



Notice of the Ordinary meeting of

Nelson City Council

Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

Date:	Wednesday 17 November 2021
Time:	9.30a.m.
Location:	Council Chamber Civic House 110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson

Agenda

Rārangi take

Chairperson

Deputy Mayor

Members

Her Worship the Mayor Rachel Reese

Cr Judene Edgar

Cr Yvonne Bowater

Cr Trudie Brand

Cr Mel Courtney

Cr Kate Fulton

Cr Matt Lawrey

Cr Rohan O'Neill-Stevens

Cr Brian McGurk

Cr Gaile Noonan

Cr Pete Rainey

Cr Rachel Sanson

Cr Tim Skinner

Quorum: 7

**Pat Dougherty
Chief Executive**

Nelson City Council Disclaimer

Please note that the contents of these Council and Committee agendas have yet to be considered by Council and officer recommendations may be altered or changed by the Council in the process of making the formal Council decision. For enquiries call (03) 5460436.

Council Values

Following are the values agreed during the 2019 – 2022 term:

- A. Whakautetanga: respect
- B. Kōrero Pono: integrity
- C. Māiatanga: courage
- D. Whakamanatanga: effectiveness
- E. Whakamōwaitanga: humility
- F. Kaitiakitanga: stewardship
- G. Manaakitanga: generosity of spirit

Karakia and Mihi Timatanga

1. Apologies

Nil

2. Confirmation of Order of Business

3. Interests

3.1 Updates to the Interests Register

3.2 Identify any conflicts of interest in the agenda

4. Public Forum

4.1 Dr. Murray McClintock, on behalf of Carbon Farm Ltd - Emissions Trading Scheme and Council's Financial Obligations

5. Mayor's Report

6. Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter

6 - 24

Document number R26192

Recommendation

That the Council

1. ***Receives the report Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter (R26192) and its attachments (A2560914, A2771786, A2771833); and***
2. ***Delegates authority to Her Worship the Mayor to sign the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter on behalf of Council as a Partner Organisation.***

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

7. Exclusion of the Public

Recommendation

That the Council

1. ***Excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.***
2. ***The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:***

Item	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interests protected (where applicable)
1	Code of Conduct - establishment of panel	Section 48(1)(a) The public conduct of this matter would be likely to result in disclosure of information for which good reason exists under section 7	The withholding of the information is necessary: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person

8. Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

25 - 44

Document number R26311

Recommendation

That the Council

1. ***Receives the report Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests (R26311) and its attachments (A2761326, A2737347); and***
2. ***Agrees that no further assessment of carbon credit registration for Council's indigenous forests will be undertaken as it is unlikely to yield any financial benefits.***

9. Adoption of the Climate Action Plan 45 - 74

Document number R26187

Recommendation

That the Council

- 1. Receives the report (R26187) and its attachments (A2739648 and A2772355); and***
- 2. Adopts the Climate Action Plan (A2739648).***

**10. Recommendation from 4 November 2021
Environment and Climate Committee -
Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme
Update 75 - 88**

Document number R26391

Recommendation

That the Council

- 1. Receives the report Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update (R26248) and its attachment (A2781941); and***
- 2. Approves the revised recommended programme, including:***
 - a) pausing work on the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan, to progress a Housing Choice Plan Change to the Nelson Resource Management Plan; and***
 - b) continuing with the freshwater planning framework development; and***
 - c) continuing with the Coastal Hazard Dynamic Adaptive Pathways planning programme; and***
 - d) considering other priorities for plan changes following the enactment of the Natural and Built Environment Act.***

Karakia Whakamutunga

REPORT R26192

Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To approve signing of the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter by the Mayor on behalf of Council.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The Charter previously went before Council on 13 February 2020 and was approved for signing by the Mayor.
- 2.2 The Charter signing did not take place at that time and the Charter text has since been amended. The latest version (Attachment 1) was endorsed by the Forum Coordination Group in late December 2020 and is now ready for consideration.

3. Recommendation

That the Council

- 1. Receives the report Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter (R26192) and its attachments (A2560914, A2771786, A2771833); and***
- 2. Delegates authority to Her Worship the Mayor to sign the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter on behalf of Council as a Partner Organisation.***

4. Background

Nelson Tasman Climate Forum

- 4.1. The Forum was established with the support of Council through the 2019/20 Annual Plan meeting of 4 June 2019, with the following resolution:

Item 6: Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter

Resolved CL/2019/089

That the Council

Approves a total of \$254,500 for climate change initiatives from general rates, comprised of: establishment of a climate forum...

- 4.2 Council has continued to support and participate in the Forum since its establishment with Councillor Fulton, as Chair of the Environment and Climate Committee, representing Council on the Forum Leadership Group. The Long Term Plan 2021-31 includes support for the Climate Forum of \$100,000 per annum for the first three years. The Council grant will be used for a range of outcomes in the Nelson region (i.e., within the Nelson City Council boundaries), aligned with the Forum weaving plan (Attachment 2) and outlined in the grant agreement.

The Charter

- 4.3 The Charter sets out a shared understanding of how the Nelson Tasman region will work together to achieve goals and commitments for addressing climate change. On 13 February 2020, Council received and approved the Charter text and, subject to some minor wording changes, authorised the Mayor to sign the Charter on behalf of Council.
- 4.4 However, in the lead up to the launch of the Forum on 29 February 2020, it was decided by the Forum Coordination Group that more time was needed to finalise the Charter, including gathering additional input from stakeholders and iwi.
- 4.5 Since then, the Charter has been redrafted and approved by the Kaitiaki o Te Taiao group of iwi representatives. A new element in the Charter now is the three levels of membership to choose between when signing: "Signatories", "Partner Organisations", and "Climate Allies".
- 4.7 Signatories: Signatories to the Charter hold themselves accountable for actively leading implementation of the Weaving Plan to achieve the vision of the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan (now known as the Climate Action Book). They collectively ensure that actions in the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan are undertaken in good faith and to the best of their abilities. Signatories approve the Weaving Plan and Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan including revisions to those Plans, and also the operating procedures (Attachment 3) of the Forum.
- 4.8 Partner Organisations: Partner organisations endorse the Charter and commit to act in good faith within their functions and capabilities to support the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum in achieving its goals. Partner organisations undertake to respond supportively to the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan as the Forum implements its actions. Partner organisations can expect to be involved in forming revisions to the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan and other strategic documents, but do not have decision-making authority. They

Item 6: Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter

are expected to work with the Forum in developing actions and projects but are not bound to anything that they do not choose to commit to.

- 4.9 Climate Allies: Climate allies are individual people or organisations that endorse the Charter and commit to personal action to support its goals. Climate allies can expect to be kept informed and offered opportunities to participate in the Forum's activities.
- 4.10 Tasman District Council has approved signing the Charter as a Climate Ally. The chair of the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum is expecting to invite both mayors to sign the charter at an upcoming hui on 27 November.
- 4.11 Council's level of involvement in establishing the Forum and its role in the Leadership Group indicates that membership as either a "Partner Organisation" or "Signatory" would most appropriate. If Council was a Signatory, it would have decision-making rights within the Forum and thus more ability to influence direction and the content of future strategic documents. However, there is a significantly higher legal risk to Council associated with the Signatory tier because this category of member undertakes to comply with decisions of the Forum. This gives rise to the potential for a clear conflict between the terms of the Charter and Council's broader obligations, and also a risk of predetermination if Council participates in decision-making at the Forum without first going through its normal decision-making processes.

5. Discussion

- 5.1 Council has been directly engaged with the Forum since it was formed. Signing the Charter as a "Partner Organisation" is a signal that Council is committed to long term and meaningful contributions to climate action, alongside the community.
- 5.2 Approving signature of the Charter will demonstrate that Council's actions are aligned with its intentions and position it well for continued engagement on climate action.

6. Options

- 6.1 Four options are presented to Council for consideration. Option 2 is the recommended option.

Option 1: Approve signing of Charter (as a "Signatory")	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is consistent with Council's previous decision to sign the Charter• Gives Council decision-making rights within the Forum• Demonstrates Council's strong commitment to work with community partners to take action on climate change

Item 6: Nelson Tasman Climate Forum - Charter

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognises Council's role in establishing the Forum and providing ongoing financial support
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is some tension between the commitment by Signatories to certain goals contained in the Charter and Council's wider responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002
Option 2: Approve signing of Charter (as a "Partner Organisation") – Recommended option	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is consistent with Council's previous decision to sign the Charter Commits to a role that is more clearly aligned with Council's wider responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002. Recognises Council's role in establishing the Forum and providing ongoing financial support
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council would not have a decision-making role in the Forum May signal a lower level of commitment to the work of the Climate Forum
Option 3: Approve signing of Charter (as "Climate Allies)	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is consistent with Council's previous decision to sign the Charter Consistent with Tasman District Council decision Commits to a role that is more clearly aligned with Council's wider responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002.
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to be seen as a lower level of commitment to the work of the Climate Forum May be seen as inconsistent with the level of support and funding Council has provided for the Climate Forum
Option 4: Do not approve signing of Charter	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could be perceived as a signal that Council does not support the work of the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 This approval process serves as a continuation and reaffirmation of Council's desire to work with community partners in tackling climate change. Agreement to signing the Charter will demonstrate that Council is committed to the work the Forum is doing as an advocate for positive climate action and enable Council to continue to collaborate with and influence the work of the Forum as an active participant.

8. Next Steps

- 8.1 If signing the Charter is approved, officers will liaise with the Forum to finalise arrangements.

Author: Daniela Ramirez, Climate Change Adaptation Adviser

Attachments

- Attachment 1: A2560914 - Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter [↓](#)
- Attachment 2: A2771786 - Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Weaving Plan [↓](#)
- Attachment 3: A2771833 - Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Operating Procedures [↓](#)

<p>Important considerations for decision making</p>
<p>1. Fit with Purpose of Local Government</p> <p>This recommendation supports the future environmental, social and economic wellbeing of Nelson by encouraging community collaboration to tackle the impacts of climate change. The recommendation also supports the development of a consistent regional approach to taking urgent action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p>2. Consistency with Community Outcomes and Council Policy</p> <p>The recommendation supports many of the community outcomes but in particular</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our communities are healthy, safe, inclusive and resilient • Our unique natural environment is healthy and protected • Our region is supported by an innovative and sustainable economy • Our Council provides leadership and fosters partnerships, a regional perspective, and community engagement.
<p>3. Risk</p> <p>There is reputational risk if Council chooses not to sign the Charter given Council's role in establishing the Forum and its ongoing funding, participation and other support. To not sign could be seen as inconsistent with Council's decision to declare a Climate Emergency.</p> <p>There is some level of risk that membership as a Signatory creates a tension with Council's wider responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002. The wording in the Charter about decisions not being binding on members and acknowledging members' legal obligations provides some mitigation of this tension. Membership as a Partner Organisation, rather than a Signatory, also mitigates this risk.</p>
<p>4. Financial impact</p> <p>There is no immediate financial impact of this decision.</p>
<p>5. Degree of significance and level of engagement</p> <p>This matter is of low significance given it is consistent with previous Council decisions and with consultation through the Long Term Plan 2021-31 on Council's commitment to action on climate change. Therefore, no engagement with the wider community is planned.</p>

6. Climate Impact

The decision to sign the Climate Charter signals Council's commitment to work with partners to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the resilience of the Nelson region.

7. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process

No engagement with Māori has been undertaken in preparing this report.

8. Delegations

The Environment and Climate Change Committee has the appropriate delegations in consideration of this report.

Areas of Responsibility:

Climate change impact and strategy overview - mitigation, adaptation and resiliency

Powers to Recommend to Council:

- *Approval of final versions of strategies, policies and plans*

On the recommendation of the Chief Executive, and with the agreement of the Chair of the relevant committee, subcommittee or subordinate decision-making body and Mayor, matters within the area of responsibility of a particular committee, subcommittee or subordinate decision-making body may be considered directly by Council instead.

Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter¹

Toitū te marae a Tane-Mahuta, Toitū te marae a Tangaroa, Toitū te tangata

If the land is well and the sea is well, the people will thrive

Purpose Statement

The Forum's purpose is to weave our communities together around urgent, strategic action on climate change. Together, the Forum enables and supports expanded and accelerated action in our region to confront climate change, through the connection and alignment of people across and within communities and organisations.

Commitment

Recognising that:

- Human-induced climate change represents one of the greatest threats to the living world that sustains us and, by extension, to future human generations globally, in Aotearoa and in this region, through its impact on the life-supporting capacity of the natural environment, specifically air, water, soil, and ecosystems;
- If societies take urgent, informed, sustained and collaborative climate action, we can decrease and manage the adverse impacts of climate change; and
- Most responses to climate change also generate positive outcomes for environmental well-being and human communities.

We, the signatories, partner organisations and climate allies commit to working towards the goals outlined below for the Nelson and Tasman communities through:

- Inclusion and respect, particularly through acknowledging, respecting and working with ngā iwi tangata whenua;
- Acting promptly, purposefully and responsibly, together and individually; and
- Participating in good faith in the Forum.

Goals

The Forum aims to enable, empower, and support Nelson-Tasman communities to achieve the following Goals:

¹ This is the first iteration of the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter (01 December 2020) and will stand for at least 2021. As the Forum proceeds on its weaving journey and becomes more representative of the region, the Charter will be revised by all parties.

1. Rapidly reduce our region's greenhouse gas emissions, increase carbon sequestration and undertake other climate stabilising initiatives, consistent with the urgency of the situation.
2. Adapt to the likely adverse environmental effects of climate change and the resulting social and cultural effects, using inclusive and responsible decision-making to support these desirable outcomes.
3. Respond to climate change in a way that recognises the rights of all living organisms, including people, and provides for a just, equitable and resilient society.

TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Nature of the Forum

The function of the Forum will be to bring together diverse views and interests to align and proactively lead community responses to climate change. It is a collective of organisations and individuals. It is not a legal entity and has no delegated authority to make decisions that bind its members to any specific action, including funding. Members participate in accordance with legal requirements that apply to them.

The Forum endeavours to work by consensus.

The Forum will develop a Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan and facilitate its implementation, using an internally-focused Plan to Weave our Communities Together (Weaving Plan). It will review and update both plans as and when required to respond to new information and changing circumstances.

Membership of the Forum

Membership of the Forum is available to individual people and organisations at three levels of commitment: signatories, partner organisations and climate allies, as defined below. These levels have been defined to allow the widest possible participation in the Forum, by allowing individual people and organisations to determine their level of commitment.

All signatories, partner organisations and climate allies agree to work within any Operating Procedures developed and adopted by the Forum.

Signatories

Signatories to the Charter hold themselves accountable for actively leading implementation of the Weaving Plan to achieve the vision of the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan. They collectively ensure that actions in the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan are undertaken in good faith and to the best of their abilities. Signatories approve the Weaving Plan and Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan including revisions to those Plans, and also the Operating Procedures of the Forum.

Partner organisations

Partner organisations endorse the Charter and commit to act in good faith within their functions and capabilities to support the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum in achieving its goals. Partner organisations undertake to respond supportively to the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan as the Forum implements its actions. Partner organisations can expect to be involved in forming revisions to the Nelson Tasman Strategic Climate Action Plan and other strategic documents, but do not have decision-making authority. They are expected to work with the Forum in developing actions and projects but are not bound to anything that they do not choose to commit to.

Climate allies

Climate allies are individual people or organisations that endorse the Charter and commit to personal action to support its goals. Climate allies can expect to be kept informed and offered opportunities to participate in the Forum's activities.

Regardless of the level of commitment (if any) chosen by tangata whenua under this Charter, the Forum will continue to engage with and work alongside tangata whenua as kaitiaki of the rohe and as partners under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.



Plan to Weave our Communities *together*

Principles of our Weaving Plan

The Forum's purpose is to weave our communities together around urgent, strategic action on climate change.

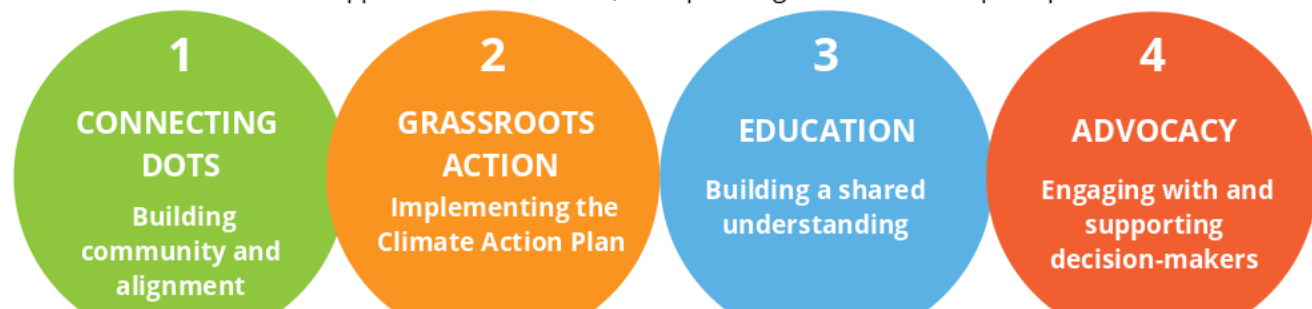
To do this effectively, our actions are based on the following principles:

- Grow from shared local visions
- Build from strengths
- Work with diverse communities and sectors
- Grow collaborative local leadership
- Learn by doing

These principles have been used to select action categories to guide the Forum's mahi through 2021 and beyond.

Action categories

Our action categories have been identified through the ideas suggested at Forum hui throughout 2020 and taking into account the principles set out above. They are used in this plan to ensure that we are taking a balanced approach in our actions, incorporating all of the above principles.



Weaving collaboratively with iwi throughout this kaupapa

Scope: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mapping and assessment of what's already going on and what's missing 2. Building relationships and healing divides 3. Facilitating conversation and collaboration across all levels of our communities 4. Supporting our communities on the journey of societal and cultural change required to respond to climate change 	Scope: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Addressing what isn't being done: collaboratively creating new events/campaigns aligned with the Climate Action Plan, inviting people to help and act 2. Building on what is already being done: supporting events and campaigns led by other organisations 3. Working where the energy is: Follow the enthusiasm of the group 	Scope: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engaging with students and educational organisations to support climate action 2. Growing shared understanding and knowledge within the wider region 3. Attending to our own learning (e.g. researching latest climate science and solutions; learning how to be better 'climate communicators') 	Scope: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engaging with Local Government processes and offering resources and support to Councils 2. Engaging and supporting iwi and hapū in their mahi as kaitiaki, on their terms 3. Campaigning and submissions for Central Government climate action 4. Engaging with decision makers in business
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Audiences

In order to weave our communities together around urgent, strategic climate action, we need to be clear about what ‘communities’ we are talking about. By implementing this plan, we hope to weave together the following human communities, taking action together to support Te Mana o te Taiao:



Topics

The Forum is made up of many different people with many different interest areas. We organise the Forum according to the following topics, which also appear in our *Climate Action Book 2021: The Nelson Tasman Climate Action Plan*.



WHAT WE GROW AND EAT: Actions for a Resilient, Climate-Responsible Food System



WHAT WE MAKE, BUY AND WASTE: Actions for a Resilient, Climate-Responsible Economy



HOW WE GET ENERGY: Actions for a Resilient, Climate-Responsible Energy System



WHERE WE LIVE AND WORK: Actions for Resilient, Climate-Responsible Settlements



HOW WE MOVE OURSELVES AND OUR STUFF AROUND: Actions for a Resilient, Climate-Responsible Transport System



HOW WE SUPPORT NATURE AND STORE CARBON



HOW WE STAY HEALTHY AND CONNECTED: Actions for a Wellbeing-Centred Transition

Turning Ideas into Action

To focus our energy and ideas into clear, achievable actions that align with this Weaving Plan and the Forum's Charter, each group contributes to an evolving action plan.

A2771786

Forum Action Plan

Each Forum group identifies a **milestone** and relevant **actions** to reach that milestone in one or more of the Action Categories. A 'milestone' could be qualitative or quantitative, and should be a clear result that the group is working towards. For example: *"Everyone who contacts the Forum for the first time is followed up with a one-on-one conversation."*

Each group also identifies the **resources** they have available, and the resources they need to undertake the actions. The milestones, actions and resources are then compiled into an action overview displaying actions of all the Forum's groups in a table similar to the one below.

Understanding the resources (including time and expertise) that we have available and identifying the resources we need will allow us to focus our efforts for seeking funds and other support so we can reach our milestones. Being able to see, at a glance, what each Forum group is working on will allow us to identify areas for collaboration and areas where we need to direct more energy.

	What we grow and eat	What we make, buy and waste	How we get energy	Where we live and work	How we move ourselves and our stuff around	Biodiversity & CO2 drawdown - name TBC	How we stay healthy and connected
Connecting Dots	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:
Grassroots Action	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:
Education	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:
Advocacy	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:	Milestone: Actions: 1. 2. Resources: 1. What we have: 2. What we need:

Supporting Forum Action

To support the implementation of our Weaving Plan, in addition to Topic-based groups, we will have a small number of groups that are focused on enabling the cohesive functioning of the Forum. This may include Strategic Communications; Science, Technology and Research; Admin and Finance, and other groups as required.

These groups will support the Forum in reaching evidence-based, informed decisions, and communicating in a manner that is consistent with our Communications Guide and Communications Plan. These groups may also support the wellbeing of the Forum to ensure we look after ourselves and each other, so that we can continue this important mahi.

With thanks to Inspiring Communities for their resources on Community-Led Development that have informed this Weaving Plan:
 A2774796 <https://inspiringcommunities.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/document.pdf>

Nelson Tasman Climate Forum

Operating Procedures¹

Purpose

1. The Nelson Tasman Climate Forum (“**the Forum**”) is a collective of organisations and individuals who are committed to the Nelson Tasman Climate Charter (“**the Charter**”).
2. The purpose of these Operating Procedures is to document the standard ways that the Forum will function, matching responsibility with requisite authority.

Membership

3. Membership is open to all and is available at three levels under the Charter:
 - a. “**Signatories**” who commit to lead and therefore hold authority to approve or decline proposed drafts or changes to: the Charter, the Nelson Tasman Climate Action Plan (“**the Climate Action Plan**”), the Weaving Plan and the Operating Procedures of the Forum;
 - b. “**Partner Organisations**” who commit to supporting to implementation of the Climate Action Plan, and may attend Forum meetings but do not have voting rights; and
 - c. “**Climate Allies**” who are individuals or organisation that commit action aligned with the Charter, who may also attend meetings but do not have voting rights.
4. A Forum member (“**Member**”) is a person or organisation who has signed the Charter either as a Signatory, Partner Organisation or Climate Ally, through the process as approved by the Leadership Group.
5. Through the delivery of our Weaving Plan, we endeavour to engage with the whole community.
6. Through a Wellbeing of the Forum group, we endeavour to ensure the wellbeing and inclusivity of the Forum.
7. Membership is operative from the time it is registered in the approved form.
8. A Member may resign from the Forum at any time by submitting a letter of resignation to a Co-Chair of the Forum.
9. Membership may be rescinded by the Forum if a Member acts in a manner that is inconsistent with or undermines the Charter. Membership of any organisation or individual may be terminated only by a 75% vote of the Signatories present at the meeting, on a motion by the Co-chairs (or Chair if sitting alone).

¹ Consensus on these procedures was reached at the online Forum hui, 10th March 2021, subject to the addition of an inclusivity statement. Clauses (5) and (6) were added by recommendation of the Leadership Group in response to the request for an inclusivity statement. Clauses (5) and (6) were then approved by email decision of the Forum, 29th March 2021.

