1</b>         | Each year, a minimum of two dive surveillance and removal operations are undertaken in Picton Marina and Waikawa Marina.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Contracted divers undertook surveillance and removal operations in Picton Marina over Nov/Dec/Jan 2018/19 and in May/June 2020. No Fanworm was found during this surveillance.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 18.2</b>         | Each year, a minimum of two dive surveillance operations are undertaken in Waikawa Bay, Picton Port, and Shakespeare Bay.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Only one dive surveillance operation was undertaken in Waikawa Bay, Picton Port and Shakespeare Bay. The delays in delivering this programme were caused by the Covid 19 lockdown period. No fanworm were found during these operations. The second round of diving is being undertaken early in the 2020/2021 year, in addition to the work programme already planned. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 18.3</b>         | Each year, a minimum of one dive surveillance operation is undertaken in Okiwi Bay, Elaine Bay, Duncan Bay, Endeavour Inlet, Ship Cove, Oyster Bay (Port Underwood) and Havelock Marina.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Dive surveillance was undertaken at all sites throughout the year.  |                   |          |

|                           |  |   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| <p><b>Target 18.4</b></p> | <p>Each year, any situation that comes to Council's attention with regard to suspected Mediterranean fanworm or a fouled vessel recently arrived into Marlborough, has an investigation started within 24 hours.</p> |   |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |   | <p>A number of vessels were notified to Council via Marlborough Sounds Marinas that may be a risk to the programme. A number of these vessels were able to be assessed and inspected using the ROV with mixed results, but none were subsequently found to be carrying fanworm.</p> <p>Five vessels were detected carrying fanworm outside of the marinas. These were detected through vessel owners reporting themselves and Top of the South Partnership coordination contractor undertaking active surveillance over summer.</p> <p>With one of these vessels, fanworm was subsequently detected on the seafloor its mooring by divers Council's response</p> <p>One report was received by a mussel farmer who suspected fanworm being found on a mussel line in Port Underwood. This did return a positive ID and led to a response by Council.</p> <p>All reports of fanworm had an investigation started within 24hrs.</p> |

**Status of Mediterranean fanworm in Marlborough:**



Detected in Picton Marina, Waikawa Marina, Grove Arm and Port Underwood (East Arm) – no evidence of establishment after response actions.

Decteded on vessels arrived from out of region

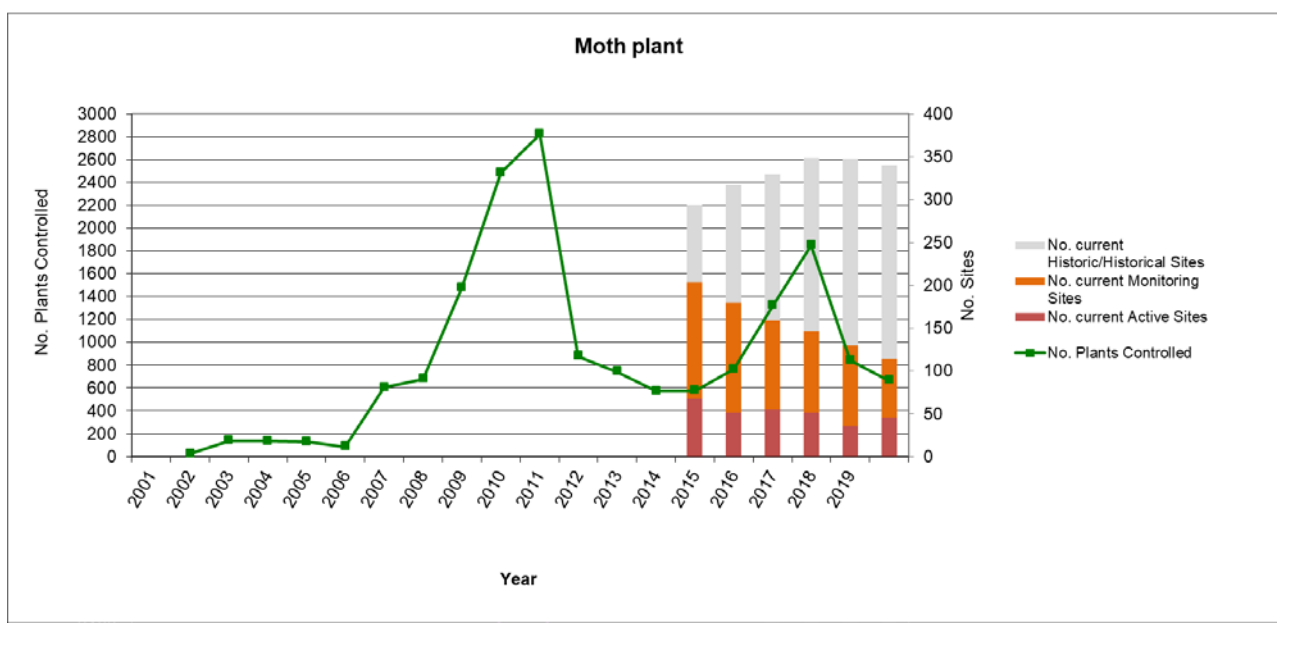


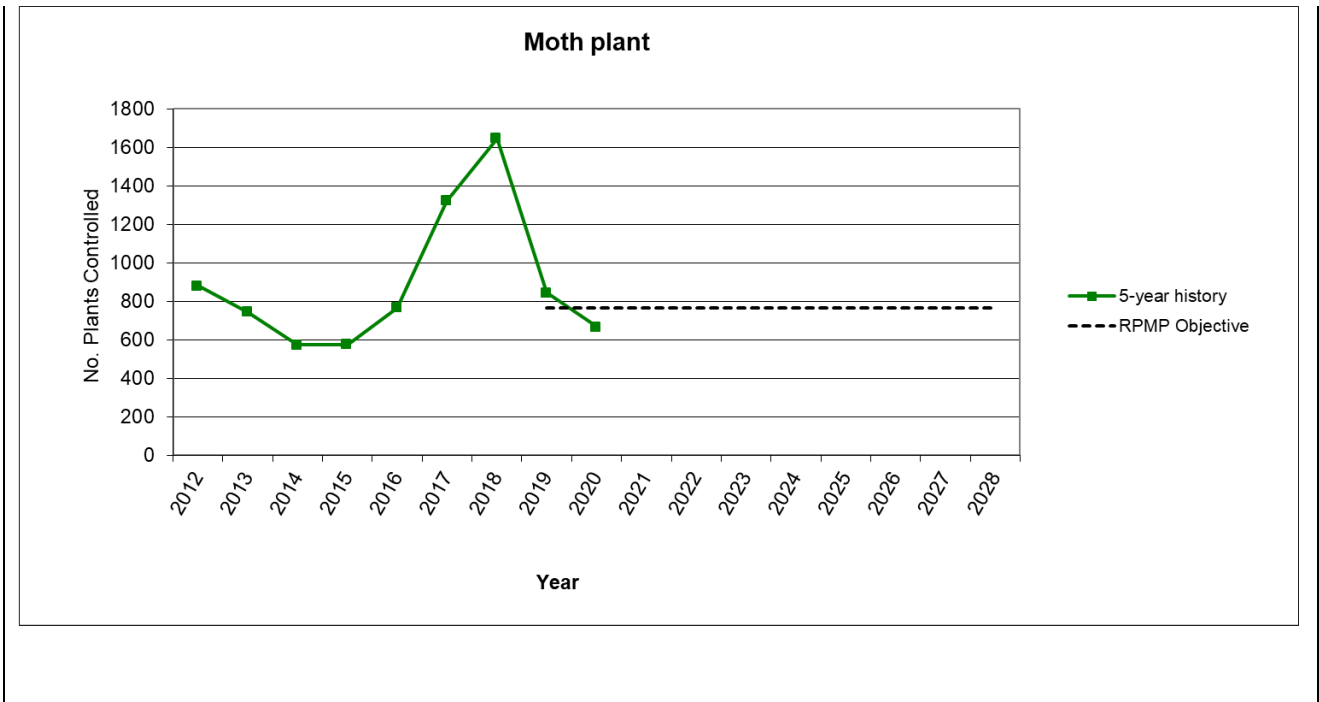
**Mediterranean fanworm detected on a large vessel that had come out of Auckland in January 2020.**

## 19. Moth plant (*Araujia hortorum*)




| Exclusion   | Eradication | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|---|-------------|---|-------------------|----------|
| <p><b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control moth plant (<i>Araujia hortorum</i>) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p><b>Operations overview</b> Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.</p> |             |   |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 19.1</b> Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.</p>   |             |   |                   |          |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |             |  <p>100% of all 133 active and monitoring sites were visited in 2019/2020. As prioritised from the number of active and monitoring sites that were left at the completion of operations in 2018/2019 year.</p> |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 19.2</b> Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.</p>   |             |   |                   |          |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |             |  <p>33% of sites categorised as historical at the start of 2019/20 were visited. Only 3 plants were found at one site, and the status of that site re-categorised as 'active'</p>                             |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**





## 20. Nassella tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control nassella tussock ( <i>Nassella trichotoma</i> ) in the Marlborough district to a population trend that is level or reducing to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>There are multiple facets to the nassella tussock programme delivered by Council. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff and/or contractors will undertake periodic surveillance for nassella tussock on a number of sites. These are commonly the historical, smaller, or scattered infestations to check they are not becoming established or re-established.</li> <li>• Undertake an active compliance function on the majority of sites. This involves communication with occupiers and the use of Management Plans that help schedule control work that the occupier must complete and compliance inspections that Council may undertake.</li> <li>• For more heavily infested sites, facilitation of the development of Management Plans may be more comprehensive and involve the use of mapping and data management to assist the occupier.</li> <li>• Continue to deliver ongoing communication, education and awareness initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>Note: there are other work programmes Council delivers outside of the RPMP that can have an influence on the nassella tussock programme. See Part Two.</p> |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 20.1</b>         | Each year by 30 April, provide to occupiers that are subject to obligations and subsequent inspection, communication detailing their obligation for the coming season.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | For the 2020 active compliance programme a total of 356 land occupiers were sent letters reminding them of their obligation to destroy nassella tussock.                                      |                   |          |
| <b>Target 20.2</b>         | Each year, an inspection is undertaken, on 70% of sites that have an infestation of nassella tussock, and the site is part of the active compliance programme.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 291 sites (82% of all sites subject to the active compliance programme) were inspected to ensure land occupiers were meeting their obligations to destroy nassella tussock on their property. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 20.3</b>         | Each year, undertake surveillance, and carry out required management work, on 33% of sites that are not part of the active compliance programme.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 43 out of 114 sites (37%) were selected for planned surveillance activities.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 20.4</b>         | Each year, a minimum of 200 hours of surveillance is carried out on land not previously known to have an infestation of nassella tussock.   |   |                   |          |

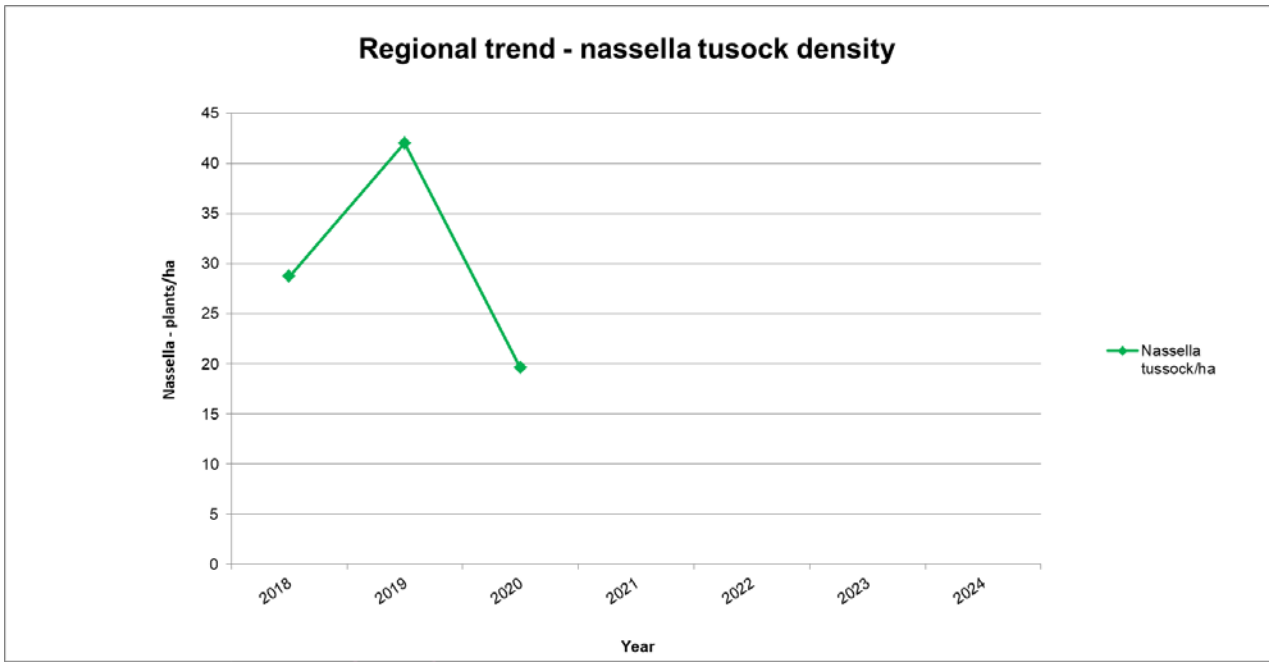
2019/2020





A total of 468 hours has been calculated to have been spent undertaking surveillance on affected properties but on land not previously known to have an infestation of nassella tussock.

