

Operational Plan 2008

for the Chatham Islands Pest Management Strategy (2008-2018)

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PREPARED UNDER THE BIOSECURITY ACT 1993

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the Operational Plan for the implementation of the Chatham Islands Pest Management Strategy (2008-2018).

This Plan has been prepared and adopted by the Chatham Islands Council in accordance with the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 1993, on 13 March 2008, and becomes operative from 1 July 2008, subject to funding being approved through the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan processes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Owen Pickles', written over a stylized, curved line that suggests a signature or a decorative flourish.

Owen Pickles

General Manager

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PART I: INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE CHATHAM ISLANDS PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2008-2018

The Chatham Islands Pest Management Strategy (2008-2018) is reviewed every five years. The review is the democratic process by which decisions are made regarding what pests are controlled where, and who pays for their control to benefit the region as a whole. In recognising the exceptional circumstances of the Chatham Islands, the Council has developed a unique partnership with the New Zealand Government, which assists in the funding of the development, review and implementation of this Strategy and associated pest management programmes.

The introduced plants and animals that are declared pests in the Strategy impact or may impact on regional values such as health, the economy, Maori heritage, recreation, water quality, soil and biodiversity resources. To manage or mitigate these impacts, the RPMS establishes four pest management programmes. These programmes are described in more detail below.

Surveillance – Chatham Islands programme

Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests are either known to be present on the New Zealand mainland but not known to be present on the Chatham Islands; or known to be present on the Chatham Islands and included in a Total Control programme; or known to be present on the Chatham Islands but insufficient information is available about them to determine the most appropriate level of control. The Strategy objective is to prevent the establishment of Surveillance pests on the Chatham Islands.

Surveillance – Pitt Island programme

Surveillance - Pitt Island pests are known to be present on Chatham Island, but absent from Pitt Island. The Strategy objective is to prevent the establishment of Surveillance – Pitt Island pests on Pitt Island.

Total control programme

Total control pests are in low incidence or have a restricted range across the entire region, and have a high potential for spread and impact. The Strategy objective is to eradicate all total control pests over the next ten years.

Containment control programme

Containment pests are widespread pests, with a high impact on production in parts of the region. The Strategy objective, in general, is to maintain target densities of the pest, and to prevent pests establishing on land currently free of the pest.

Who carries out pest control?

Landowners are generally responsible for pest control, and the Council supports these efforts by undertaking principal measures to achieve the objectives in the Strategy. The estimated budget over the next 5 years by principal measure and pest programme in the Strategy is summarised in Table 1.

To find out more

For further information contact the Chatham Islands Council and ask for a copy of our free pamphlets such as “Chatham Islands - Plant and Animal Pests” and “No pests Please – keep our Islands unique”. There is a charge for copies of the Pest Management Strategy, and this Operational Plan. All of this information can be viewed on our website, or at our office.

1.2 THE OPERATIONAL PLAN

As required by Section 85 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, an Operational Plan must be prepared within 3 months after the Strategy is made. The Chatham Islands Pest Management Strategy (2008-2018) was “made” on 3rd March 2008, and becomes operative from 1 July 2008. The Operational Plan must be reviewed annually, and if the Council thinks fit, amended. A copy of the Operational Plan is sent to the Minister for Biosecurity.

This Operational Plan implements the first five years (2008-2013) of the Chatham Islands Pest Management Strategy (2008-2018). Every year, the Operational Plan is reviewed, and an Operational Report is prepared to keep track of progress in implementing the Strategy.

1.3 THE REPORT ON THE OPERATIONAL PLAN

As required by Section 85 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 a report on the Operational Plan and its implementation must be prepared no later than 5 months after the end of each financial year. The report may form part of a regional council's Annual Report, and in that case, the Council may make it available to the public by supplying an extract from the Annual Report, but whatever form it may be made available, can be charged at no more than the cost of supplying an extract. A copy of the Operational Report is sent to the Minister for Biosecurity.

PART II: PEST OPERATIONAL BUDGET

The Chatham Islands Pest Management Strategy 2008-2018 budget for the next 5 years is summarised by principal measure and by pest programme as outlined in Table 1 below. Pest control operations will be undertaken by the Council for Total Control pest plants. If the Council undertakes control on behalf of the landowner through regulatory action on default, then costs will be recovered from the landowner.