Legal Status

10. The Forum is not currently a legal entity and has no delegated authority to commit its Members to undertake specific actions nor powers to incur debt, take court action, sign contracts or hire employees. The Forum does not have the power to make decisions on the behalf of Members and any decisions Members make shall be in accordance with relevant legislation and legally-binding policies, plans and other instruments.
11. Where funds are held on behalf of the Forum, a Memorandum of Understanding may be formed with a legal entity that ensures the Forum retains control over its finances. Decisions of the Forum cannot create an obligation to commit funding for the Forum or any of its endeavours from third parties.
12. Should the Forum become a legal entity, the provisions in this section will be reviewed in accordance with the relevant legal requirements and directions of the Forum.

Functions

13. The Forum shall --
 - a. Develop and enable the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.
 - b. Adopt Operating Procedures and form working groups as it considers appropriate.
 - c. Develop and implement a Weaving Plan to enable, support and encourage Nelson Tasman Communities to implement the Climate Action Plan. Weaving activities could include, for example, collection and sharing of data and information, training and capacity building, the development of alternative and more sustainable practices, mobilisation of resources, building relationships and alliances, mobilising and organising, research and action as advocates, and advocating for improvement and revision of policies and programmes.
 - d. Support the implementation of any other plans or strategies developed by the Forum.

Co-Chairs

14. At the first face to face meeting of the Forum following endorsement of the Charter and thereafter at the last face to face meeting of each calendar year, the Forum shall elect one of its members as Co-Chair for the following year. This process shall be facilitated by an immediate past Chair, or someone chosen by the Forum if no immediate past Chair is available.

15. The Forum shall invite tangata whenua iwi (via the iwi trust boards) to, according to their tikanga, select the other Co-Chair. At any time when only one Co-Chair has been selected, they may act as sole Chair.
16. The Co-Chairs shall:
 - a. Lead the Forum and be the primary public face of the Forum.
 - b. Facilitate consensus processes and keep accord among the Forum.
 - c. Prepare agendas and ensure these are distributed at least two working days in advance of Forum meetings.
 - d. Chair meetings according to the agreed agenda.
17. The Co-Chairs may:
 - a. Recommend the appointment of staff or contractors to any position required to support the operation of the Forum after consultation with the Leadership Group;
 - b. Recommend entering into legally binding arrangements on behalf of the Forum after consultation with the Leadership Group;
 - c. Make rulings on procedure at meetings of the Forum where matters require interpretation of these procedures;
 - d. Initiate removal of member status from any member for action incompatible with the Forum Charter or these operating procedures;
 - e. Make public statements on behalf of the Forum.

Other officers

Treasurer

18. At the first face to face meeting of the Forum following endorsement of the Charter and thereafter at the last face to face meeting of each calendar year, the Forum shall elect one of its members as Treasurer for the following year.
19. The Treasurer shall:
 - a. Prepare an annual budget for the Forum, and project budgets as required
 - b. Keep account of Forum income and expenditure
 - c. Prepare an annual financial report to be presented to the Forum after the end of each financial year
 - d. Advise the Leadership Group of Forum funding requirements and support with seeking funding as required

Leadership Group

20. The Forum shall, at the first face to face meeting of the Forum following endorsement of the Charter and thereafter at the last face to face meeting of each calendar year, appoint a Leadership Group to lead aligned action by Forum Members.
21. The Leadership Group shall consist of:
 - a. two representatives from Nelson City Council: one staff member and one Councillor;

- b. two representatives from Tasman District Council: one staff member and one Councillor;
 - c. one Iwi representative from each of the four waka groups in Nelson Tasman;
 - d. eight Members of the Forum, including at least one person under the age of 25;
 - e. Forum administrator (if one has been appointed);
 - f. treasurer; and
 - g. the two Co-Chairs.
- 22. The Leadership Group shall appoint one of its number or an independent facilitator to run its meetings.
- 23. The functions of the Leadership Group are to:
 - a. Support the Co-Chairs;
 - b. Lead and align action by Forum Members;
 - c. Facilitate resolution of breakdowns in the functioning of the Forum;
 - d. Facilitate development of an external operating environment in which the work of the Forum can prosper;
 - e. Ensure that core documents, systems and procedures are kept up to date and fit for purpose;
 - f. Ensure finances are properly administered;
 - g. Facilitate, support or prepare funding requests to support the activities by the Forum;
 - h. Determine the use of any funds that have been allocated to the Forum, subject to consultation with the Forum and any conditions imposed by funding organisations; and
 - i. Communicate key decisions and developments to Members of the Forum.
- 24. The Leadership Group shall have authority to:
 - a. Regulate its own procedure;
 - b. Make recommendations on any matter to the Forum;
 - c. Approve operating budgets, including income and expenditure;
 - d. Co-opt Members to fill vacancies.
- 25. A Quorum of the Leadership Group shall consist of:
 - a. One Council representative;
 - b. One Iwi representative;
 - c. One Forum Member; and
 - d. One Chair.

Meeting Procedure

- 26. Meetings shall be managed as follows:
 - a. Meetings of the whole Forum will be held every two months or more frequently as necessary.
 - b. 12 Signatories shall constitute a quorum for meetings where binding decisions are taken.

- c. Meetings shall be called by the Co-Chairs with notification to Members at least one week, and preferably four weeks, prior to the meeting.
- d. The Co-Chairs will be responsible for meeting agendas, meeting notes and minutes, and supporting papers and presentations.
- e. Requests for items to include in the agenda must be sent to the Co-Chairs at least five working days before a meeting, although this requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Co-Chairs.
- f. Meetings shall be chaired by at least one of the Co-Chairs or, in their absence, by a Member chosen by consensus of those present.
- g. Wherever possible, decisions of the Forum will be made by consensus of those Signatories present. By seeking consensus, the Forum aims to empower and incorporate all perspectives whenever possible. Consensus means by the agreement of most participants, with dissenters and abstainers agreeing to recognise the majority opinion as being the decision (i.e. to not block consensus).
- h. If consensus is not achieved after reasonable attempts and the chair(s) of the meeting considers a decision is necessary to further the Goals of the Forum, the chair may, as a last resort, call for a vote to resolve the matter. To pass, any motion decided by vote requires at least 75% of those Signatories present and voting (not abstaining) to be in favour of the motion.
- i. The Forum may constitute working groups or committees, which will operate as directed by the Forum and will be accountable to the Forum for their actions.
- j. Questions for decision may be put by a Co-Chair to Signatories via digital means and, if no dissenting votes are received, shall be deemed to represent a consensus decision by the Forum, provided Signatories have been given at least 5 working days to respond to the question. The outcome of questions considered in this manner shall be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting.
- k. Minutes of Forum meetings shall be recorded and confirmed as correct at a subsequent meeting.

Observers

- 27. Forum meetings shall be open to the public unless the Forum decides to go into closed session, which only Members may attend. Discussions at closed meetings are confidential, subject to any applicable legal requirements relevant to Members, which shall be declared to the Forum prior to the closed session, and only the topic discussed and decisions made shall be recorded in the minutes.
- 28. Observers and Members who are not Signatories have speaking rights only if specifically recognised by the Chair.

Conflicts of Interest

- 29. Conflicts of interest will be declared at the start of all Forum meetings or any Forum group meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Review

30. The operation of the Forum and its Operating Procedures will be reviewed by the Forum at least once every three years.

Changes to these Operating Procedures

31. Any proposed changes to these Operating Procedures shall be notified to the Forum a minimum of two weeks ahead of any full-Forum meeting (including online meetings).
32. Any proposed changes must be approved by consensus among Signatories present at the meeting, or if consensus is not reached, by vote with at least 75% of those Signatories present and voting (not abstaining) in favour of the motion.

REPORT R26311

Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide the results from an assessment of Council owned or managed land that may be eligible for carbon credits under the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZETS) from regenerating indigenous forests.

2. Recommendation

That the Council

- 1. Receives the report Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests (R26311) and its attachments (A2761326, A2737347); and***
- 2. Agrees that no further assessment of carbon credit registration for Council's indigenous forests will be undertaken as it is unlikely to yield any financial benefits.***

3. Background

- 3.1 Council's 2020/2021 Annual Plan noted that Council had initiated "a review of opportunities for offsetting Emissions Trading Scheme liabilities through earning carbon credits from our own forestry and reserves".
- 3.2 To examine the potential for earning carbon credits from Council's indigenous forests, an analysis was commissioned in April 2021 from Carbon Forest Services (CFS), a well-established and recognised consultancy in the New Zealand forestry and carbon market. It has undertaken similar assessments for other councils, as well as assisted with their carbon credit application processes, and advises on management of forest carbon credits. That report is appended (see Attachments 1 and 2).

Item 7: Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

- 3.3 The CFS report included the potential of existing and potential new indigenous forests on Council land to earn carbon credits and informs the analysis and recommendations in this report.

4. Discussion

- 4.1 To qualify for registration under the NZETS the land must:
- 4.1.1 have been non-forest (i.e., scrub, pasture, or some other non-forest land-use) on 31 December 1989;
 - 4.1.2 have not been forested for at least four years prior to establishment; and
 - 4.1.3 be indigenous forest species today.
- 4.2 To be considered as 'forest' it must also be capable of meeting several criteria, such as height (trees with potential to reach at least 5m in height at maturity), canopy coverage (30% at maturity) and minimum area/width (1 ha and 30 m respectively).
- 4.3 The mapping process used in the assessment was a desktop exercise (see Figure 1), using geo-referenced information held in government databases and on Council files, such as the LUCAS (Land Use and Carbon Analysis System) database, the LCDB (Landcover Database), the LINZ aerial photography database, other aerial photography, satellite imagery, property ownership and boundary data.
- 4.4 The analysis shows two areas with potential for ETS credits if registered:
- 4.4.1 ~2,220 ha of grassland and scrubland (shown in yellow or pale green in Figure 1).
 - 4.4.2 27 ha of indigenous forests (dark blue areas in Figure 1). This includes some retired plantation forest areas.