In addition, a large amount of passive surveillance has been undertaken for nassella tussock while undertaking works for other pest programmes.

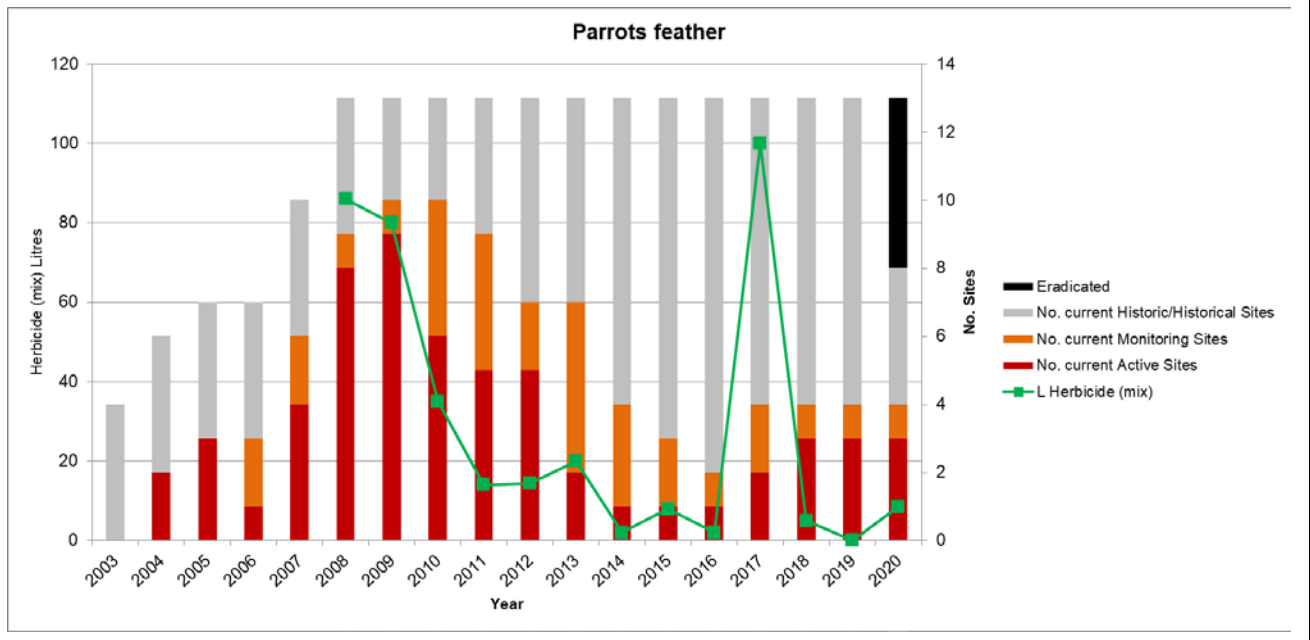
Programme trend:



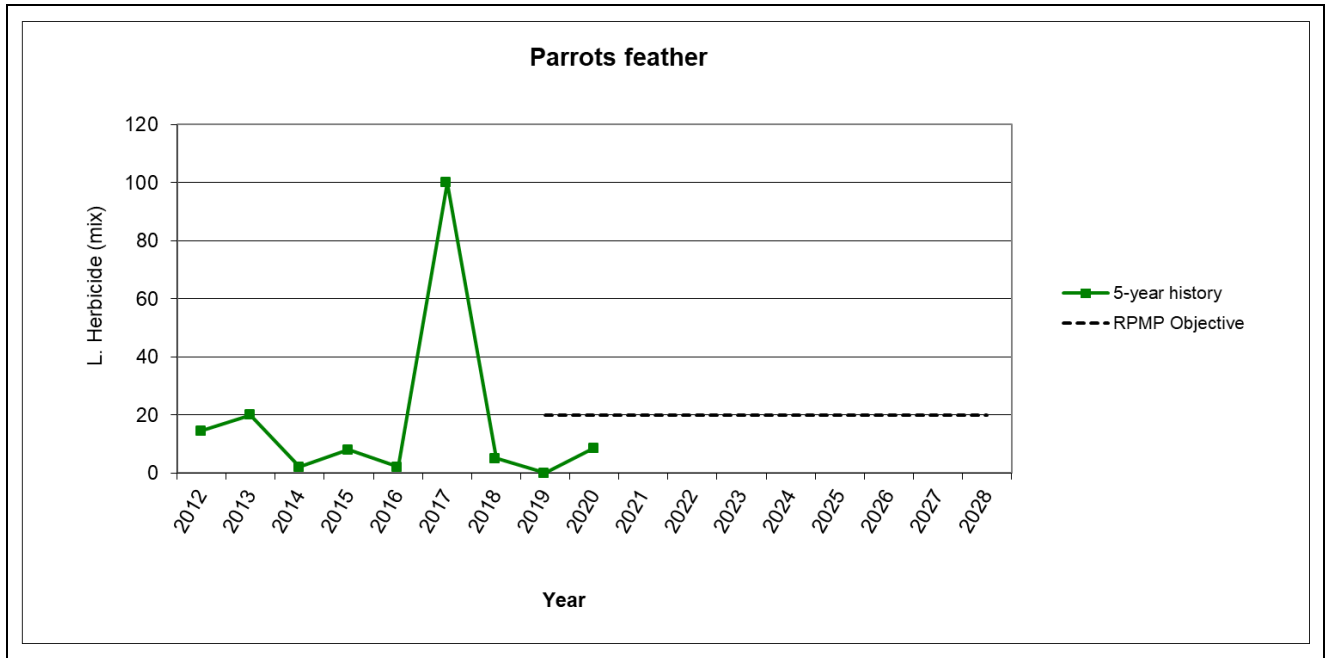
## 21. Parrots feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control parrots feather ( <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2013 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 21.1</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | 100% of all active and monitoring sites were visited by biosecurity staff. Significant patches of parrots feather were found in the upper Opaoa and Ruakanaka Creek.   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 21.2</b>         | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Three out of the nine historical sites, four were visited for surveillance activities, and no parrots feather was found.<br><br>Regular searches are carried out downstream of active infestations to ensure no re-establishment is occurring by fragmentation of any existing rafts before being destroyed. Areas within the Opaoa river where parrots feather is not known to exist were searched, and no new infestations were found. |                   |          |



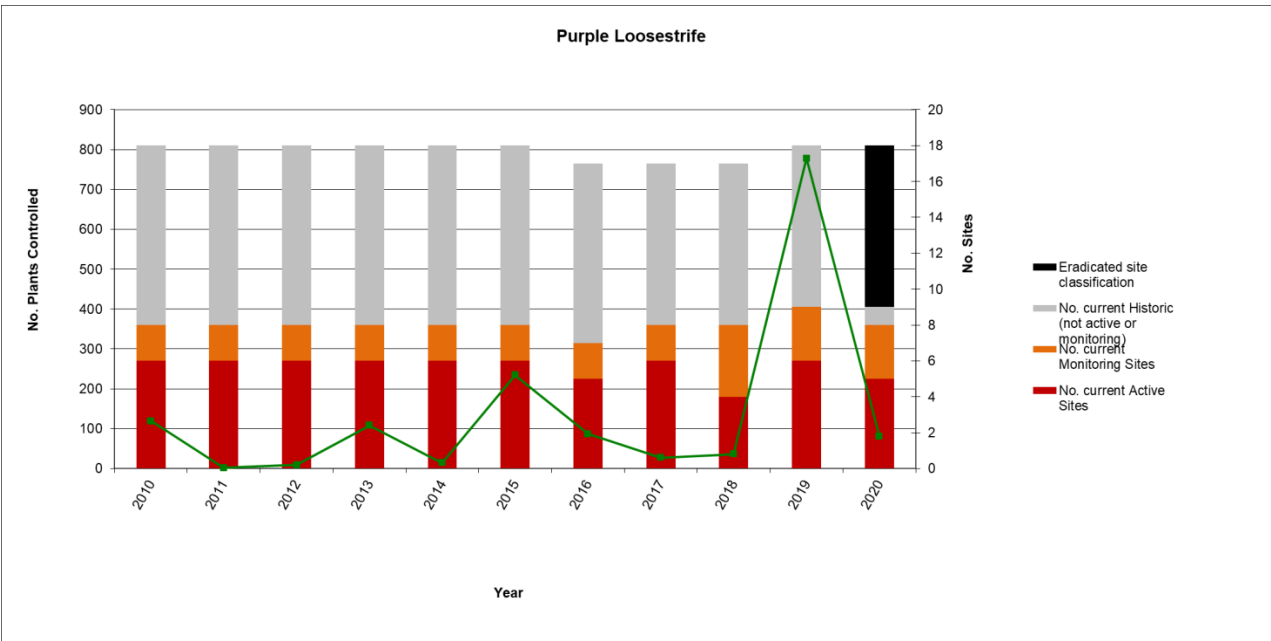
### Programme trend:

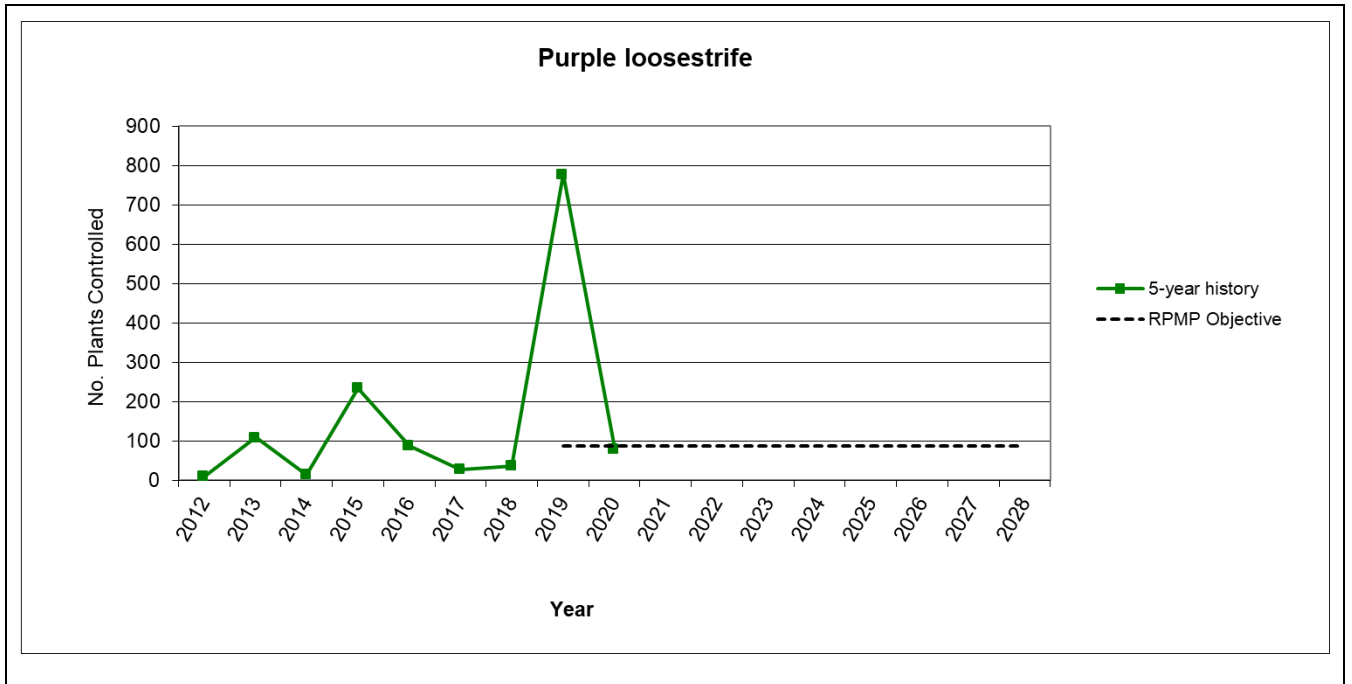





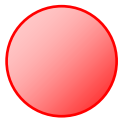
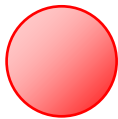