Table 1: Estimated Budget by principal measure and pest management programme 2008-2013

Pest Management Programmes	Surveillance Chatham Islands and Surveillance-Pitt Island	Total Control	Containment control
Principal measures			
Regulation			
Chatham and Pitt Islands	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Surveillance, searching			
Chatham and Pitt Islands	\$ 30,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
Property plans			
Chatham and Pitt Islands			\$15,000
Pest control operations			
Chatham and Pitt Islands		\$40,000	
Internal border			
Chatham and Pitt Islands	\$20,000		
Public awareness			
Chatham and Pitt Islands	\$10,000 [#]	\$10,000 [#]	\$10,000 [#]
Investigations/Research			
Chatham and Pitt Islands	\$5,000 [*]	\$5,000 [*]	\$5,000 [*]
Monitoring			
Chatham and Pitt Islands		\$10,000	
Incursion response			
Chatham and Pitt Islands	\$45,000		
TOTAL	\$115,000	\$90,000	\$50,000

* # The estimated budgets for the principle measures are indicative for each pest management programme. To gain cost efficiencies, pest management programme budget estimates may be combined e.g. \$15,000 may be spent in one year on Total control investigations, and in another year on Containment control investigations.

The service provided within each activity/principal measure by pest management programme is summarised in Table 2. Targets are the anticipated progress towards achieving the Objectives of the Strategy.

Surveillance – Chatham Islands

Table 2: Service provided and targets for Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests

Pest management programme	Principal measure	Service provided	Targets
<p>Surveillance – Chatham Islands</p> <p>Regulating and enforcing to prevent the introduction, sale, propagation and distribution of 140 Surveillance – Chatham Islands Pests</p>	<p>Regulation and enforcement Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Undertake enforcement action to ensure that landowners and occupiers do not introduce, sell, propagate or distribute Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Report on the presence of Surveillance-Chatham Islands pests twice yearly</p> <p>Detect up to 5 Surveillance – Chatham Islands Pests per annum</p>
<p>Surveillance – Chatham Islands</p> <p>Maintaining an internal border between Chatham Island, Pitt Island and New Zealand.</p>	<p>Internal border Chatham Island, Pitt Island and New Zealand</p>	<p>Year 1-3 In partnership with Biosecurity New Zealand investigate the development a marine biosecurity plan as part of establishing an internal border</p> <p>Years 3-5 Provide training to freight handlers at major ports supplying the Chatham Islands in the identification of Surveillance-Chatham Islands pests</p>	<p>Year 4 Publish and distribute a scoping report addressing marine biosecurity as part of establishing an internal border</p> <p>Year 5 Surveillance pests that are absent from the Chatham Islands as at a baseline date of November 2006 remain absent</p>

Pest management programme	Principal measure	Service provided	Targets
<p>Surveillance – Chatham Islands</p> <p>Preventing the arrival and establishment on the Chatham Islands of 140 Surveillance – Chatham Islands Pests</p>	<p>Surveillance, searching, Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Inspect at risk sites for Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests</p>	<p>Year 1 Identify, map and maintain a database of high risk sites for Surveillance – Chatham Islands Pests</p> <p>Year 2 Develop a surveillance programme sampling sites (ha) at high risk from Surveillance - Chatham Island pests</p> <p>Years 3-5 Search 100% of high-risk sites every 3 years</p>
<p>Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests</p> <p>Subject to availability of resources, undertake Biosecurity Act 1993 Section 100 control of Surveillance pests</p>	<p>Incursion response Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Undertake up to two incursion responses of Surveillance-Chatham Islands pests per annum</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Report on the number of potential and actual incursion responses of Surveillance-Chatham Islands pests incursion responses per annum</p>