Item 7: Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

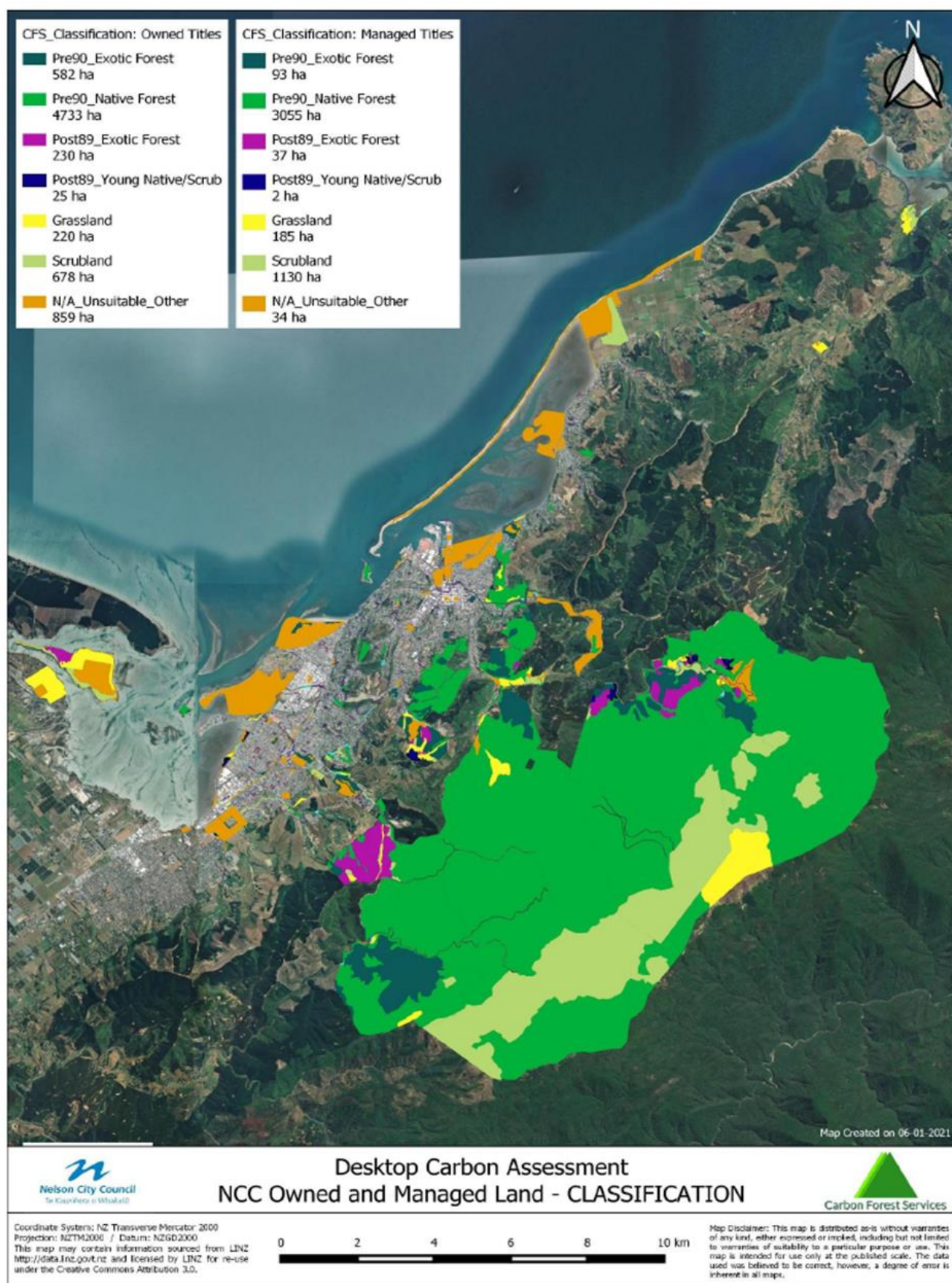


Figure 1: Land classes based on CFS desktop assessment for land owned or managed by Nelson City Council

Item 7: Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

- 4.5 The larger portion of the land identified is in the 'mineral belt' which is not suited to tree growth. The Dun Mountain mineral belt is a unique geological area, highly significant for its biodiversity value where plants and animal communities have adapted to survive in the toxic, low fertility soils and harsh climate of this unique place. These communities can't be found anywhere else in the world. Nelson Nature's habitat restoration and pest control programmes are working to protect the native (indigenous) plants and animals of the mineral belt.
- 4.6 For the smaller land area, if Council wished to investigate this further, site inspections would need to be undertaken with a high chance that the site assessment would reduce the eligible land area even further, because some of the existing vegetation may not qualify.
- 4.7 Assuming carbon sequestration of 6 tonnes/ha/annum, and a carbon price of \$64/hectare, the estimated income from credits earned per annum, if those areas were included in the NZETS, is \$10,368. At that level of carbon sequestration and assuming all 27 hectares are eligible for the ETS, the number of carbon credits generated through the ETS would be 162 tonnes. This would be equivalent to 0.25% of the total emissions generated by the landfill, based on an estimated figure for carbon credits paid in 2020.
- 4.8 The costs of site assessment are estimated at between \$5,000 to \$10,000 and would involve visiting each site to collect evidence to determine stocking and tree species type and shrub type, as well as destructive sampling to determine vegetation age. Applying for and administering the credits (including regular audits and site verification) is estimated at around \$600. Adding in staff time to submit carbon emissions return reports and manage the account, total costs could be between \$6-11,000.
- 4.9 The overall cost to register eligible indigenous forest would most likely absorb most or all of the earnings from the credits themselves at current carbon prices. It is noted that as the carbon price increases, the return would increase. However, the final eligible approved area could be less than this initial estimate as indigenous forest regeneration is extremely difficult to assess for carbon eligibility

Commercial forestry commentary

- 4.10 The CFS report also made recommendations with respect to commercial forestry. Although outside the scope of this report, comments on these recommendations are provided below for information. Any discussion would need to take place in the Forestry Subcommittee which holds the delegation for these issues and has the appropriate expertise available to answer any questions.
- 4.11 Recommendation 4.1 (independent author's report page 9) – 45 hectares and 8.4 hectares (cutover) pre-1990 exotic forestry

Item 7: Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

- 4.11.1 The 45 hectares consists of several areas where the post-harvest management is conversion to indigenous forest by a mix of planting and natural regeneration that was not clearly visible from imagery used by the author. The ETS timeframe for re-establishment in indigenous forest species is longer than for exotic forests. Advice is that these areas comply with the ETS pre-1990 rules and so would not incur ETS deforestation penalties.
- 4.11.2 The 8.4 hectares, observed to be in a cutover state, will either be replanted in pine, or planted/regenerated in indigenous forest species within the required timeframe and will also be comply with pre-1990 rules and not face ETS deforestation penalties. A small area adjacent to the York valley landfill has not been replanted but is likely to be covered by an ETS exemption and this will be investigated.
- 4.12 Recommendation 4.2 (independent author's report page 9) – 267 hectares of post 1989 exotic forestry. The author recommends that Council may wish to consider re-registering this back into the ETS before 31 December 2022 as if not registered then it is unlikely to earn units in the future.
 - 4.12.1 These stands could be registered under the new 'averaging' accounting option. But as they have already grown past their average ages, there is no benefit in doing this. If they are registered before 2023, the 'stock change' accounting option can be used where units are issued for growth but must be repaid when the forest is harvested.
 - 4.12.2 The Council had registered 118 hectares of its post-1989 exotic forest in the ETS in 2012 (that was all that was eligible), but this was withdrawn in 2016 following the analysis and recommendation in the 2016 Catalyst report which was accepted by Council. This approach was confirmed by a separate analysis by PF Olsen Ltd in 2020. In short, the reason for not re-registering this into the ETS is that Council would have to surrender nearly all the NZU's issued to it as the forest is harvested, as the area was planted over a compressed timeframe (84% was planted between 1994 and 1997). That means that there is no benefit to Council in re-registering these back into the ETS.

5. Options

- 4.1 Two options are presented to the Committee for consideration. Officers support option 1.

Option 1: Do not undertake future assessment in the 27 hectares of land identified. Recommended option.

Item 7: Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saving of cost and staff time
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None identified
Option 2: Request future assessment to be undertaken in the 27 hectares of land to identified	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further assessment might find opportunities to register carbon credits for Council
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The cost of this future assessment would likely absorb most or all of the earnings from the credits themselves at current carbon prices

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The assessment of owned or managed land has shown that only a relatively small area of regenerating indigenous forest is likely to exist, and that this area is insufficient to justify an application for carbon credits.
- 6.2 Based on the small eligible land area, it is recommended that Council does not proceed with registering the areas of indigenous forest due to the small return on carbon credits and the complexities involved in registering indigenous forest in the ETS.

7. Next Steps

- 7.1 Council will be estimating carbon sequestration figures as a "removal" (withdrawal of GHGs from the atmosphere) in future Council/communities carbon footprint inventories.

Author: Daniela Ramirez, Climate Change Adaptation Adviser

Attachments

Attachment 1: A2737347 - ETS Forestry opportunities (Part 2) [↓](#)

Attachment 2: A2761326 - ETS Forestry opportunities (Part 1) [↓](#)

Important considerations for decision making
1. Fit with Purpose of Local Government 1. Consideration of carbon credit options for Council's indigenous forestry supports the economic and environmental wellbeing of the community.
2. Consistency with Community Outcomes and Council Policy The recommendation supports the following community outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our unique natural environment is healthy and protected• Our rural and urban environmental are sustainable managed• Our communities are healthy, safe, inclusive, and resilient• Our region is supported by an innovative and sustainable economy And the following statement in Nelson 2060 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outstanding lifestyles, immersed in nature and strong communities
3. Risk There are no perceived risks associated with not taking future assessments, as the carbon sequestration will be considered in future carbon footprint inventories instead of recognising the value of sequestration through the Emission Trading Scheme.
4. Financial impact There is no financial impact if the future assessment is not conducted.
5. Degree of significance and level of engagement This matter is of low significance given the small financial value and therefore no engagement with the wider community is planned.
6. Climate Impact 2. Consideration of Council's indigenous forestry assets and opportunities for climate credits supports the wider climate change work programme.
7. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process No engagement with Māori has been undertaken in preparing this report.
8. Delegations

Item 7: Carbon Credit Potential from Council Indigenous Forests

The Environment and Climate Change Committee has the appropriate delegations in consideration of this report

Areas of Responsibility:

Climate change impact and strategy overview - mitigation, adaptation and resiliency

On the recommendation of the Chief Executive, and with the agreement of the Chair of the relevant committee, subcommittee or subordinate decision-making body and Mayor, matters within the area of responsibility of a particular committee, subcommittee or subordinate decision-making body may be considered directly by Council instead.



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03 328 9582
admin@carbonforestservices.co.nz

Nelson City Council
PO Box 645
Nelson 7040

27 August 2021

Attention: Nicky McDonald, Group Manager Strategy & Communications

Follow Up: Carbon Forest Assessment Report

Carbon Forest Services undertook a desktop assessment of forest land under the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) for the Nelson City Council. Council has since requested clarification on two points.

1. Potential Land for Afforestation

The report identified up to 2,220 hectares of grassland and scrubland that would be eligible to earn carbon credits if established in forest.

To reiterate the report, this assessment only looked to the legal status of the land under the ETS and did not assess afforestation suitability such as climate and soil fertility. I understand from subsequent conversations with Council that a large portion of the land is not suitable for forest establishment.

2. Potential Pre-1990 Deforestation

The report identified 45.7 hectares of pre-1990 forest land that had been harvested and may not have been re-established, and therefore potentially deforested under the ETS.

I have now discussed each area with Peter Gorman, who advises:

- Tantragee areas (33 hectares) has been re-established with indigenous forest
- Matai area (7 hectares) has been re-established with radiata pine
- Landfill areas (5.7 hectares) a small amount of this area appears cleared. It could fall into the pre-1990 exemption for clearing under 2 hectares within a five-year emissions period.

Based on the discussion with Peter, the Council is likely to be compliant with the pre-1990 rules for re-establishment and will not face ETS deforestation penalties. Peter said he would look further into the small areas at the landfill site to ensure these are compliant or meet the pre-1990 exemption.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Regards,

Ollie Belton

Disclaimer Projections contained herein are estimates only and should not be considered a promise as to future actual results which may be different. Carbon Forest Services Ltd, its employees and contractors shall not be liable for any loss, damage or liability incurred as a direct or indirect result of any reliance upon the information contained within this report.

A2737347

1 of 1



CARBON FOREST SERVICES LTD
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Nelson City Council
PO Box 645
Nelson 7040

05 April 2021

Attention: Daniela Ramirez, Climate Adaption Advisor

Carbon Forest Assessment: Nelson City Council Owned Land and Reserve Land

Carbon Forest Services Limited (CFS) has been engaged to undertake a desktop review of land owned by Nelson City Council (NCC) and reserve land managed by NCC to determine the potential forest land status under the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and whether there could be potential for carbon forestry opportunities.

The report covers the following topics:

1. **Background:** information on ETS forest eligibility and who can participate
2. **Method:** sets out how the land has been assessed
3. **Results:** our assessment of NCC land including maps
4. **Recommendations:** outlines next steps

Please contact us once you have reviewed the report to confirm a time for a video conference. We would like to present the key findings and work through the report recommendations with you.

Report lead

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ollie Belton'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ollie Belton
obelton@carbonforestservices.co.nz

Disclaimer Projections contained herein are estimates only and should not be considered a promise as to future actual results which may be different. Carbon Forest Services Ltd, its employees and contractors shall not be liable for any loss, damage or liability incurred as a direct or indirect result of any reliance upon the information contained within this report.