## 22. Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

| Exclusion   | Eradication | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control   | Site-led |
|---|-------------|--|---|----------|
| <p><b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control purple Loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p>  |             |  |   |          |
| <p><b>Operations overview</b> Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.</p>   |             |  |   |          |
| <p><b>Target 22.1</b> Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.</p>   |             |  |   |          |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |             |   | <p>100% of 'active' and 'monitoring' sites were inspected and control undertaken.</p> <p>The number of plants destroyed has reduced since a new infestation found in 2018/2019 has been brought under control.</p>  |          |
| <p><b>Target 22.2</b> Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.</p>   |             |  |   |          |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>   |             |  | <p>All nine historical sites are terrestrial sites where loosestrife has been controlled in the past and plants have been deemed eradicated. These sites were not looked at.</p> <p>To-date, no purple loosestrife has reoccurred where initial control work was undertaken in the terrestrial environment (dry urban gardens). A recommendation has been made to re-classified those sites as 'Eradicated' , and inspect 33% of all aquatic historical sites in future.</p> <p>In the graph below the proportion of 'Eradicated' sites are represented by the black bar.</p> |          |
| <p><b>Programme trend:</b></p>  |             |  |   |          |
|  <p>The chart, titled 'Purple Loosestrife', displays the number of plants controlled (left Y-axis, 0-900) and the number of sites (right Y-axis, 0-20) from 2010 to 2020. The X-axis represents the year. The legend includes: Eradicated site classification (black bar), No. current Historic (not active or monitoring) (grey bar), No. current Monitoring Sites (orange bar), and No. current Active Sites (red bar). A green line graph shows the total number of sites, which peaks at 18 in 2019 and drops to 1 in 2020. The number of plants controlled remains relatively stable around 800 until 2018, then drops significantly to around 350 in 2019 and 2020.</p> |             |  |   |          |

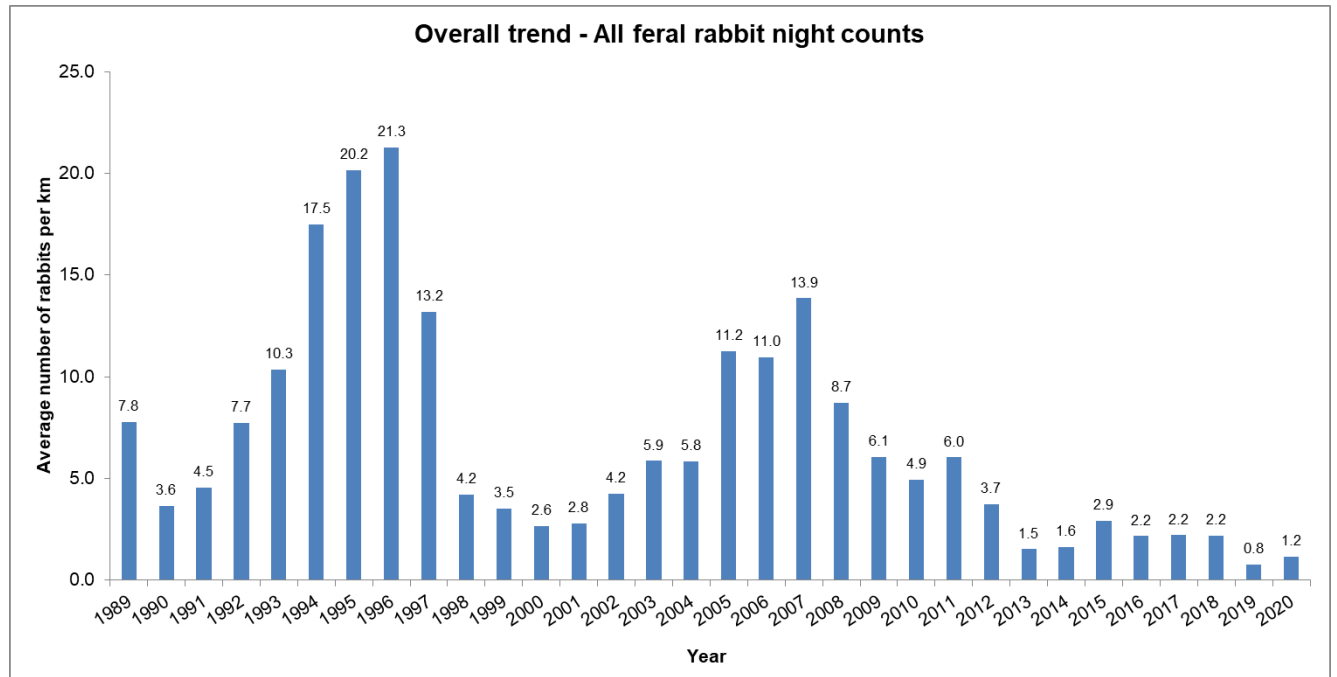


## 23. Rabbits - feral (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

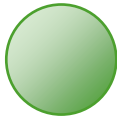

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control feral rabbits ( <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> ) in the Marlborough district to a population trend that is level or reducing to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing and the environment.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | <p>There are multiple facets to the rabbit programme delivered by Council. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff undertaking targeted inspections of properties located in either high rabbit-prone parts of the district or those that have a recent history of sustaining high rabbit population levels.</li> <li>• Supporting research initiatives that seek to continue to maintain the efficacy of biological control agents such as the Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV).</li> <li>• Continue to deliver ongoing communication, education and awareness initiatives.</li> </ul> |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 23.1</b>         | Each year, a schedule of sites is generated by 31 January outlining the coming season's inspections.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | An inspection schedule was developed by 31 January 2020 targeting properties in rabbit prone areas.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 23.2</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites identified on the inspection schedule are inspected to assess rabbit population levels.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Only two properties from the schedule were able to be looked at before the Covid 19 lockdown came into place.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 23.3</b>         | Each year, undertake a minimum of one RHDV immunity survey of a rabbit population of relevance to the wider understanding of population immunity.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | A serological survey was planned to occur at Molesworth Station in 2019/2020 following up from the release of the RHDV K5 strain. However, due to continued disruptions, the survey did not go ahead as planned. |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**

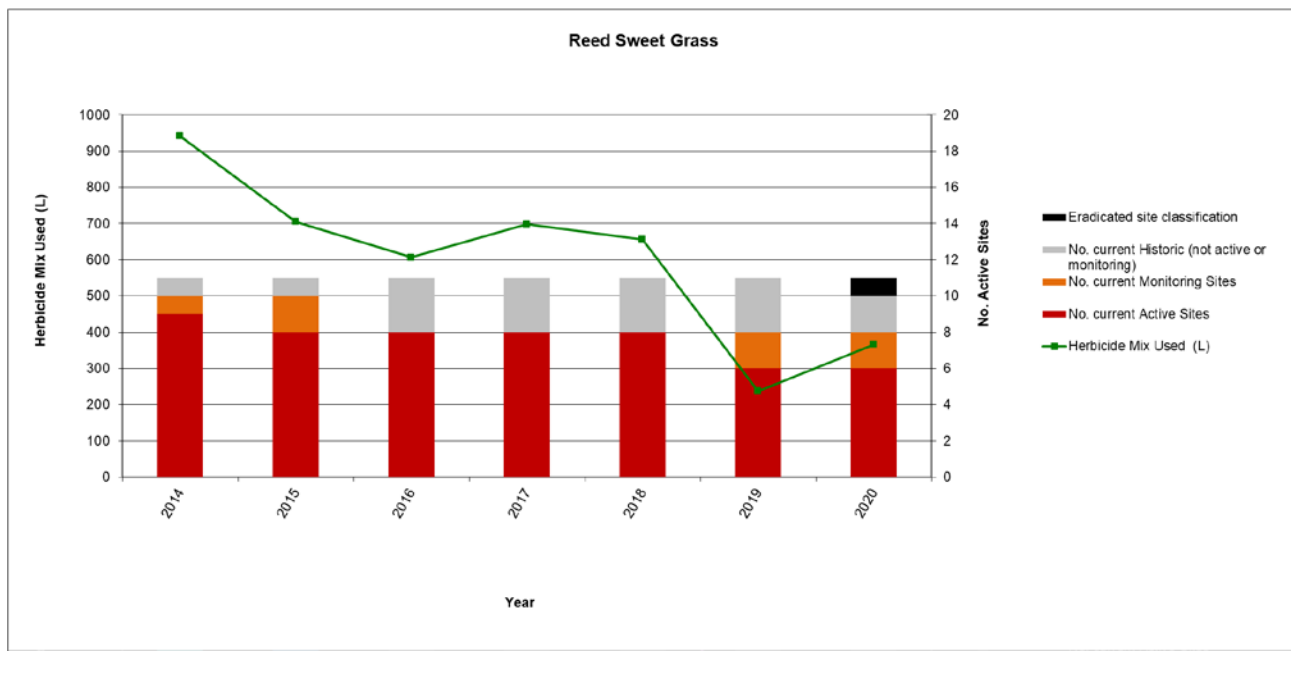
Rabbit numbers in the Upper Awatere and Waihopai appear to remain relatively low. However, an increase in rabbits around the Wairau plains has been noted. The rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV) was relatively effective at lowering the numbers around March/April 2020.

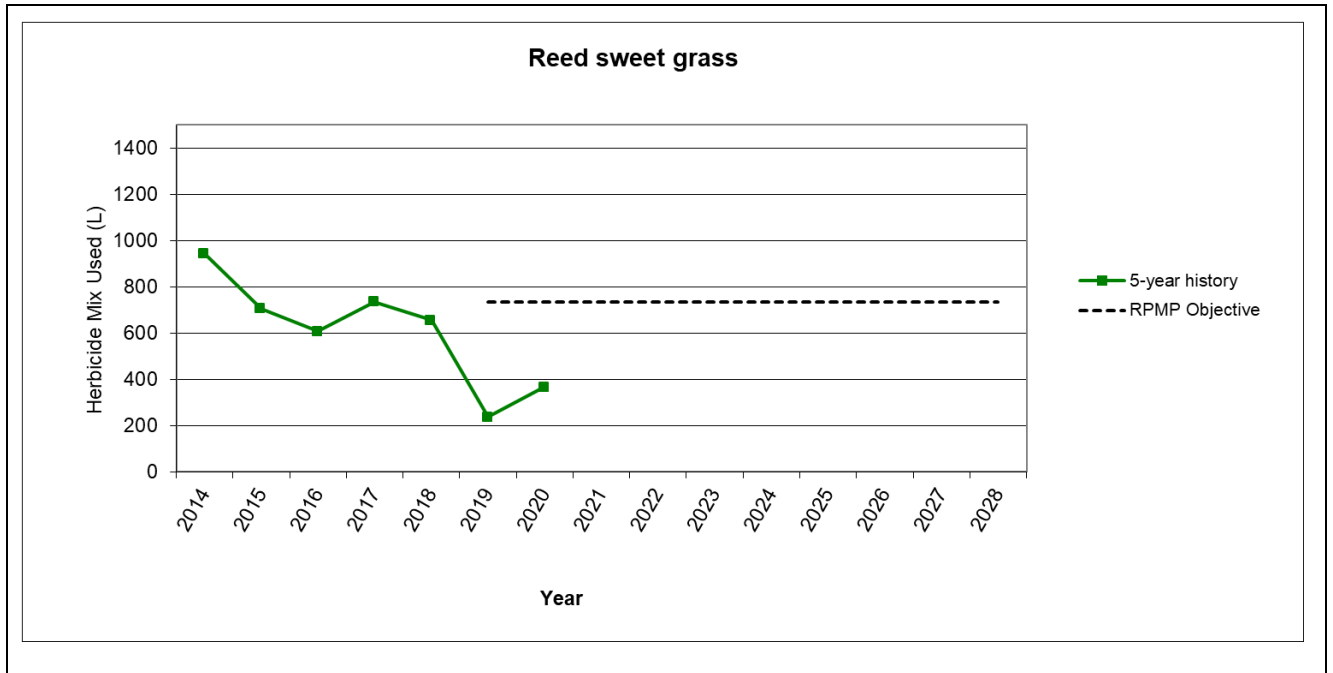


## 24. Reed sweet grass (*Glyceria maxima*)



| Exclusion                  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | Over the duration of the Plan, control reed sweet grass ( <i>Glyceria maxima</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2017 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 24.1</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | All 'active and 'monitoring' sites were visited during the 2019/2020 season.<br><br>One of the current monitoring sites known as Boundary Creek will be re-classified as historical if no plants are found in 2021                  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 24.2</b>         | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | Two out of 3 historical sites were visited and no reed sweet-grass was detected.<br><br>One of the historical sites (on dry land) has now been re-classified as eradicated because no plants have been found for the last 10 years. |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**