Surveillance – Pitt Island

Table 3: Service provided and targets for Surveillance – Pitt Island pests

Pest management programme	Principal measure	Service provided	Targets
<p>Surveillance – Pitt Island</p> <p>Regulating and enforcing to prevent the introduction, propagation and distribution of five Surveillance – Pitt Island pests</p>	<p>Regulation and enforcement Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Inspect at-risk properties for Surveillance – Pitt Island pests</p> <p>Undertake enforcement action to ensure that landowners and occupiers carry out control of Surveillance -Pitt Island pests</p>	<p>Year 1 Identify, map and maintain a database of high risk sites for Surveillance – Pitt Island Pests on Pitt Island</p> <p>Years 2-5 Report on the number of Surveillance – Pitt Island pests detected per annum</p>
<p>Surveillance – Pitt Island</p> <p>Preventing the arrival and establishment on Pitt Island of five Surveillance- Pitt Islands pests</p>	<p>Surveillance, searching, Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Year 1 Inspect at risk sites for Surveillance – Pitt Island pests</p>	<p>Year 1 Develop a surveillance programme sampling at risk sites (ha) for Surveillance - Pitt Island pests</p> <p>Years 2-5 Search 100% of high-risk sites for Surveillance – Pitt Island pests every 3 years</p>

Total control

Table 3: Service provided and targets for Total control pests

Pest management programme	Principal measure	Service provided	Targets
<p>Total control</p> <p>Regulating and enforcing the control of one Total Control pest animal – feral goats</p>	<p>Regulation and enforcement Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5</p> <p>Undertake enforcement action to ensure that landowners and occupiers carry out control of feral goats</p>	<p>Years 1-5</p> <p>Undertake enforcement action annually on 100% of properties non-compliant with Strategy rules</p>
<p>Total control</p> <p>Monitoring the effectiveness of the Total control pest plant programme</p>	<p>Monitoring Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 3-5</p> <p>Total control</p> <p>Summarise and interpret data collated from pest control operations</p>	<p>Total control Year 4</p> <p>A report on the effectiveness of pest control operations is prepared</p> <p>The incidence of Total control pest plants is consistent with estimates of target densities</p>
<p>Total Control</p> <p>Undertaking pest control of 12 Total control pest plants</p>	<p>Pest Control Operations Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5</p> <p>Total Control</p> <p>Progress towards eradicating Total control pest plants is made to reduce their impact on the economy, particularly on land production, and on biodiversity</p>	<p>Years 3- 5</p> <p>Total control</p> <p>Identify, map and maintain a database of the incidence (e.g. of the density and distribution) of Total Control pest plants on Chatham Island and Pitt Island</p> <p>Estimate (e.g. identify, map and maintain a database of) the control area over which Total Control pest plants on Chatham Island and Pitt Island occurs</p>

Pest management programme	Principal measure	Service provided	Targets
<p>Total Control</p> <p>Preventing the establishment of 12 Total Control pest plants and one Total Control pest animal on Chatham Island and Pitt Island</p>	<p>Surveillance, searching, Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Total control</p> <p>Inspect at risk properties for Total control pests and issuing inspection notices</p> <p>Progress towards eradicating feral goats is made to reduce their impact on the economy, particularly on land production, and on biodiversity</p>	<p>Years 1-5</p> <p>All properties are inspected every 2 years</p> <p>Year 1</p> <p>Estimate (e.g. identify, map and maintain a database) the incidence (e.g. distribution and density) of feral goats on Pitt Island</p> <p>Years 1-5</p> <p>Estimate (e.g. identify, map and maintain a database) the baseline incidence (e.g. distribution and density of feral goats) on Chatham Island</p>
			<p>Year 2</p> <p>Estimate the target incidence (e.g. density and distribution) of feral goats on Chatham Island required to achieve eradication over the life of the Strategy</p> <p>Year 3</p> <p>No feral goats on Pitt Island</p>

Containment Control

Table 4: Service provided and targets for Containment control pests

Pest management programme	Principal measure	Service provided	Targets
<p>Containment control Regulating and enforcing the control of four Containment Control pest plants</p> <p>Regulating and enforcing to ensure that landowners and occupiers do not sell, propagate or distribute pests</p>	<p>Regulation and enforcement Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Undertake enforcement action to ensure that landowners and occupiers carry out control of Containment control pest plants</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Undertake enforcement action annually on 100% of properties non-compliant with Strategy rules</p> <p>Year 3 80% compliance with Strategy rules at first inspection</p>
<p>Containment Control Ensuring that Landowners comply with rules in the Strategy</p>	<p>Surveillance, searching, Chatham and Pitt Islands</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Inspect and search at risk sites for Containment control pests and issuing inspection notices.</p>	<p>Years 1-5 All at risk sites are inspected every 2 years</p> <p>All gorse is eradicated annually from Gorse Management Area 1</p> <p>Year 3 A report is prepared that identifies and maps distribution and density of Californian thistle</p>
			<p>Year 5 The area of gorse (ha) in Gorse Management Area 2 does not increase as from a baseline date of 2001 (this target is subject to the availability of aerial maps of the Chatham Islands)</p>