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1. Background

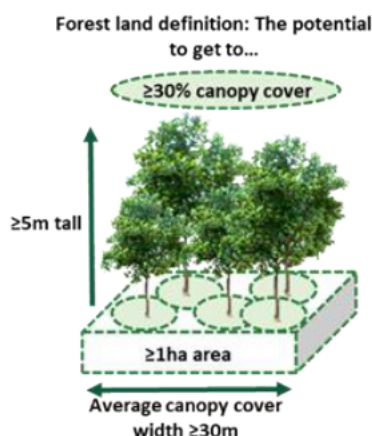
The ETS splits forest land into two categories:

- **Pre-1990 forest land** is land which has largely been in continuous forestry since before the 1st January 1990.
- **Post-1989 forest land** is forest established after the 31st December 1989 onto land that was not in forest for at least four years prior to establishment.

Post-1989 forest land earns New Zealand Units (NZUs) under the ETS for annual growth in carbon stocks and is liable to surrender NZUs for decreases in carbon stocks.

Pre-1990 native forest land does not earn NZUs under the ETS nor have obligations if cleared. Pre-1990 exotic forest land does not earn NZUs but can incur penalties if deforested and not re-established.

'Forest land' has a specific definition under the emissions trading scheme. To qualify the land must satisfy the following conditions:



- *Minimum contiguous area of forest of 1 hectare.*
- *Minimum average width of forest of 30 meters.*
- *Comprise woody tree species that at maturity will reach 5 meters in height (in that location).*
- *Comprise sufficient tree species that at maturity will have 30% canopy cover on each hectare.*

Weedy scrub species such as gorse and broom do not qualify as woody tree species.

For more information see: *Overview of Forestry in the Emissions Trading Scheme* (<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/6991>)

There are three ways to participate in the ETS in relation to post-1989 forest land. The participant must be either:

- the owner of the forest land; or
- the holder of a registered lease or registered forestry right; or
- a party to a Crown Conservation Contract.

If reserve land is vested in a council then the council may participate in the ETS as a landowner. Where no title exists and the land remains vested with the Crown, a council may participate in the ETS if it either holds a registered forestry right or lease or has entered a Crown Conservation Contract with the Crown.

2. Method

A desktop assessment has been made of land owned or managed by NCC to determine the potential forest land status under the ETS. Land has been classified into categories as set out in Table 1.

Table 1: Land classifications for assessment

Category	Description	ETS Outcome
Pre90_Exotic Forest	Vegetation present since before 1990. Likely pre-1990 exotic forest	No future ETS credits but ETS obligations if deforested
Pre90_Native Forest	Vegetation present since before 1990. Likely pre-1990 native forest	No potential for ETS credits and no ETS obligations
Post89_Exotic Forest	Vegetation present after 1989 on previously unforested land. Possibly post-1989 exotic forest	Potential for ETS credits if registered
Post89_Young Native/Scrub	Vegetation present after 1989 on previously unforested land. Possibly post-1989 native forest	Potential for ETS credits if registered
Grassland	Predominantly grassland. Likely post-1989 eligible land	Potential for ETS credits if afforested
Scrubland	Predominantly scrub (e.g., gorse). Likely post-1989 eligible land	Potential for ETS credits if afforested
Pre90_FAP	Vegetation present since before 1990. Pre-1990 exotic forest	ETS credits received under a forest allocation plan. ETS obligations if deforested
Post89_Exotic Forest_ETS	Exotic forest established after 1989 and registered in the ETS.	Already registered in ETS
Post89_Native Forest_ETS	Native forest established after 1989 and registered in the ETS.	Already registered in ETS
Post89_Exotic Forest_PFSI	Exotic forest established after 1989 and registered in the PFSI.	Already registered in PFSI
Post89_Native Forest_PFSI	Native forest established after 1989 and registered in the PFSI.	Already registered in PFSI
Titles <1ha	Titles under one hectare in size. Cannot meet ETS eligibility and are excluded	No potential for ETS
N/A_Unsuitable_Other	Land such as built environments, Waterways, or Parklands are excluded	Unsuitable, no potential for afforestation

Vegetation cover was assessed and classified by reference to the following datasets and imagery:

- Historic aerial imagery taken between 1981 - 2000
- Aerial Imagery taken between 2008 - 2017
- Satellite Imagery taken between 2005 - 2020
- The New Zealand Land Cover Database (LCDB) version 5 Layer (Landcare Research)
- Land-use and Carbon Analysis System Land Use Map (LUCAS) version 8 Layer (MFE)

The classification involved the following steps:

Step 1

All NCC owned land or managed titles (e.g., reserve land managed by NCC but owned by the Crown) were identified within the council boundary. All non-contiguous land parcels that were less than one hectare in size or under 30m average width were removed unless they could satisfy the minimum spatial definitions for ETS 'forest land' by amalgamating with another adjoining parcel.

Step 2

Using recent aerial and satellite images, all areas that were clearly built environments, parklands, and other uses that were not already in forestry or were not considered appropriate for afforestation (e.g., cemeteries, high value pastoral land) were removed.

Step 3

Remaining titles and parcels were mapped into key classes of land cover, using aerial and satellite images and the LCDB layer. These classes are:

- Native Forest
- Exotic Forest
- Grassland
- Scrubland
- Young Native or Scrub.

Step 4

The LUCAS layer was then used to refine the key land cover types into different carbon eligibility classes. This layer was created by MfE for recording NZ land use changes from the year 1990 onwards as required by NZ's international obligations under the Kyoto Protocol. LUCAS has been created at a national scale and so some inaccuracies exist when scaled down to a property specific level. While providing some guidance, LUCAS should not be used as final determinant of forest eligibility under the ETS.

Step 5

The assessment was then refined further by referencing historic satellite imagery taken from 1981 to 2000.

Step 6

Lastly, Step 1 was repeated to remove polygons that do not meet the one-hectare minimum size and 30-meter width rules under what qualifies as 'forest land' under the ETS.

3. Results

The assessed land comprises 7,408 hectares owned by NCC and 4,553 hectares of reserve land managed by NCC.

Once the small and isolated titles of under one hectare or less than 30m width (Step 1 of the methodology) and built environments (Step 2 of the methodology) and ineligible <1ha forest land (Step 6) have been removed, the balance of land is reduced to 6,468 hectares for NCC owned land, and 4,502 hectares for managed reserve land.

The desktop assessment is summarized below in Table 2 and provided as a map on page 9.

Table 2: Summary Results

Category	ETS Potential	Owned (ha)	Manage (ha)	Total (ha)
Pre90_Exotic Forest	No potential for ETS credits. ETS obligations if deforested	582	93	675
Post89_Exotic Forest	Potential for ETS credits	230	37	267
	Subtotal:	812	130	942
Pre90_Native Forest	No potential for ETS credits and No ETS obligations	4733	3055	7788
Post89_Young Native/ Scrub	Potential for ETS credits	25	2	27
	Subtotal:	4,758	3,057	7,815
Grassland	Potential for ETS if afforested	220	185	405
Scrubland	Potential for ETS if afforested	678	1130	1808
	Subtotal:	898	1,315	2,213
	Total hectares	6,468	4,502	10,970

a. Exotic Forest (942 hectares)

- i. **Pre90_Exotic Forest:** 675 hectares of pre-1990 exotic forest land has been identified with most occurring within pine plantations. Most of these areas have received an NZU allocation under a Forest Allocation Plan (FAP). 33,360 NZUs were issued under FAP-5923 for 551 hectares. It is not clear which exact areas of pre-1990 forest received an allocation as CFS has not been provided the FAP geospatial information. NCC can request the geospatial information from Te Uru Rākau (TUR).

Within the pre-1990 exotic forest land CFS has identified 45 hectares that has been cleared and might incur a pre-1990 deforestation penalty because it does not appear to be re-established. Deforestation obligations can be costly, for example deforesting a 30-year-old pine forest in the Nelson/Marlborough region would cost around \$25,500 per hectare (at a carbon price of \$37 per NZU).

In addition, there is approximately 8.4 hectares that is in a cutover state and requires replanting to avoid ETS deforestation penalties.

- ii. **Post89_Exotic Forest:** There is 230 hectares of potentially post-1989 exotic forest identified within NCC owned land and 37 hectares within managed reserve land.

None of the forest is registered for carbon credits under the ETS but appears to be eligible post-1989 forest land. NCC had previously registered 123 hectares in the ETS but these were de-registered from scheme due to concerns over the carbon market price unpredictability and NZU surrender obligations at harvest.

Depending on the future land use objectives, NCC may wish to revisit registering all its post-1989 forest land under the ETS before 31 December 2022. This is because new rules due to be introduced in 2023 will require timber forests use averaging carbon accounting.

Under averaging NZUs are earned up to the long-term average carbon stocks during the first rotation only. Thereafter, no NZUs are earned and no NZUs are required to be surrendered at harvest provided the forest is replanted. For radiata forests the average carbon stock is likely to be reached at around age 17 (for 28-year rotations). Therefore, older timber forests already above the 'average' carbon level will no longer earn any NZUs.

If NCC wish to preserve its options under the ETS then it should consider rejoining the ETS.

b. Indigenous Forest (7,815 hectares)

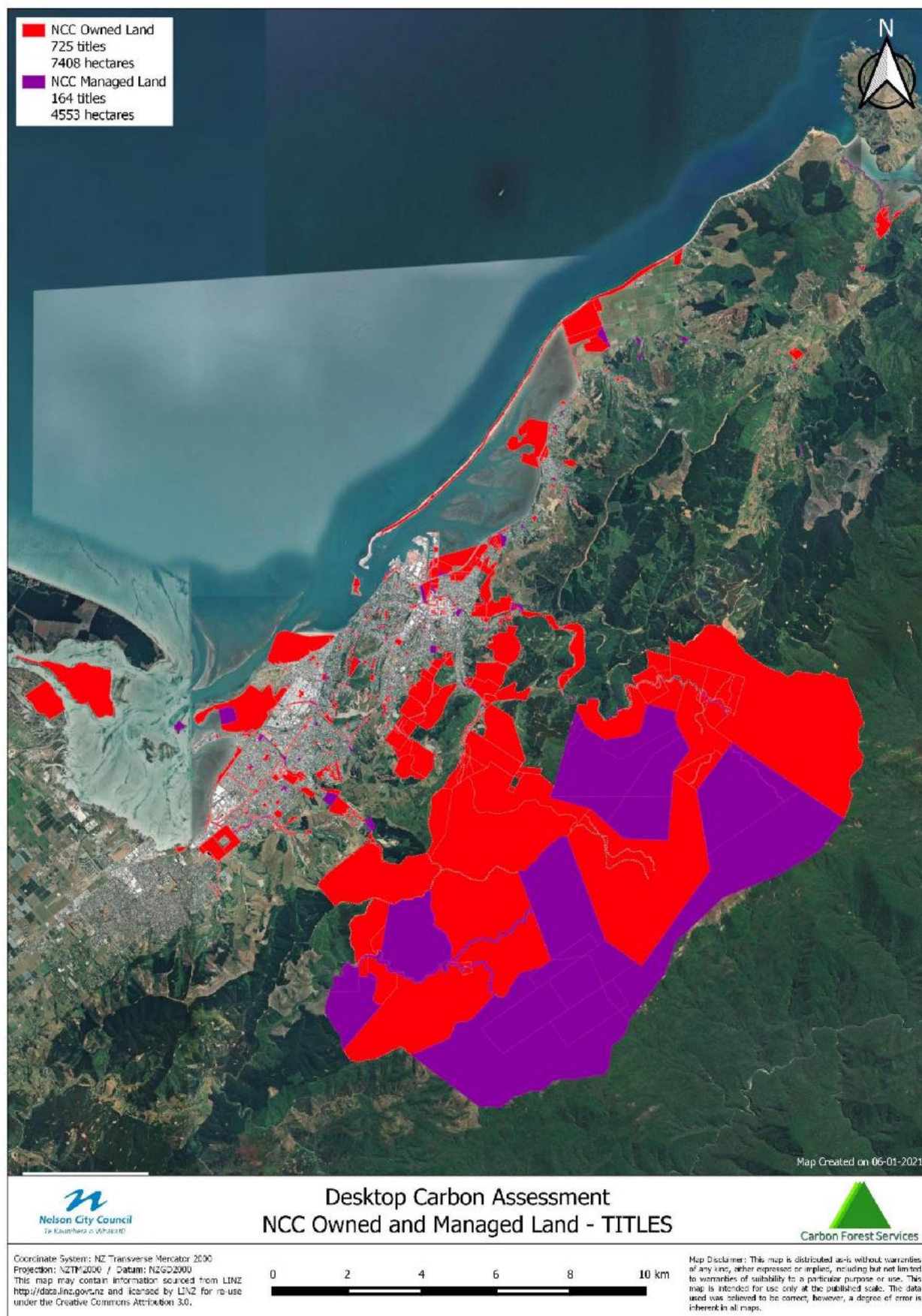
- i. **Pre90_Native Forest:** The dominant land type across the assessed land is older pre-1990 natural forest (around 71% of the total area). We have assessed 7,788 hectares as being indigenous forest which appeared to already be forest vegetation in the 1980's. None of these areas can receive benefits nor incur obligations under the ETS.
- ii. **Post89_Young Native/Scrub:** We have identified 27 hectares of land that appears to be either younger native forest or shrub species such as gorse. 25 hectares is located within land owned by NCC, and 2 hectares within managed reserve land.