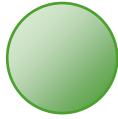

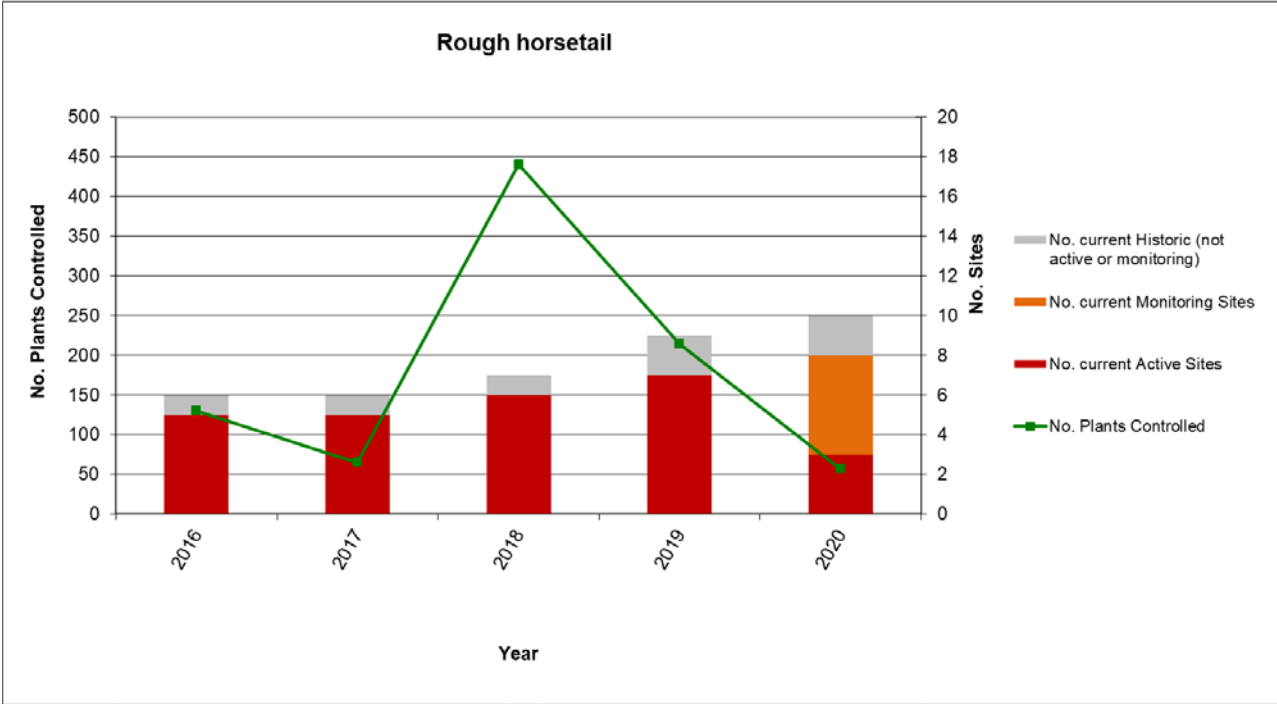


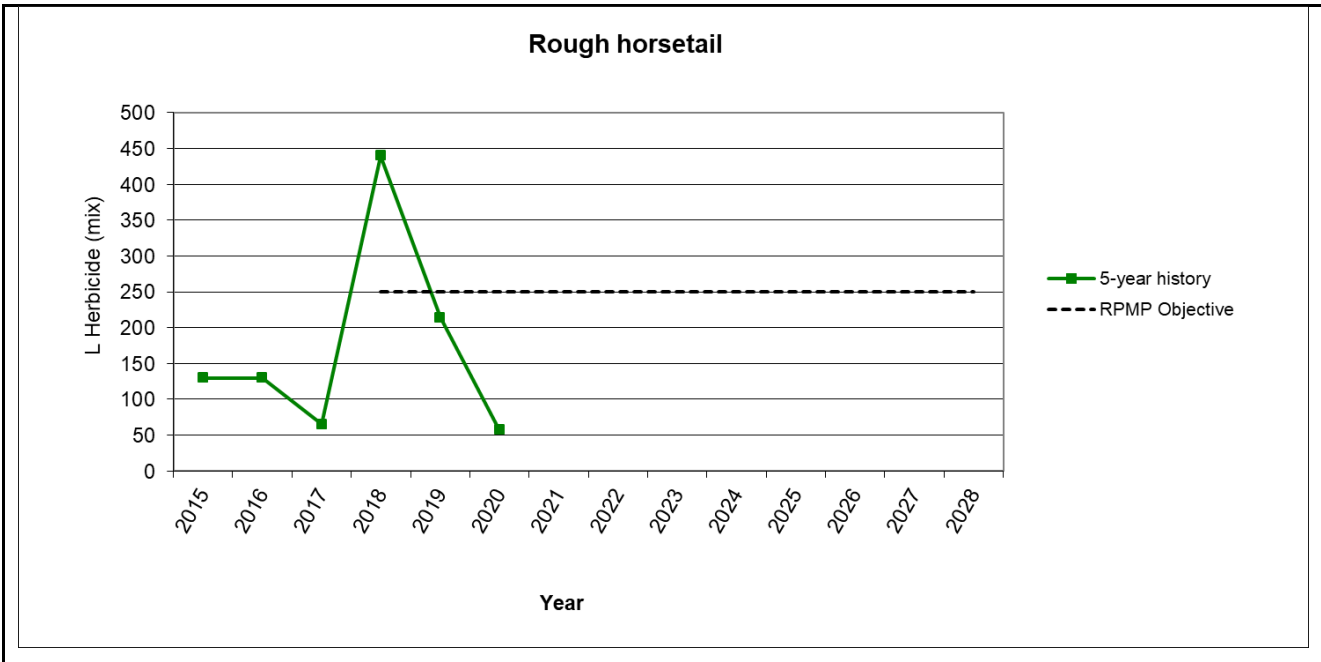
## 25. Rooks (*Corvus frugilegus*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>   | Over the duration of the Plan, prevent the establishment of rooks ( <i>Corvus frugilegus</i> ) in the Marlborough district to prevent future impacts on economic wellbeing. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b>   | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities should rooks be detected in Marlborough.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 25.1</b>   | Each year, undertake an appropriate awareness activity within the community to facilitate reporting of rooks if they are seen.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | Engagement was undertaken with the Farmers around the Tetley Brook Road area where the Rook was located.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 25.2</b>   | Each year, respond to any report of rooks in Marlborough within 2 working days.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | A farmer notified Council staff member that they had observed a single rook hanging around their property on Tetley Brook Road in Seddon. With the bird remaining in the area, Council staff were able to remove the bird after a number of days by way of shooting it. |                   |          |
| <b>Status of rooks in Marlborough:</b>   |   |   |                   |          |
| Last detection in March 2020 (Tetley Brook Road). One bird destroyed.<br>Not established |   |   |                   |          |





## 26. Rough horsetail (*Equisetum hyemale*)

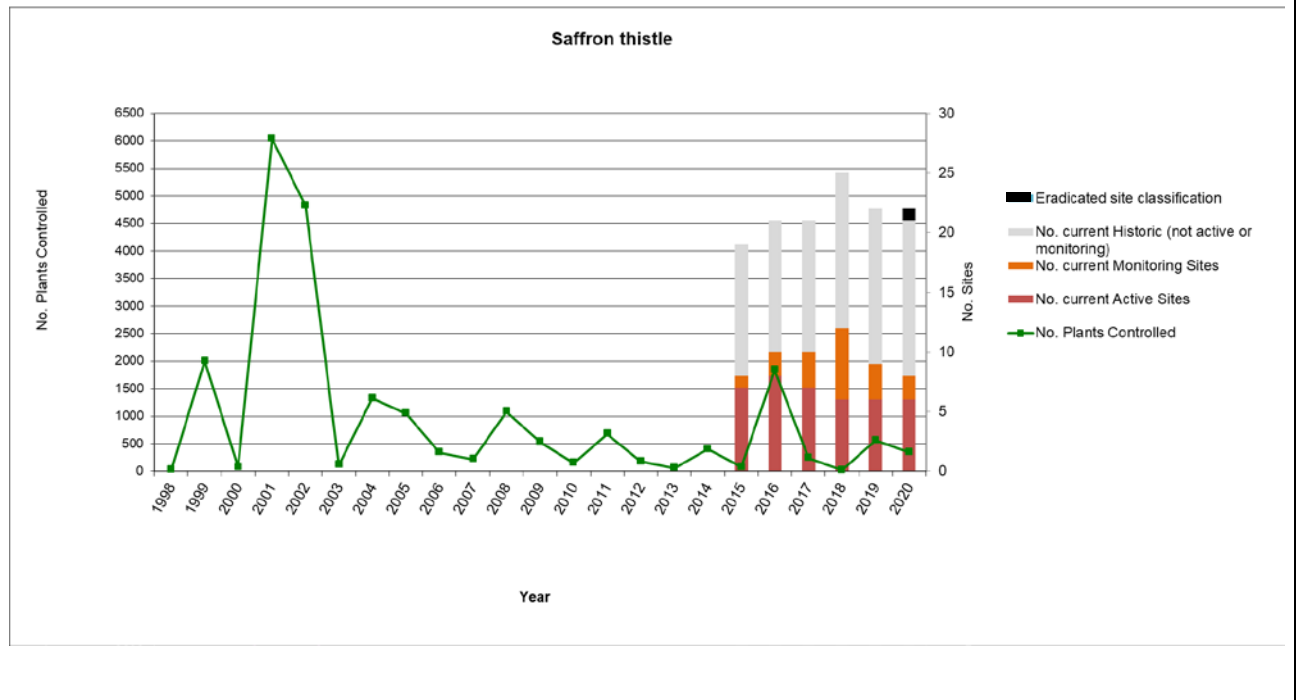
| Exclusion  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control                               | Site-led              |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
|--|--|--|---|-----------------------|------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------|------|-----|---|----|---|------|-----|---|----|---|------|-----|---|----|----|------|-----|---|----|---|------|----|-----|----|---|
| <b>Objective</b>   |  | Over the duration of the Plan, control rough horsetail ( <i>Equisetum hyemale</i> ) in the Marlborough district to a population trend that is level or reducing, to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment. |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| <b>Operations overview</b>   |  | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| <b>Target 26.1</b>   |  | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.  |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | 100% of active or monitoring sites were visited.   |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| <b>Target 26.2</b>   |  | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.  |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |  | All historical sites were visited, no rough horsetail was detected.  |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| <b>Programme trend:</b>  |  |  |   |                       |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rough horsetail</b></p> <table border="1"> <caption>Programme Trend Data (Estimated from Chart)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>No. current Active Sites</th> <th>No. current Monitoring Sites</th> <th>No. current Historic (not active or monitoring)</th> <th>No. Plants Controlled</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>120</td> <td>0</td> <td>20</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>120</td> <td>0</td> <td>20</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>150</td> <td>0</td> <td>20</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>170</td> <td>0</td> <td>50</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>70</td> <td>130</td> <td>50</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |  |  |   |                       | Year | No. current Active Sites | No. current Monitoring Sites | No. current Historic (not active or monitoring) | No. Plants Controlled | 2016 | 120 | 0 | 20 | 6 | 2017 | 120 | 0 | 20 | 3 | 2018 | 150 | 0 | 20 | 17 | 2019 | 170 | 0 | 50 | 9 | 2020 | 70 | 130 | 50 | 2 |
| Year   | No. current Active Sites   | No. current Monitoring Sites   | No. current Historic (not active or monitoring) | No. Plants Controlled |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| 2016   | 120  | 0  | 20  | 6                     |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| 2017   | 120  | 0  | 20  | 3                     |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| 2018   | 150  | 0  | 20  | 17                    |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| 2019   | 170  | 0  | 50  | 9                     |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |
| 2020   | 70   | 130  | 50  | 2                     |      |                          |                              |   |                       |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |   |      |     |   |    |    |      |     |   |    |   |      |    |     |    |   |