Public Awareness

Table 5: Service provided and targets for Public awareness

Principal measure	Pest programme	Service provided	Targets
Public awareness*	<p>Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests</p> <p>Surveillance – Pitt Island pests</p> <p>Total control pests</p> <p>Containment control pests</p>	<p>Year 1 Regular media coverage of pest and biosecurity issues</p> <p>Year 2 Develop a communications plan including targets for awareness of pests and biosecurity issues</p> <p>Year 3 Implement the communications plan. Customer survey to gauge the understanding of landowner Strategy obligations</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Articles on pest and biosecurity in the Chatham Islander and other news publications per annum</p> <p>Two pamphlets on pests and biosecurity issues</p> <p>70% of landowners understand their obligations under the Strategy</p>

Investigations/Research

Table 6: Service provided and targets for Investigations/Research

Principal measure	Pest programme	Service provided	Targets
Investigations/ Research [#]	<p>Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests</p> <p>Surveillance – Pitt Island pests</p> <p>Total control pests</p> <p>Containment control pests</p> <p>Undertaking pests and biosecurity investigations and survey programmes</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Assess any research or investigation proposals concerning Surveillance – Chatham Islands pests, Total control pests, Containment control pest plants such as the introduction of biological control agents where support is sought from the Council on a case by case basis</p>	<p>Years 1-5 Number of assessments undertaken</p>

PART III: OTHER PEST SERVICES

The Council undertakes a number of other pest services outside the PMS to ensure that local, regional and nationally coordinated pest control is integrated at a regional scale for greatest cost benefit. These include democratic processes such as consultation and partnerships with non-governmental and governmental organisations nationally and inter-regionally.

Biosecurity

Biosecurity New Zealand (the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, MAF) coordinates surveillance and incursion response for pests currently not present in New Zealand (e.g. Asian fan worm), for pests new to New Zealand (e.g. sea squirt), and leads some pest eradication programmes (Table 3). The Council supports these programmes where funded.

National Pest Management Strategies

National Pest Management Strategies are prepared under the Biosecurity Act 1993 e.g. the National Pest Management Strategy for Tb, coordinated by the Animal Health Board. The Council supports National Pest Management Strategies, where funded.

Table 7: National pest programme priorities

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	salvinia
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	water hyacinth
<i>Sorghum halapense</i>	Johnson grass
<i>Moraea flacida</i> (<i>syn.Homeria collina</i>)	Cape tulip
<i>Ehrharta villosa</i>	pyp grass
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	phragmites
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla
<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	hornwort
<i>Bryonia cretica subsp. dioica</i>	white bryony
<i>Tricoglossus haematodus</i>	rainbow lorikeet
<i>Zizania latifolia</i>	Manchurian wild rice

National Pest Plant Accord

The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is a cooperative agreement between the Nursery and Garden Industry Association, regional councils and government departments with biosecurity responsibilities. All plants on the NPPA list are Unwanted Organisms under the Biosecurity Act, and cannot be sold, propagated or distributed in New Zealand. The list is periodically updated via consultation with a Technical Advisory Group and posted on <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/nppa>. The Council is a signatory to the NPPA.

Internal border and incursion response

The establishment and maintenance of an effective internal border between New Zealand and the Chatham Islands requires controls across all transportation channels and operational capacity for incursion response. While the Council has made provision within the Strategy to work in partnership with Biosecurity New Zealand to address the risk posed by marine transportation channels, the further development of an internal border is beyond the resources of the Council. An internal border and incursion response will require assistance from other agencies and cooperation and partnerships between the Council and other organisations involved in the movement of people and freight to the Chatham Islands.

Planning and reporting

The Strategy is reviewed every 5 years. During the review period, we will be asking for your views, and you will be welcome to make a submission, and/or attending public information days and hearings.