Young natural forest is difficult to assess with accuracy given the mosaic and uneven pace of regeneration across landscapes. While some of this land may meet the definition of post-1989 forest land, it is impossible to tell how much of the land is in forest species, or whether it is young enough to qualify.

To register under the ETS further will require further refinement of the potential post-1989 native forest area. The most important step would be site inspections to ground truth this desktop assessment. Site assessment would involve targeted plot locations and visiting each site to collect evidence to determine stocking and tree species type, shrub type, and destructive sampling to determine vegetation age.

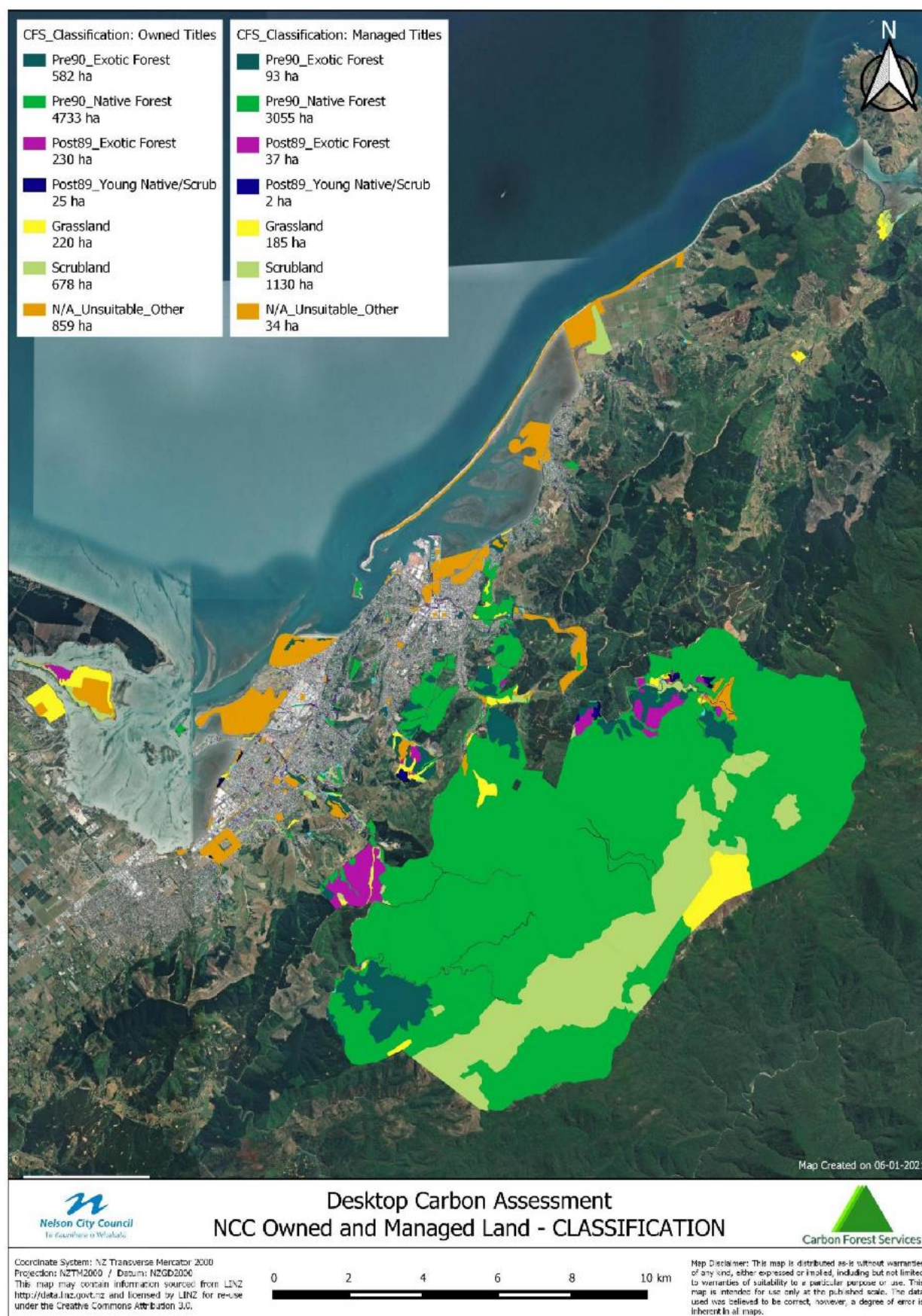
c. Grassland/Scrubland (2,220 hectares)

- i. 405 hectares of grassland and 1,808 hectares scrubland are identified as being possibly eligible for post-1989 forest if planted or allowed to regenerate into forest. These areas have not been assessed as to their site suitability or growth potential for afforestation.



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4. Recommendations

1. **Pre-1990 exotic forest:** 45 hectares of pre-1990 exotic forest appears cleared and not replanted within the four-year ETS timeframe. This area may have incurred a deforestation obligation under the ETS. We recommend the identified polygons are assessed in more detail to determine if an ETS compliance issue exists.

8.4 hectares of pre-1990 forest is in a cutover state and requires replanting to avoid ETS deforestation penalties. We recommend drafting procedures to ensure that where exotic pre-1990 forest is felled (including wilding tree control) the ETS rules are complied with to avoid potentially large deforestation penalties. Measures to avoid a deforestation obligation may include applying for a tree weed exemption.

2. **Post-1989 exotic forest:** 267 hectares of post-1989 forest is located within NCC owned or managed land. If this land is not registered in the ETS before 31 December 2022 then it is unlikely to earn NZUs ever in the future. This is because averaging accounting will be introduced in 2023 for timber forests. We recommend NCC consider the implications of this asset being stranded if it is not registered within the required timeframe. At a minimum NCC may wish to register back into the ETS to preserve its carbon rights until it makes a decision on future land use.
3. **Pre-1990 native forest:** 7,815 hectares of the assessed land (71%) is indigenous vegetation which appears to be pre-1990 forest land. These areas cannot earn carbon credits and have no deforestation obligations.
4. **Post-1989 native forest:** 27 hectares of reverting vegetation on NCC owned or managed land is potentially eligible to register as post-1989 forest under the ETS. These areas are scattered across the region. We emphasize that indigenous forest regeneration is extremely difficult to assess for carbon eligibility, and that the final determination is made by TUR. We predict that the final eligible approved area could be less than this initial estimate.

Because of the small area, we do not believe registering the areas of P89 native forest in the ETS would be warranted due to the small return on carbon credits and the complexities involved in registering native forest in the ETS.

5. **New plantings:** We recommend that NCC draft procedures to ensure, where possible, that all new plantings are designed to meet the ETS criteria for 'forest land' and therefore can earn carbon credits. This procedure could be applied to council activities such as community programs for native restoration or riparian plantings. While these plantings are likely to be motivated by objectives other than carbon, carbon benefits should be considered within the design to ensure they are captured.

We have identified approximately 2,220 hectares of grassland and scrubland that would be eligible to earn carbon credits if established in forest. We recommend that NCC investigate options for reforesting some of these areas. This assessment has not covered afforestation suitability such as climate and soil fertility and has not considered recreation and landscape values of the land. NCC

would have to consider whether the establishment of forest and subsequent registration in the ETS is consistent with the relevant management plans and policies.

6. Reserve Land Eligibility

Close to 40% of the assessed land is managed but not owned by NCC. 99% of this land has been vested in the Council. Therefore, NCC can register as the ETS participant for eligible land within these areas if it wishes.

Carbon Forest Services Limited is available to assist Nelson City Council on the recommendations above.

A2761326

REPORT R26187

Adoption of the Climate Action Plan

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To adopt the Climate Action Plan, setting out the Council's ten-year commitments to address climate change.

2. Summary

- 2.1 Nelson City Council's Climate Action Plan (see Attachment 1) brings together in one place all the climate change related projects, actions and initiatives Council has approved funding for over the next ten years, as set out in the Long Term Plan 2021- 31 (LTP).
- 2.2 This LTP is a significant one for Council's climate change journey, bringing together work and thinking over many years into Council's most significant climate change work programme.
- 2.3 The Plan will communicate Council's initiatives, processes, budgets and timeframes to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to climate change. The Plan will be included on the Council website and will form an important accountability mechanism for measuring Council's progress in addressing climate change.

3. Recommendation

That the Council

- 1. Receives the report Adoption of the Climate Action Plan (R26187) and its attachments (A2739648 and A2772355); and***
- 2. Adopts the Climate Action Plan (A2739648).***

4. Background

4.1 At its meeting of 13 August 2020 Council resolved as follows:

That the Council

1. *Receives the report Council Emission Reduction Targets (R17034); and*
2. *Commits to adopting the five-year emissions reductions budgets to be confirmed by government in 2021 as a way of ensuring Council takes early and substantive action towards achieving carbon neutral status with measurable positive changes by 2025;*
3. *Agrees that Nelson City Council adopts the Government targets for Council's own greenhouse gas emissions reductions (i.e., net zero emissions of all GHGs other than biogenic methane by 2050, and a 24 to 47 per cent reduction below 2017 biogenic methane emissions by 2050, including 10 per cent reduction below 2017 biogenic methane emissions by 2030); and*
4. *Agrees that work is undertaken to develop specific emission reduction projects for inclusion in the Long Term Plan 2021-31, along with development of a comprehensive Council "Emissions Reduction Action Plan" in line with timeframes to produce the upcoming Long Term Plan; and*
5. *Notes that a strategic framework, to bring together and provide high level guidance to all of the key elements of climate change work underway in Council, will be considered and scheduled through the development of the Long Term Plan 2021-31; and*
6. *Notes that work to set targets and reduce emissions in the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit is critical to address Council's entire emissions profile and that substantial work is already underway in the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit to measure and reduce emissions; and*
7. *Notes that the development of community emissions targets and actions will be undertaken as a separate piece of work, aligned with the strategic framework and the work currently being*

Item 8: Adoption of the Climate Action Plan

*undertaken by the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum;
and*

8. *Advocates to central government for an appropriate legislative and regulatory framework to support the local government sector to achieve carbon zero status.*

4.2 At its meeting of 22 September 2020 Council resolved as follows:

That the Council

1. *Receives the report Allocation of Climate Change Reserve Funding (A20265); and*
2. *Allocates \$139,620 of the remaining funds within the climate reserve for the purpose of undertaking priority climate change work in advance of the Long Term Plan, including preparation of an Emissions Reduction Action Plan; and*
3. *Agrees that a sum of \$20,000 remain in the Climate Change Reserve for community initiatives and if not used by May 2021, this funding go towards the priority climate change work outlined in report R20265; and*
4. *Notes that future investment into the Climate Change Reserve will be considered through the Long Term Plan 2021 – 2031.*

4.3 A first draft of an emissions reduction action plan was developed by a contractor before the end of 2020. Due to the workload associated with the LTP and staff turnover, that initial draft did not receive detailed review until April 2021. Since that time, the scope has been extended to include mitigation initiatives funded by Council that will support the reduction of GHG emissions within the community. This is beyond Council's initiatives to reduce its own operational GHG emissions. Additionally, the Plan includes climate change adaptation initiatives for Council assets, operations and services as well as initiatives at a community level towards a more resilient city. Every action included in the Action Plan has been checked with the responsible officers to ensure budgets and timeframes are accurate and reflect recent Long Term Plan decisions.