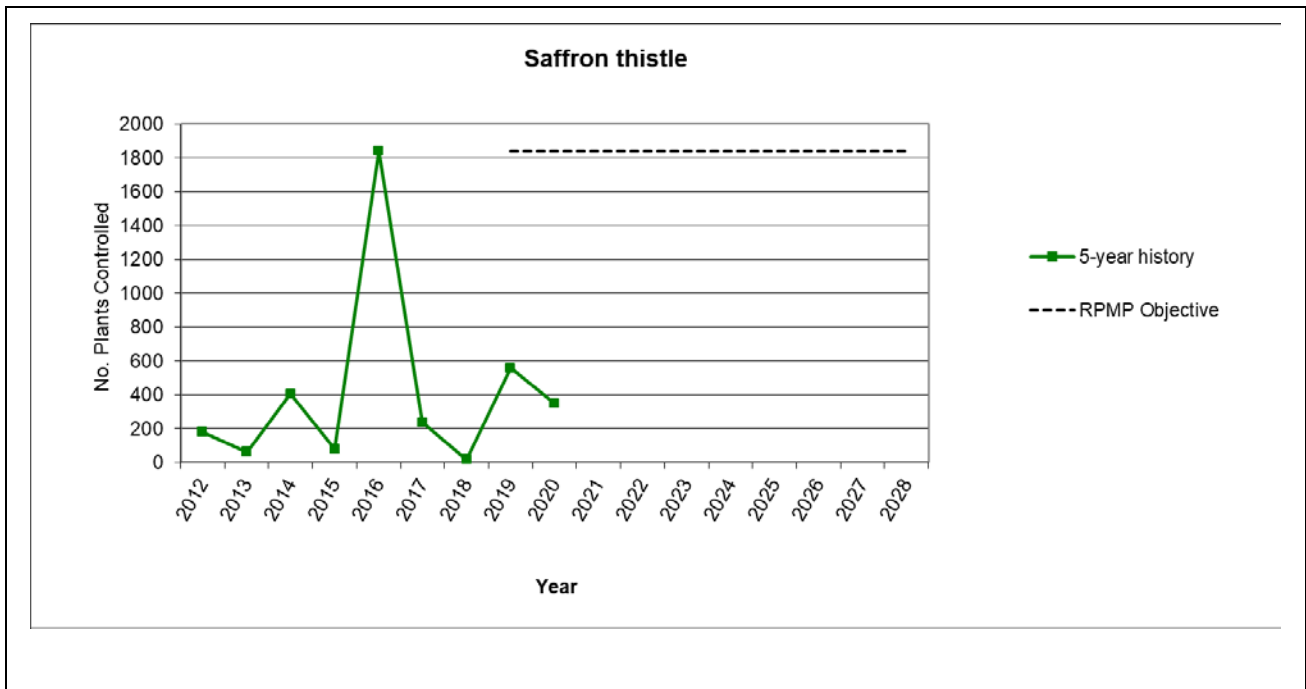


## 27. Saffron thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control saffron thistle ( <i>Carthamus lanatus</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.   |  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 27.1</b> Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | All sites with a status of 'active' or 'monitoring' were visited in 2019/2020.  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 27.2</b> Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |  | 5 out of 14 Historical sites were visited in 2019/2020 and no plants were found. One historical site has now been re-classified as eradicated because no plants have been found there since October 2000. |                   |          |

**Programme trend:**







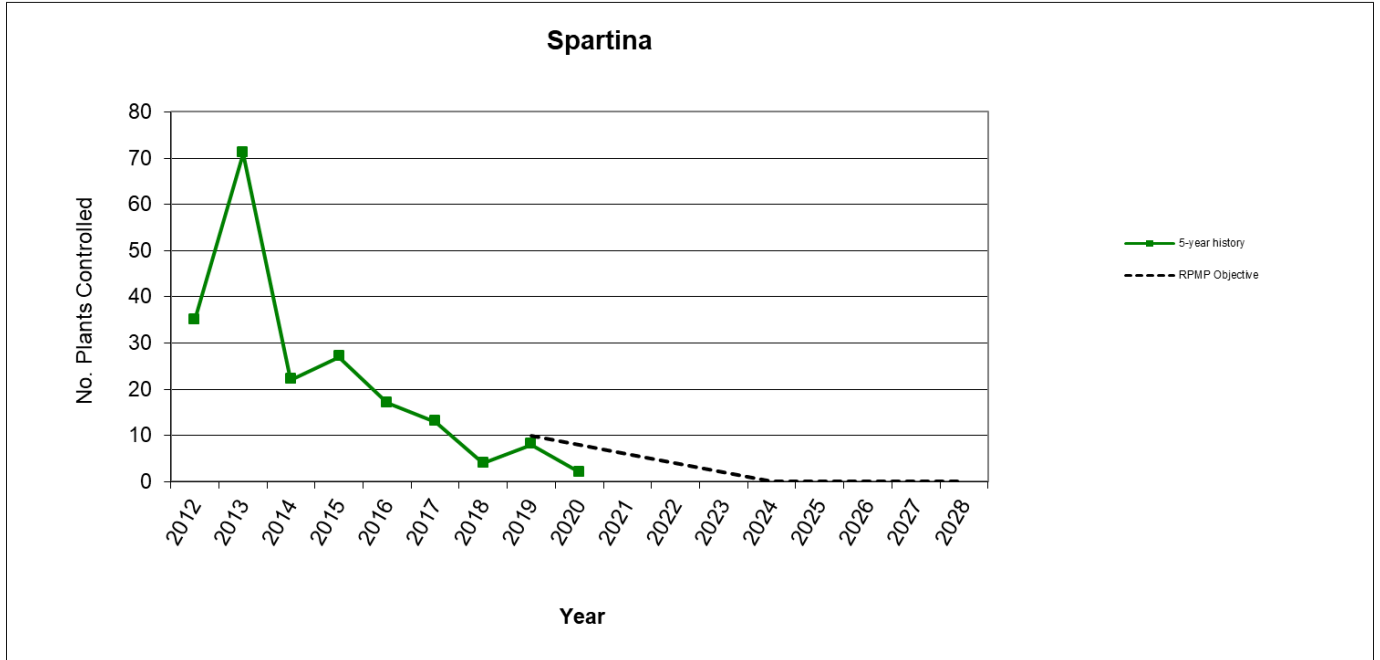
## 28. Senegal tea (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*)

| Exclusion   | Eradication   | Progressive Containment | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|---|---|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>                                    | Over the term of the Plan, prevent the establishment of Senegal tea ( <i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i> ) in the Marlborough district to prevent future impacts on environmental values and the enjoyment of the natural environment. |                         |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b>                          | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities should Senegal tea be detected in Marlborough.   |                         |                   |          |
| <b><i>Status of Senegal tea in Marlborough:</i></b> |   |                         |                   |          |
| Historically eradicated                             |   |                         |                   |          |
| Not established                                     |   |                         |                   |          |



## 29. Spartina (*Spartina anglica*)

| Exclusion                  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>           | By the end of the term of this Plan, <i>spartina (Spartina anglica)</i> on all known sites in the Marlborough district will have been controlled to zero density to prevent adverse effects on the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment. |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> | Operations for this programme are led and delivered by DOC.<br>Each summer season, a team is assembled that conducts thorough searching all previously infested sites that are predominantly in the Pelorus Sound.  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 29.1</b>         | Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |    | 100% of all 'active' and 'monitoring' sites were visited for control or surveillance activities for 2019/2020. Only 2 plants were found during 992 man hours of searching. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 29.2</b>         | Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>           |   | 4 out of 5 historical sites were visited for Spartina surveillance activities. No plants were found.   |                   |          |

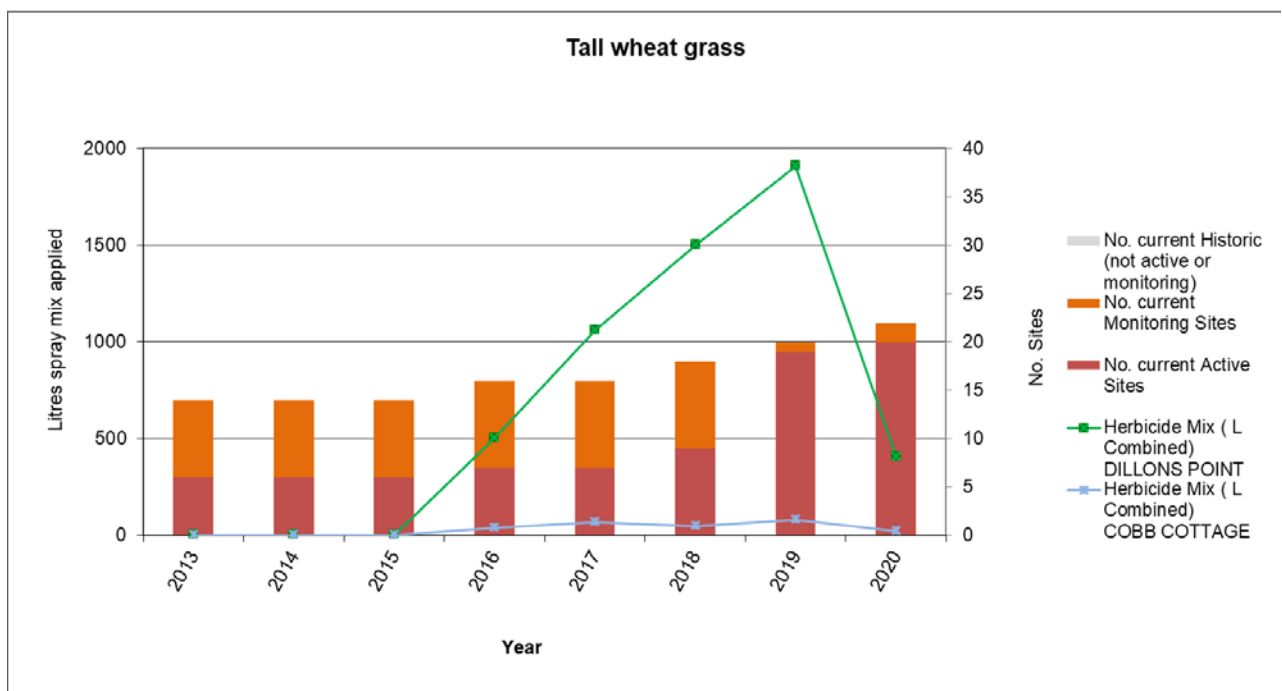
**Programme trend:**

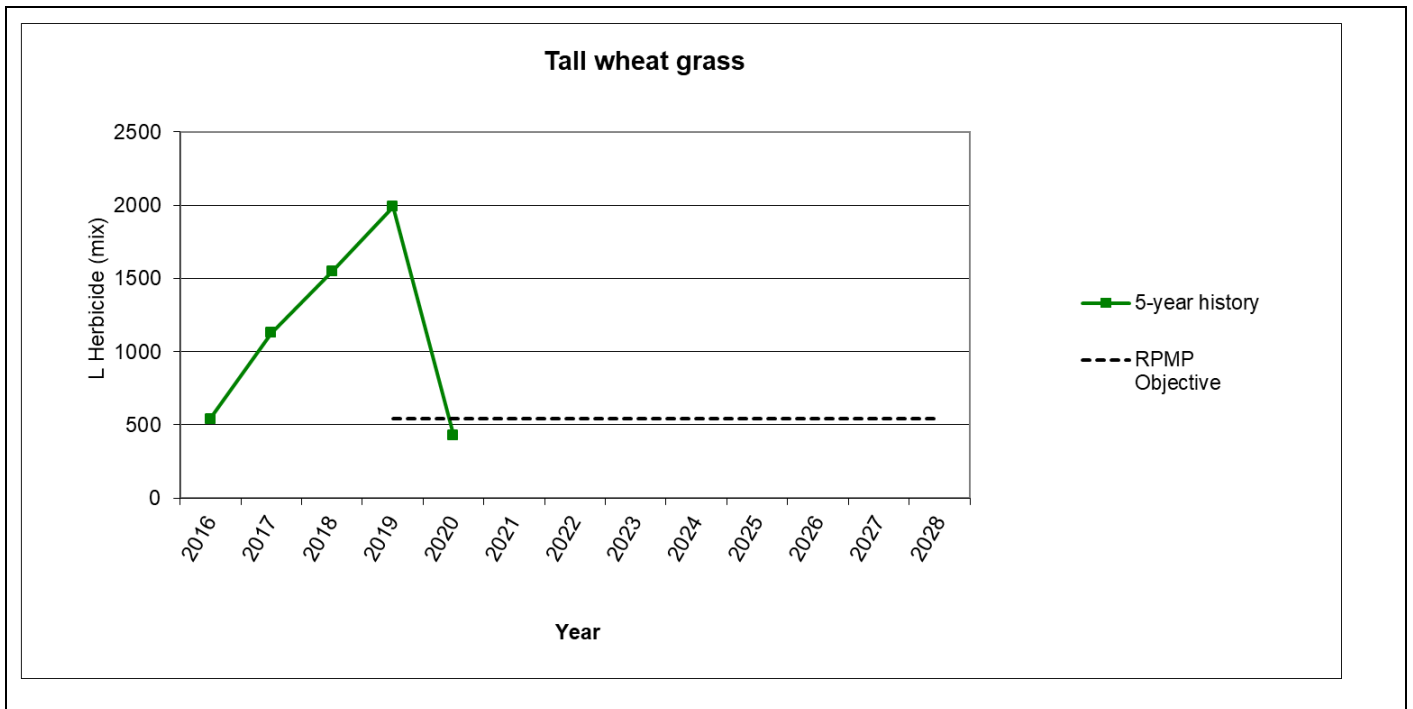


### 30. Tall wheat grass (*Thinopyrum ponticum*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment  | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|--|--|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control tall wheat grass ( <i>Thinopyrum ponticum</i> ) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment. |  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b> Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.   |  |  |                   |          |
| <b>Target 30.1</b> Each year, 100% of sites that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.   |  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | 100% of all known sites were visited for surveillance or control activities.<br>No broad acre herbicide applications were undertaken in 2019/2020 as shown n by the green line in the graph below. |                   |          |
| <b>Target 30.2</b> Each year, 33% of sites that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.   |  |  |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |  | There were no sites with a historical status in 2019/2020  |                   |          |


**Programme trend:**





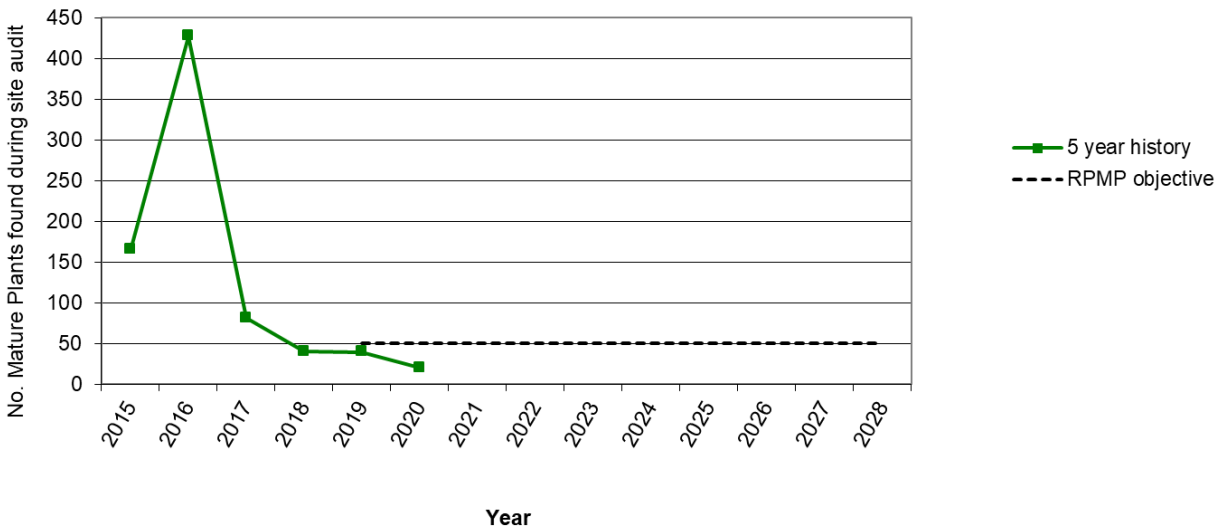





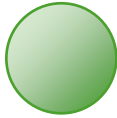
### 31. Wallabies (Family *Macropodidae*)

| Exclusion   | Eradication  | Progressive Containment                                   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|---|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective</b>  | Over the duration of the Plan, prevent the establishment of wallabies ( <i>Family: Macropodidae</i> ) in the Marlborough district to prevent future impacts on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b>  | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities should wallabies be detected in Marlborough.<br>Further support could also be provided by DOC.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 31.1</b>  | Each year, respond to any report of wallabies in Marlborough within 2 working days.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>  |   | No reports of Wallaby sightings where received this year. |                   |          |
| <p><b>Status of wallabies in Marlborough:</b><br/>                     Periodic and unverified reports of presence<br/>                     Not established</p> |  |   |                   |          |


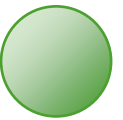



### 32. White-edged nightshade (*Solanum marginatum*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication                               | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
|--|---|---|-------------------|----------|------|---|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|----|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|
| <p><b>Objective</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control white-edged nightshade (<i>Solanum marginatum</i>) in the Marlborough district (excluding the White-edged Nightshade Containment Area) to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p>  |   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <p><b>Operations overview</b> There are multiple facets to the white-edged nightshade programme delivered by Council. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an active compliance and surveillance function on all sites. This involves communication with occupiers and the use of voluntary completion dates to help focus annual control operations.</li> <li>Continue to deliver ongoing communication, education and awareness initiatives.</li> </ul>   |   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <p><b>Target 32.1</b> Each year by 15 February, provide to all affected occupiers, communication reminding them of their obligation and include and a voluntary completion date.</p>   |   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>  |   |  <p>All affected land occupiers were sent letters in early 2020 to remind them of their obligation under the RPMP rule for white-edged nightshade. Land occupiers agreed to the advised Council inspection date.</p>  |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <p><b>Target 32.2</b> Each year, an inspection is undertaken on the two sites adjacent to the Containment Area where White-edged nightshade is threatening susceptible land.</p>   |   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>  |   |  <p>Inspections were only undertaken on Pohuenui in 2019/2020. The other site could not be visited because reliable transport was not available at the time. The site not visited has low numbers of white edged nightshade and a clean compliance history. Escalation risk is considered low.</p> |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <p><b>Programme trend:</b></p>   |   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>White Edged Nightshade mature plants found during compliance inspections</b></p>  <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <caption>White Edged Nightshade mature plants found during compliance inspections</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>No. Mature Plants found during site audit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2015</td><td>170</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>430</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>85</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>45</td></tr> <tr><td>2019</td><td>45</td></tr> <tr><td>2020</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>2021</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2022</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2023</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2024</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2025</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2026</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2027</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2028</td><td>-</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> |   |   |                   |          | Year | No. Mature Plants found during site audit | 2015 | 170 | 2016 | 430 | 2017 | 85 | 2018 | 45 | 2019 | 45 | 2020 | 25 | 2021 | - | 2022 | - | 2023 | - | 2024 | - | 2025 | - | 2026 | - | 2027 | - | 2028 | - |
| Year   | No. Mature Plants found during site audit |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2015   | 170                                       |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2016   | 430                                       |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2017   | 85  |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2018   | 45  |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2019   | 45  |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2020   | 25  |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2021   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2022   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2023   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2024   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2025   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2026   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2027   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| 2028   | -   |   |                   |          |      |   |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |    |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |

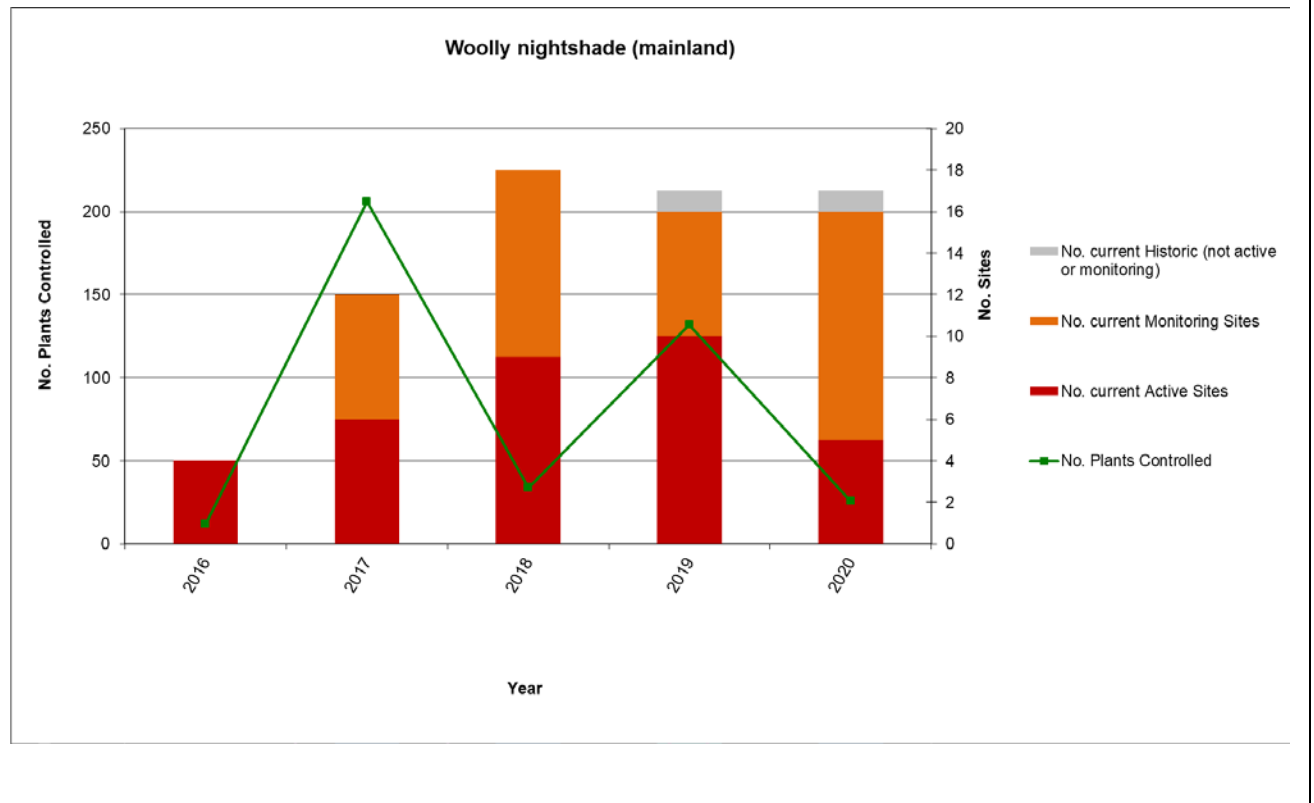
### 33. Willow-leaved hakea (*Hakea salicifolia*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication  | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|--|---|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Objective 1</b>   | By 2035, willow-leaved hakea ( <i>Hakea salicifolia</i> ) on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island (see Map 12 RPMP) will have been controlled to zero levels, where no plants are found over the preceding 5 years, to prevent adverse effects on the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>Objective 2</b>   | By the end of the term of this Plan, willow-leaved hakea ( <i>Hakea salicifolia</i> ) on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island will have been controlled to less than 10% of the original infestation size at the commencement of management based on plant numbers, to prevent adverse effects on the environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment. |   |                   |          |
| <b>Operations overview</b>   | Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>Target 33.1</b>   | By 30 June 2020, an initial control operation is to have taken place on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island in accordance with the project plan.  |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |    | A detailed project plan has been developed for the next 5 years of control work.          |                   |          |
| <b>Target 33.2</b>   | Each year, a control operation is undertaken on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville in accordance with the project plan.   |   |                   |          |
| <b>2019/2020</b>   |   | 456 Hours of control work was undertaken to control large plants as per the Project plan. |                   |          |
| <b>Programme trend:</b><br><i>Once the programme has commenced, graph representing the programme objective and trend history (if available).</i> |  |   |                   |          |