4.4 Work to begin development of a strategic framework for climate change has been scheduled to commence in the 2021/22 year and it is proposed to start with a workshop with elected members (tentatively scheduled for March 2022) to discuss what the Climate Change Strategy framework should cover. Once direction is received about the scope of that work officers will be able advise on a timeline.

5. Discussion

- 5.1 The Plan was workshopped with the Environment and Climate Committee on 3 August 2021. Feedback was received and the overall direction provided has been addressed in the final draft.
- 5.2 Feedback has also been sought from the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum, as the key overarching community group addressing climate change, established with Council funding from the 2019/20 Annual Plan. The feedback from the Forum was positive overall but there were also questions and suggestions for improvements. Information has been provided to the Forum in answer to various points raised and a number of minor amendments made to address suggestions (see Attachment 2). There were other suggestions made that are outside the scope of the Plan adoption, such as setting a more ambitious target for methane reduction or adding actions on waste reduction. Officers will discuss these ideas further with the Forum.

6. Plan Structure

- 6.1 This Plan is structured in a way that identifies mitigation and adaptation initiatives within two scopes: Council operations and community initiatives.
- 6.2 The Plan includes a process to achieve Council targets for reducing GHG operational emissions and monitoring progress towards achieving net zero carbon and a more resilient community. The Plan includes work to identify and track GHG emissions alongside development of mitigation initiatives. Similarly, in the climate change adaptation area, the Plan includes a process to identify climate change risks, followed by the development of climate change adaptation plans.

Reporting

- 6.3 The Plan is a living document and as new climate change related initiatives and resourcing are approved it will be updated. When projects are completed or significantly altered, this will also be recognised in the Plan. As the Plan will be kept updated on Council's website the public will be able to see the latest information about Council actions.
- 6.4 Reporting on Council emissions will occur annually with the intention being to publish in December each year with data from the previous financial year. In working with Toitū for the last three years, Council has developed in-house capability to carry out Council's carbon footprint inventory. Future inventories will be developed internally which will increase the sense of collective ownership and internal engagement of the whole organisation.
- 6.5 Reporting Nelson's overall/community emissions is not as straightforward. At present the only data available is from Statistics NZ where data is separated out for high level groupings.

Item 8: Adoption of the Climate Action Plan

- 6.6 A working group has been set up to develop community GHG emissions data based in the Global Protocol for Communities-Scale GHG emissions. The working group includes Council staff, Nelson Regional Development Agency staff, Nelson Tasman Climate Forum members and Tasman District Council staff. This standard is a globally-accepted framework to consistently identify, calculate and report on city GHGs. It has been used for a number of councils in NZ that have accounted for community emissions (e.g. Christchurch, Auckland, Greater Wellington, Horizons Region, Whanganui).
- 6.7 Some other improvements are in progress. Statistics NZ will engage with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) on determining a standard approach to measuring sequestration by region (expected in 2022). Statistics NZ and MfE are also discussing an approach for undertaking projections at the regional scale (if progressed this would not occur before 2022).

7. Options

- 7.1 Two options are presented to Council for consideration. Officers recommend Option 1:

Option 1: Approve the Adoption of the Climate Action Plan (recommended option)	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a critical tool for the organisation to track commitments and progress on climate action.• Key stakeholders and the community will find this a useful accountability mechanism for measuring Council's work in addressing climate change.
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None identified
Option 2: Do not approve the Adoption of the Climate Action Plan	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None identified
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May signal that Council is not acting to implement and/or monitor initiatives to address climate change• May suggest that Council is not fully committed to the initiatives already endorsed in the Long Term Plan 20/21.

Item 8: Adoption of the Climate Action Plan

8. Next Steps

- 8.1 Should the Plan be approved it will be uploaded to the Council website
- 8.2 Ongoing monitoring of the implementation of initiatives listed in the Plan and the targets.

Important considerations for decision making
1. Fit with Purpose of Local Government Adoption of the Climate Action Plan by Council supports the environmental, social and economic wellbeing of the community by improving accountability and transparency around Council's actions to address climate change.
2. Consistency with Community Outcomes and Council Policy The recommendation aligns with the initiatives included in the Long Term Plan and builds on work already underway or planned by Council. It supports the following community outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our unique natural environment is healthy and protected• Our rural and urban environmental are sustainable managed• Our communities are healthy, safe, inclusive, and resilient• Our region is supported by an innovative and sustainable economy• Our Council provides leadership and fosters partnerships, a regional perspective, and community engagement.
3. Risk There is a reputational risk in not adopting the Plan. Council might be perceived as not committing to action or to the resourcing/actions included in the Long Term Plan 2021-31. If the Climate Action Plan is endorsed, Council will be able to demonstrate progress in climate change initiatives related to mitigation and adaptation and communicate progress to the community.
4. Financial impact Resourcing for the Climate Action Plan is included in the Long Term Plan 2021-31.
5. Degree of significance and level of engagement This matter is of low significance because the Climate Action Plan compiles a list of initiatives already consulted on through the Long Term Plan process and therefore no engagement with the wider community is planned.

6. Climate Impact	
1. The Climate Action Plan is an important tool for Council, demonstrating its commitment to tackle climate change.	
7. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process	
<p>Engagement with Māori has occurred through the Long Term Plan and Activity Management Plans development process. Consideration of te ao Māori to the overall goals and aspirations for climate action will be developed within the strategic framework which will bring together and provide high level guidance to all of the key elements of climate change work underway in Council.</p>	
8. Delegations	
<p>The Environment and Climate Change Committee has the appropriate delegations in consideration of this report and making a recommendation to Council.</p> <p><i>Areas of Responsibility:</i></p> <p><i>Climate change impact and strategy overview - mitigation, adaptation and resiliency</i></p> <p><i>Powers to Recommend to Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Approval of final versions of strategies, policies and plans</i> <p>On the recommendation of the Chief Executive, and with the agreement of the Chair of the relevant committee, subcommittee or subordinate decision-making body and Mayor, matters within the area of responsibility of a particular committee, subcommittee or subordinate decision-making body may be considered directly by Council instead.</p>	

Author: Daniela Ramirez, Climate Change Adaptation Adviser

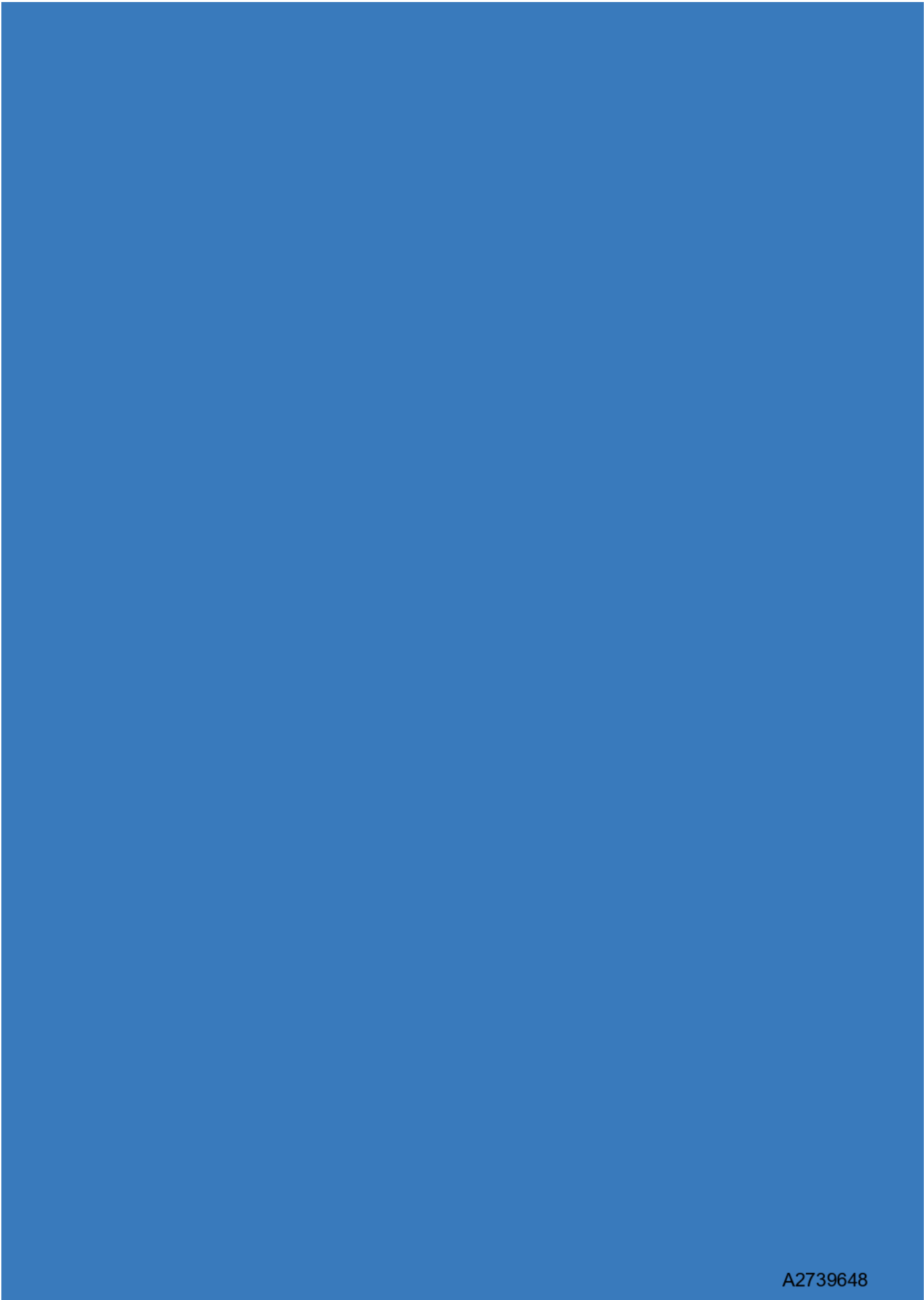
Attachments

Attachment 1: A2739648 Climate Action Plan [↓](#)

Attachment 2: A2772355 - Climate Forum Feedback [↓](#)

Item 8: Adoption of the Climate Action Plan





A2739648

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Introduction

Climate change is our biggest global challenge, and Nelson City Council is committed to considering and reducing where possible the climate change impact of all the decisions it makes. Climate change is a lens through which all Council work programmes are considered.

This Climate Action Plan brings together all the climate change projects and actions Council is funding over the next ten years, as set out in our Long Term Plan 2021- 31. This Long Term Plan is a significant one for Council's climate change journey, bringing together work and thinking over many years into our most significant climate change work programme.

Council's climate change's journey started many years ago with recognition of the importance of early action to address climate change. In 2008, Council joined Communities for Climate Protection and approved an action plan that outlined the greenhouse gas reduction targets Council wanted to achieve.

Another milestone was the Nelson 2060 Strategy developed by a 24-member mayoral taskforce with extensive community input. It was adopted by Council in 2013. This strategy has a community-led vision for Nelson in 2060 setting out 10 goals to help Nelson achieve that vision, plus ways to measure progress.