### 34. Woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritanium*)

| Exclusion  | Eradication   | Progressive Containment   | Sustained Control | Site-led |
|--|---|---|-------------------|----------|
| <p><b>Objectives</b> Over the duration of the Plan, control woolly nightshade (<i>Solanum mauritanium</i>) in the Marlborough district by maintaining or reducing the number of plants found in known areas to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.</p> <p><b>Operations overview</b> Council staff and/or contractors will carry out all operational activities.</p> |   |   |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 34.1</b> By 30 June 2019, a detailed project plan has been prepared detailing the required operational activities to occur in Marlborough, with specific emphasis on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island, over the following 5 year period.</p>  |   |   |                   |          |
| 2019/2020  |    | A detailed project plan has been developed for the next 5 years of control work.  |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 34.2</b> By 30 June 2020, an initial control operation is to have taken place on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island in accordance with the project plan.</p>  |   |   |                   |          |
| 2019/2020  |  | 386 Hours of control work was undertaken to control plants as per the 5 year plan |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 34.3</b> Each year, a control operation is undertaken on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville in accordance with the project plan</p>  |   |   |                   |          |
| 2019/2020  |  | 386 Hours of control work was undertaken to control plants as per the 5 year plan |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 34.4</b> Each year, 100% of sites (excluding those on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville) that have a status of active or monitoring are visited for control and/or surveillance activities.</p>   |   |   |                   |          |
| 2019/2020  |  | 100% of 'active' and 'monitoring' sites were visited for control.                 |                   |          |
| <p><b>Target 34.5</b> Each year, 33% of sites (excluding those on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville) that have a status of historical are visited for surveillance activities.</p>   |   |   |                   |          |
| 2019/2020  |  | The only site with a historical site was searched and no plants were found        |                   |          |

Programme trend:




## Part Two - Other biosecurity services or initiatives

### 1. Education and awareness

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Overview</b>                          | Continuing to raise the profile of invasive species is a critical part of the Biosecurity Team's work. This can be providing general information and advice to the community, profiling RPMP pest species or putting out calls for sightings of RPMP species in the landscape.  |
| <b>Operational Summary<br/>2019/2020</b> | <p>In conjunction with the Council Communications Team, there has been ongoing work to ensure Biosecurity-related messaging is continued to be put out through Council channels.</p> <p>There has also been a physical presence by staff endorsing biosecurity programmes/initiatives at the Blenheim A&amp;P Show in November 2019.</p> <p>Throughout the year, biosecurity staff provided support to the Marlborough Girls College Environmental Studies work stream .This included both sessions in the classroom and support to individual students remotely.</p> |

### 2. Investigation & analysis

|                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| <b>Overview</b>  | <p>This service ensures both new threats are investigated, and those that are present are analysed as information comes to hand. The outcome of both investigations and analyse continually shape Council decisions and/or direction.</p> <p>The process used is outlined in further detail within the Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Strategy.</p> |  |
| <b>Target 35</b> | By 30 June 2020, undertake active surveillance activities for aquatic pest species at a minimum of 2 sites identified as being at risk from such threats.   |  |
| <b>2019/2020</b> |    | <p>On 13 and 14 February 2020, two Biosecurity staff attended a workshop in Stoke Nelson to learn about the identification and management of potentially new aquatic pest plants that could establish in Marlborough water ways.</p> <p>Water celery <i>Oenanthe javanica</i> was identified as an emerging pest plant in the Tasman region. Council biosecurity staff carried out inspections of the Opaoa and Ruakanaka waterways, but no water celery has been identified in Marlborough to date.</p> <p>The plant is commonly grown for ornamental and culinary purposes. This increases the spread risk and likelihood of this plant becoming established in Marlborough.</p> |



Water celery *Oenanthe javinica*

**Operational  
Summary  
2019/2020**

In addition to that outline against Target 35, the Biosecurity team was alerted to the presence of the 'weedy fern' *Polypodium vulgare* on the Wither Hills Farm Park. The report came after the plant was discovered by an iNaturalist observer, and the observation posted on the iNaturalist website.




Council Biosecurity staff undertook an inspection of the fern's location within the Wither Hills covenant block and one plant was found, removed and destroyed.



*Polypodium vulgare*




### 3. Biocontrol



|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Overview</b></p>                          | <p>For many invasive organisms that are well established in Marlborough (particularly invasive weed species), the only remaining intervention is control on an as needed basis by occupiers. What can assist that control is the introduction and movement where necessary of biological control agents.</p> <p>These biological control agents can also assist in the management of species managed under RPMP programmes.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Target 36.1</b></p>                       | <p>Each year, provide an annual contribution into the National Biological Control Initiative.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>                         |    | <p>A financial contribution of \$15,000 was provided to fund a collective research programme looking into new biological agents for invasive plant species.</p>                          |
| <p><b>Target 36.2</b></p>                       | <p>Each year, undertake a minimum of two new releases of biological control agents comprising of new agents (subject to availability) or existing agents available (subject to establishment status in Marlborough).</p>  |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>                         |   | <p>Two releases of the Tradescantia yellow spot leaf fungus were made, to help reduce the negative impacts tradescantia has on native forest regeneration.</p>                           |
| <p><b>Target 36.3</b></p>                       | <p>Each year, undertake monitoring of all sites where agents were released ex-mass rearing stock within the previous 3 year period, to assess establishment status.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>                         |    | <p>Japanese honeysuckle agents (White Admiral butterfly caterpillars) were released in 2018 and subsequent visits to the site in 2019 and 2020 have not been able to find the agent.</p> |
| <p><b>Operational Summary<br/>2019/2020</b></p> | <p>Council continued to invest a core financial contribution into the National Biocontrol Collective. Councils around the country pool resources to fund a research programme to seek out and test biological control agents for invasive weed species.</p> <p>In addition to the core research programme, Council sourced and released the Tradescantia yellow spot fungus in May 2020.</p> <p>In terms of monitoring biological agents, biosecurity staff carried out a combination of targeted monitoring of agents recently released and follow-up monitoring of sites under a nationally coordinated project. That project was to assess the long term success of agents released in the past for nodding thistle.</p> |  |



## 4. Supporting Community Organisations

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Overview</b></p>                          | <p>On occasions, a community can come together to address concerns relating to harmful organisms within an area of interest.</p> <p>The organisms of concern are often those that are well established and the community is seeking a reduction in impact from those organisms. Outcomes can be related to improvement in biodiversity, aesthetics/landscapes, or even water yield and production values.</p> <p>While implementation of RPMP programmes is a priority, supporting these community organisations is a key goal within the Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Strategy. It is recognised that by supporting these organisations, the resulting work delivered and resources harnessed often well exceeds any single agency operating in isolation. In addition, the very nature of the organisations is community-driven, which make buy-in from the wider community an easier task.</p> |  |
| <p><b>Target 37</b></p>                         | <p>In 2019/20, provide an annual contribution into the following community organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust</li> <li>• South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust</li> <li>• Chilean Needle Grass Action Group</li> </ul>  |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>                         |   | <p>Financial contributions by way of grants were made to the Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust, South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust and a specific budget managed on behalf of the Chilean Needle Grass Action Group.</p> <p>Note – Council's support for the Chilean Needle Grass Action Group has been confirmed as ongoing (previously only for 3 years) at \$15,000 per annum from 2020/21 onwards.</p> |
| <p><b>Operational Summary<br/>2019/2020</b></p> | <p>As outlined against Target 37, annual financial contributions were made to assist these key community organisations.</p> <p>In addition to this, Biosecurity staff have also provided a large amount of in-kind advice and support to both these organisations and others where this has been possible.</p>  |  |

## 5. Wilding Conifer Management

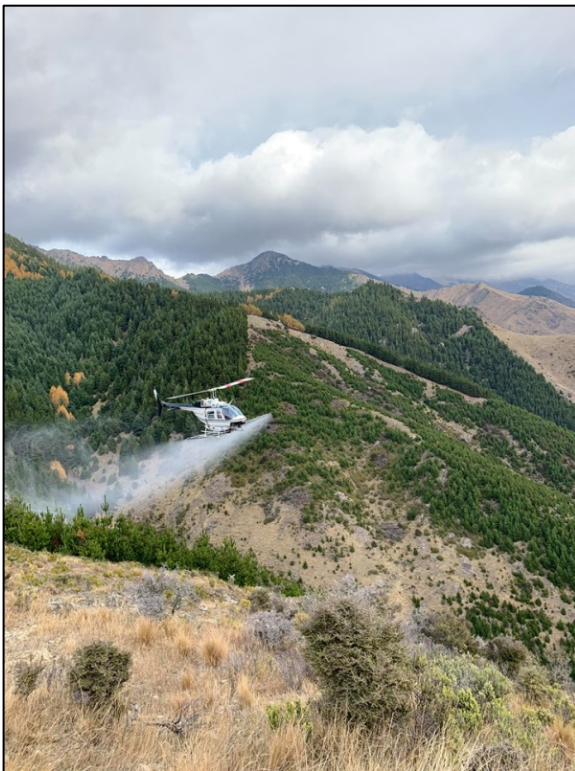
|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Overview</b></p>                          | <p>The management of wilding conifers is a large, complex, landscape scale issue. What has been recognised is the need to approach the issue will all interested parties working in collaboration.</p> <p>Council sees its role as a lead facilitator in accordance with both the Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Strategy and statutory requirements relating to leadership under section 12B of the Biosecurity Act 1993.</p> <p>As part of this role in Marlborough, helping establish and maintain collaborative wilding conifer management programmes is integral to achieve positive outcomes.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Target 38.1</b></p>                       | <p>In 2019/20, fulfil the role of Regional Fundholder as part of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme to the satisfaction of Biosecurity New Zealand (MPI).</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>                         |    | <p>Throughout the course of the year, Biosecurity staff facilitated the activities of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme regionally in Marlborough. This related solely to the Molesworth programme which was the only area receiving investment during Phase 1 of the programme.</p> <p>A large amount of work also went into preparing for the scaled up programme from 2020/21 onwards as a result of the Budget 2020 announcement under the banner of 'Jobs for Nature'.</p> |
| <p><b>Target 38.2</b></p>                       | <p>In 2019/20, facilitate a Marlborough Wilding Conifer Steering Group meeting.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2019/2020</b></p>                         |    | <p>As part of a review of the operating structure delivering the Molesworth programme, staff facilitated a process to re-form an oversight Steering Group for wilding conifer management moving forward. This Group is now meeting regularly to provide oversight and has agreed to form 2 Operational Technical Advisory Groups for the Molesworth and Waihopai programmes respectively.</p>  |
| <p><b>Operational Summary<br/>2019/2020</b></p> | <p>In 2019/20, Biosecurity staff continued to play a prominent role in ensuring the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme (NWCCP) was implemented smoothly and safely in Marlborough.</p> <p>Some of the major milestones achieved this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A procurement process was coordinated by Council to engage a dedicated programme manager for the Molesworth wildings programme. The contract was signed in March 2020.</li> <li>- The existing Molesworth programme in 19/20 was completed on time and budget thanks to some excellent interim programme management work by DOC staff in Rangiora and rallying by the on-ground contractors.</li> <li>- The Marlborough Wildings Steering Group has become functional as a key central platform for all stakeholders and collaborators in the game of wilding management.</li> <li>- Council staff worked closely with stakeholders and the Ministry</li> </ul> |  |

for Primary Industries to shape the \$100m Budget 2020 announcement into an operational programme moving forward.

- The policy review process to amend the RPMP to incorporate a programme for pest conifers was run smoothly from February to June 2020.
- Working with both the South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust and Marlborough Sounds Restorations Trusts with Council in an ex officio role for both trusts.

While the NWCCP builds in Marlborough, Council continued to deliver its operational programme aimed at containing the spread of wilding conifers from the Wye Reserve.

This year saw ground contractors used to clear areas of land away from the source area. Another component was the aerial spraying of ~18ha of fringe spread that has been too dense to consider ground contractors cutting the trees. While later than planned due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this spraying occurring in early May 2020.



**Left** – an aerial spraying operation undertaken by Council as part of the programme to contain wilding conifers adjacent to the Wye Reserve.

**Right** – a contracting crew getting prepared for a day's work on chainsaws as part of the Molesworth wildings programme. Image: Godfrey Pest Management Ltd.

## 6. Research


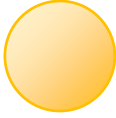

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Overview</b></p>                      | <p>With all biosecurity programmes, a continual improvement in understanding relating to both the organisms of interest and techniques to manage them is required.</p> <p>Some applied research is often carried out as part of operational programmes (e.g. farming system shifts to improve Chilean needle grass management) with other research being more direct.</p>   |
| <p><b>Operational Summary 2019/2020</b></p> | <p>In 2019/2020, The Biosecurity team was involved or supported the follow areas of research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsor and collaborator for the 'Tomorrow's Marine Biosecurity Toolbox' MBIE funded programme led by the Cawthron Institute;</li> <li>• Managing the product registration of Taskforce™ herbicide in NZ;</li> <li>• Completing a 2 year efficacy trial for Taskforce™ herbicide targeting kangaroo grass;</li> <li>• Ongoing support toward national research projects looking into the biological control of Vespula sp. wasps;</li> <li>• Pilot trials testing current technology to detect CNG via remote sensing;</li> <li>• Support the SFF project exploring pathogenic biological control agents for nassella tussock.</li> </ul> <p>The research budget for 2019/2020 was \$10,000.</p> <p>Actual 2019/2020 spend = \$22,044.55</p> |

## 7. Specific Projects

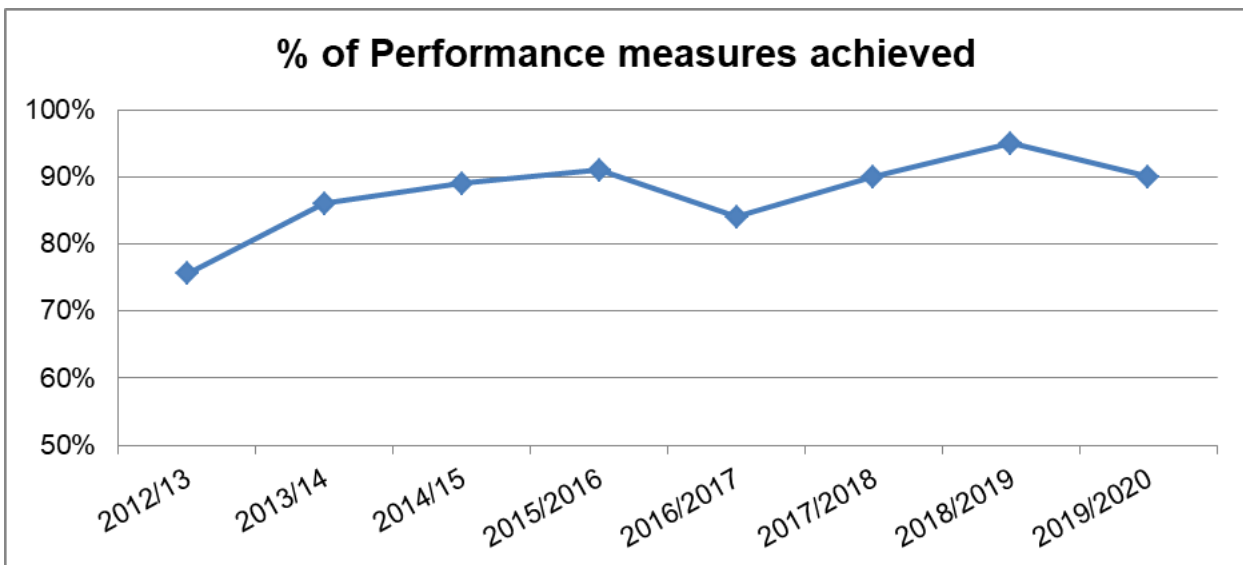
|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Overview</b></p>                          | <p>On occasions, specific projects require the support and/or investment by Council. Each project is assessed on its merit and alignment with the Vision and Goals of the Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Strategy.</p>  |
| <p><b>Operational Summary<br/>2019/2020</b></p> | <p>In 2019/2020, Biosecurity staff were involved in the following projects that align to the goals of Council's Biosecurity Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership <p>This initiative sees the three Top of the South (TOS) Councils come together with the Ministry for Primary Industries financially, and with many other parties in committee, to minimise the risk and impact of marine pests. It strongly supports the work delivered operationally by Council in the Mediterranean fanworm programme.</p> <p>In the final year of Council's role as contract manager (shifting to Tasman District Council from 20/21), the Coordinator contractor again delivered an agreed work programme across the TOS region. This focussed strongly on awareness, engagement, risk reduction and a large surveillance/intelligence project on-the-water over the summer months.</p> <p><u>Budget:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Financial contribution \$36,380;</li> <li>2. Staff time and associated costs.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>2019/2020 Actual:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. \$36,380.00 – shared funding for the coordination contract;</li> <li>2. Staff time managing the Coordination contract and attending Committee meetings.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Response to plague skinks in Marlborough <p>The response to the Riverlands detection of plague skinks has been closed out given the large area they were found to be established across – linking up with the Cloudy Bay business park.</p> <p>However, the incursion at Havelock is still an active response led by Biosecurity New Zealand with specialist support from the Department of Conservation. Council is also involved at the governance group level.</p> <p>The Havelock response continues to have an elimination objective given the incursion point and timing is definitively known which is extremely rare.</p> <p><u>Budget:</u> Staff time and associated costs</p> <p><b><u>2019/2020 Actual:</u></b> Staff time involved in the response governance group.</p> </li> </ul> |

## Part Three – Performance Summary

Overall scoring of performance objectives (excluding those that are not applicable):

| Measure   |                 | 2019/2020 Score |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | Achieved        | 74 (90%)        |
|  | Almost Achieved | 2 (2.5%)        |
|  | Not Achieved    | 6 (7.5%)        |
|   |                 | 82 (100%)       |

### Performance Trend





## Part Four – Operational Plan Review

In accordance with section 100B(1)(b) of the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Operational Plan 2018-2028 was subject to a review on 4 August 2020. The outcome of this review is summarised below.

Once ratified by Council, the proposed changes to the Operational Plan 2018-2028 will be carried out and be reported upon as part of the 2020/2021 Biosecurity Operational Plan Report.

| Section  | Current content   | Proposed change   | Reason  |
|--|---|---|---|
| Part 1 –<br>Section 4.<br>Broom                    | Target 4.1<br><br>By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made, and metrics set, for the purposes of setting longer term programme trend monitoring for broom within the control zones.  | Replace Target 4.1<br><br>No more than 1 instance of non-compliance needing enforcement action is identified within the three Control Zones.  | As reported, the prior Target 4.1 was not met. This is primarily due to the physical delivery of this programme being conducted by occupiers and the lack of a cost effective method to assess infestation trends.<br><br>As a result, it is proposed to use a compliance related target on the basis that of the pest is not being kept under sustained control, this would be reflected through Councils compliance monitoring activities.  |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 8.1<br>Chilean<br>needle grass | Target 8.1<br><br>By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made for the purposes of monitoring the longer term programme objective for Chilean needle grass.                              | Delete target   | Achieved  |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 11.<br>Cotton thistle          | Target 11.1<br><br>By 30 June 2019, a baseline population assessment has been made for the purposes of setting the longer term programme objective for cotton thistle.                                      | Remove Target 11.1  | Achieved  |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 15.<br>Gorse                   | Target 15.1<br><br>By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made, and metrics set, for the purposes of setting longer term programme trend monitoring for gorse within the control zones. | Replace Target 15.1<br><br>No more than 1 instance of non-compliance needing enforcement action is identified within the three Control Zones. | As reported, the prior Target 15.1 was not met. This is primarily due to the physical delivery of this programme being conducted by occupiers and the lack of a cost effective method to assess infestation trends.<br><br>As a result, it is proposed to use a compliance related target on the basis that of the pest is not being kept under sustained control, this would be reflected through Councils compliance monitoring activities. |

## Biosecurity Operational Plan 2019-2020

| Section  | Current content   | Proposed change  | Reason   |
|--|---|--|--|
| Part 1 –<br>Section 16.<br>Kangaroo<br>grass   | Target 16.1<br><br>By 30 June 2020, a baseline population assessment has been made, and metrics set, for the purposes of setting the longer term programme objective for kangaroo grass within the control zones.   | Remove Target 16.1   | Achieved   |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 18.<br>Mediterranean<br>fanworm  | Target 18.1<br><br>Each year, a minimum of two dive surveillance and removal operations are undertaken in Picton Marina and Waikawa Marina.   | Target 18.1<br>Each year, a minimum of two dive surveillance and removal operations are undertaken in Picton Marina, Waikawa Marina, <b>Grove Arm and Port Underwood (East Arm).</b> | As a result of the detection of Mediterranean fanworm in 2019/2020, two new areas now need to be included in twice-annual surveillance activities. |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 23.<br>Rabbits   | Target 23.3<br><br>Each year, undertake a minimum of one RHDV immunity survey of a rabbit population of relevance to the wider understanding of population immunity.  | Delete target  | No longer feeds into programme requirements  |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 33.<br>Willow-leaved<br>hakea<br>Part 1 –<br>Section 33.<br>Willow-leaved<br>hakea | Target 33.1<br><br>By 21 January 2020, a detailed project plan has been prepared detailing the required operational activities to occur on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island over the following 5 year period. | Delete   | Achieved   |
|  | Target 33.2<br><br>By 30 June 2020, an initial control operation is to have taken place on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island in accordance with the project plan.  | Delete   | Achieved   |
| Part 1 –<br>Section 34.<br>Woolly<br>nightshade  | Target 34.1<br><br>By 30 June 2019, a detailed project plan   | Delete   | Achieved   |



| Section  | Current content   | Proposed change  | Reason   |
|--|---|--|--|
| Part 1 – Section 34. Woolly nightshade         | has been prepared detailing the required operational activities to occur in Marlborough, with specific emphasis on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island, over the following 5 year period.  |  |  |
|  | <p>Target 34.2</p> <p>By 30 June 2020, an initial control operation is to have taken place on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island in accordance with the project plan.</p>   | Delete   | Achieved   |
| Part 2 – 1. Investigation & analysis           | <p>Target 35</p> <p>By 30 June 2020, undertake active surveillance activities for aquatic pest species at a minimum of 2 sites identified as being at risk from such threats.</p>   | <p>Update target 35 to read:</p> <p><b>Each year</b>, undertake active surveillance activities for aquatic pest species at a minimum of 2 sites identified as being at risk from such threats.</p>   | This activity has been identified as being one that should be occurring each year as an enduring part of the Biosecurity programme.                |
| Part 2 – 4. Supporting Community Organisations | <p>Target 37</p> <p>In 2019/2020, provide an annual contribution into the following community organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust</li> <li>• South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust</li> <li>• Chilean Needle Grass Action Group</li> </ul> | <p>Update Target 37 to read:</p> <p><b>Each year</b>, provide an annual contribution into the following community organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust</li> <li>• South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust</li> <li>• Chilean Needle Grass Action Group <b>(by way of a dedicated budget)</b>.</li> </ul> | The provision of support for these community organisations is currently on an ongoing basis. As such, the change to the target is to reflect this. |
| Part 2 – 5. Wilding Conifer Management         | <p>Target 38.1</p> <p>In 2019/2020, fulfil the role of Regional Fundholder as part of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme to the satisfaction of Biosecurity New Zealand (MPI).</p>  | <p>Update Target 38.1 to read:</p> <p><b>While it is agreed</b>, fulfil the role of Regional Fundholder as part of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme to the satisfaction of Biosecurity New</p>   | This role is currently ongoing in nature as part of the collaborative National Wilding Conifer Control Programme.                                  |

**Biosecurity Operational Plan 2019-2020**

| Section                 | Current content  | Proposed change   | Reason   |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
|                         |  | Zealand (MPI).  |  |
|                         | <p>Target 38.2</p> <p>In 2019/2020, facilitate a Marlborough Wilding Conifer Steering Group meeting.</p> | <p>Update Target 38.1 to read:</p> <p><b>While in place, facilitate Marlborough Wilding Conifer Steering Group meetings to the satisfaction of all stakeholders involved.</b></p> | <p>This role is currently ongoing in nature as part of the collaborative work occurring in Marlborough with respect to wilding conifer management.</p> |
| Part 2 – 6. Research    | The research budget for 2019/2020 is \$10,000.   | The research budget for <b>2020/2021</b> is \$22,000.   | Update   |
| All applicable sections |  | Update target numbering in accordance with the changes outlined.  | To reflect the amendments.   |
| All applicable sections |  | Remove all programme trend graphs/references  | Trend data is reported each year within Operational Plan Reports. Avoid duplicating effort updating material.  |