In 2017, Council signalled its commitment to a holistic approach to climate change through participation in the Local Government Position Statement on Climate Change and by signing the Local Government Climate Change Declaration. The group of mayors and chairs representing local government from across New Zealand came together to acknowledge the importance and urgent need to address climate change for the benefit of current and future generations, and to encourage Government to be more ambitious with climate change mitigation measures.

Council's sustainability policy was developed in 2018 in partnership with the community and tangata whenua. It recognises Council's stewardship responsibilities for the environment of Nelson, including the city's current and future prosperity and the health and wellbeing of its people. The policy recognises that sustainability is a local, regional, national and

global responsibility. It includes a commitment to increase the use of renewable resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Project Kōkiri is the Nelson Tasman economic development collaboration set up to navigate and mitigate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the top ten economic challenges identified is Climate Change, which is already affecting our horticulture, aquaculture and agriculture industries, native ecosystems, infrastructure, health and biosecurity. We are a coastal region and must make challenging decisions on future investments in infrastructure and strategic land use planning. Consideration of the transitions required within the current economy to a lower-emissions focus, and a focus on the future resilience of the region in response to the significant challenges presented by climate change, is at the heart of the regenerative economic thinking in Project Kōkiri.

At a local level, Nelson City Council has a key role to play in reducing its corporate emissions, supporting and providing leadership on mitigation actions across the community, and helping to manage and lower risk by adapting to climate change effects, especially in relation to sea level rise, infrastructure planning, coastal inundation, and flooding. Council has been investigating actions to reduce its emissions, as well as looking at what adaptation and response activities would be needed in the wider community. Work that has been ongoing for many years includes Council's support for walking, cycling and public transport initiatives, waste reduction projects, implementation of energy efficient street lighting, and increasing planting programmes across the city. Council has also provided support and funding for the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum and Businesses for Climate Action, groups which have attracted national attention for their innovative approaches to community climate action.

At the beginning of 2019, Nelson was identified in a Local Government New Zealand report as one of the South Island priority areas whose infrastructure would be affected by climate change and sea level rise. This report was released at the same time Council was commencing discussions with the community on coastal hazards. Around the same time Council also started a programme of work to measure its organisational carbon emissions, the first step towards setting targets to reduce these.

In 2019, Council supported central government's Climate Change (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill, which set out a climate change plan for the next 30 years, including a objective of limiting temperature rises to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius within this time period. This support for central government action was followed by Council declaring a Climate Emergency on 16 May 2019.

Council consulted on its programme to address climate change as part of developing its Annual Plan 2019/20 and received strong feedback from our community about the need to do more and give the work higher priority.

The Climate Emergency acknowledges the scientific evidence and advice that there is a small window for action to avoid the most damaging effects of climate change.

The declaration of a climate emergency:

- Publicly declares that the world is in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government; that human-induced climate change represents one of the greatest threats to humanity, civilisation, other species, and the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and that it is possible to prevent the most harmful outcomes, if societies take sustained emergency action, including local councils.
- Recognises that the potential for technology, expertise and capacity exists for humans to mitigate and adapt to this global challenge, but that collaboration and action is essential.

- Commits to examine how Council's plans, policies and work programmes can address the climate emergency and ensure an emergency strategy is embedded into all future Council strategic plans.
- Prioritises collaboration with the government, other councils and governing Bodies, iwi, business, industry and scientific sectors, and with the wider community, in order to maximise collective action that will achieve climate change, mitigation, adaptation and resilience.
- Recognises that transparency and accessibility of climate change information, along with education and participatory community engagement in collective action, will be essential to achieve climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience.

The Climate Emergency declaration emphasises Council's intention to play a key role in leading the community toward a resilient and low emissions future and implementing adaptive measures that help to manage and minimise risk. By making the declaration, Council committed to look at how its plans, policies and work programmes can support action to address the climate emergency and ensure that is embedded in all future Council strategic plans. This declaration was a strong signal to our community of the importance of this issue and the urgent need for collective action.

Further action was undertaken as part of the 2019 Annual Plan, when additional resources and funding were provided to enable Council and the community to work more closely together on climate issues. To date a number of community-led and Council-led projects have accessed funding from the Climate Reserve that was established through that Annual Plan process.

The importance to Council and community of responding to the challenges of climate change was also reflected in the Te Taihū Intergenerational Strategy. This strategy, led by Wakatū Incorporation in partnership with councils, iwi and stakeholders from across the Top of the South, includes climate change and



regenerative outcomes as a priority area. The vision for the Strategy is that we will be good ancestors reflecting the fact that the primary impacts of climate change will be faced by our descendants. The Strategy also helped inform Council's 2021 Long Term Plan and the actions in this plan contribute to the Te Taihū Intergenerational Strategy outcomes.

In support of its declaration of a Climate Emergency, on 13 August 2020 Council set its own greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets. This is a way of ensuring Council takes early and substantive action towards achieving carbon neutrality. In setting GHG emission reduction targets, Council also adopted central government targets:

- to achieve net zero emissions of all GHGs (other than biogenic methane) by 2050 and
- to reduce biogenic methane emissions by 24 - 47 percent by 2050.

Council will also be adopting the government's five-yearly reduction targets to be announced by the end of 2021, to ensure we keep on track to achieve the broader goals by 2050.

As Council does more to reduce emissions,

our performance will be tracked against all targets and this information will be included on our website. This will form an important accountability mechanism for measuring Council's work in addressing climate change.

Achieving New Zealand's emissions objectives requires partnership with, and action by, central government, local government, iwi, businesses, community groups and residents. Progress cannot be achieved without a collaborative approach.

With this Plan, Council is demonstrating its commitment to action and putting climate change front and centre in its work programmes and decision making. Side by side with all willing partners we will work to respond to the challenge of climate change, creating a more resilient and sustainable future for Nelson.

Purpose of this Action Plan

This Action Plan shows all the resources Council has currently allocated to climate change projects over the next ten years, as set out in our Long Term Plan 2021-31. The Action Plan is a living document that will be updated as the actions are completed, or amended or new actions are added. Any changes to the Plan will be in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002, for example as part of an Annual Plan or future LTP process. As these changes happen, the Climate Action Plan will be updated online, alongside our emissions reduction dashboard, so the community can track progress towards achieving our targets. The actions in the Plan cover a wide range of infrastructural, social, and environmental areas, demonstrating Council's commitment to meeting the urgent challenge of mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

The Te Tauihu – Intergenerational Strategy, tells us about the importance of Tūpuna Pono (being good ancestors). This speaks to the purpose of the Climate Action Plan, which is to deliver meaningful change in, and for our communities, by working together towards net zero carbon and a resilient community. The impact of climate change on future generations will be profound unless there is local and global action to reduce GHG emissions.

The implementation of mitigation and adaptation initiatives will bring co-benefits (protection and enhancement of local biodiversity, sustainable built environments, improvement of water and soil health, provision of employment and wider community health benefits) and lead to opportunities for a more resilient Whakatū. Examples of actions identified in this Plan which will contribute to these co-benefits include the proposed Urban Greening Plan , large scale ecological restoration projects such as Project Mahitahi, cleaner air, and health benefits from active transport.



What is adaptation and mitigation?

Responding to climate change involves two complementary types of action: mitigation and adaptation.

Mitigation of climate change is where we reduce GHG emissions or enhance sinks (sequestration) of GHGs. Sinks are places that absorb more carbon than they give out. An example of mitigation is improving public transport so that there are fewer cars emitting GHGs or planting trees to absorb GHGs.

Adaptation to climate change is the process of implementing actions to reduce actual or predicted negative impacts of climate change, for example preparing for more frequent outbreaks of fire by keeping flammable vegetation away from homes. Adaptation seeks to moderate or avoid harm to people, the natural and built environments and infrastructure. It can also include finding ways to exploit beneficial opportunities, for example taking advantage of longer growing seasons as the climate changes.

Mitigation and adaptation are closely linked – the more we collectively take action to reduce GHG emissions at the global level, the better the chance that we will have fewer impacts to adapt to in the future. Some actions contribute to both areas, for example planting coastal vegetation absorbs carbon (mitigation) and also protects properties by stabilising coastlines (adaptation). Council will be identifying interdependencies between mitigation and adaptation actions to maximise efficiencies and minimise investment risk.

How this Plan is organised

All of the activities in this Plan are being undertaken/resourced by Council. Some will reduce Council's carbon footprint and some will reduce the community's carbon footprint. We have decided where different activities belong by following the scope of [ISO 14064-1](#) (Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of GHG emissions and removals) for Council's operational footprint and the [Global Protocol for community-scale GHG emissions inventories](#) for community's footprint. The ISO standards are internationally agreed by experts and set out the best way to do something – in this case to measure organisational and communities carbon footprints. Both guidelines are the international best practice to account for GHG emissions.

The standard used to guide Council work in climate change adaptation is the ISO 14090 – Adaptation to climate change – Principles, requirements, and guidelines. For climate change adaptation in communities, the guideline that Council will follow is the Coastal Hazards and Climate Change from the Ministry of Environment (2017) and a process known as Dynamic Adaptive Policy Pathways (DAPP). The Plan also includes adaptation activities to reduce risk for Council assets and services and adaptation activities to reduce risks for the community.

The Climate Action Plan includes actions across these four areas:

MITIGATION	COUNCIL
MITIGATION	COMMUNITY
ADAPTATION	COUNCIL
ADAPTATION	COMMUNITY

This Action Plan will build on work already underway or planned by Council delivered through four themes, following the Long Term Plan structure:



How we will live and work

By making smart choices over the next 10 years, including capitalising on new technology, we can improve our resilience and create a smart sustainable city (supporting inner city living, progressing transition towards a regenerative economy, implementing Urban Greening Plan).



How we will reduce consumption and waste

We can meet our needs by changing how we consume products and services (deconstructing buildings which are no longer fit for purpose and recycling the materials instead of sending them to landfill).



How we will move

Transport is one of the sectors where we can make the biggest reductions in CO₂ emissions. We can do this by encouraging a shift away from single-occupancy private vehicle use towards higher public transport use, by improving public transport and enabling more active transport options.



How we will protect nature

Restoring biodiversity is a major way of storing carbon. Healthy ecosystems can mitigate climate change impacts such as absorbing excess flood water or creating a buffer against coastal erosion and extreme weather events (planting edible plants, trees, restoring native forests).

Each of these areas of action relate to a heading used in the Long-Term Plan 2020-2021 under the Climate Change chapter. A colour code has been used for each of the initiatives, to show which category the action relates to:

- How we will live and work
- How we will reduce consumption and waste
- How we will move
- How we will protect nature

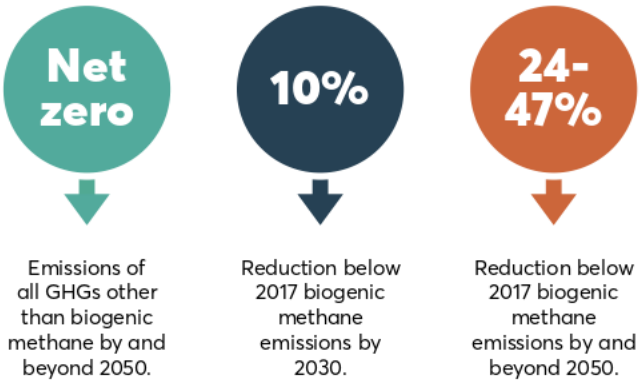
Mitigation of Council Emissions

This section covers the carbon footprint and mitigation initiatives for Council's operational emissions. Council measures its own carbon footprint every year and is using the 2017/18 financial year as the baseline against which reductions are measured.

In August 2020 Council committed to adopting central government's five-year national emissions reduction budgets, which are expected to be developed and confirmed by 2022. Council made this commitment to ensure that it takes early and substantive action towards achieving carbon neutral status.

There are also two long-term Government targets that Council has committed to achieving. These are:

- net zero emissions of all GHGs (other than biogenic methane) by 2050,
- a reduction of 10% of the 2017 biogenic methane measurement by 2030, and a 24-47% reduction of the 2017 biogenic methane measurement by 2050.

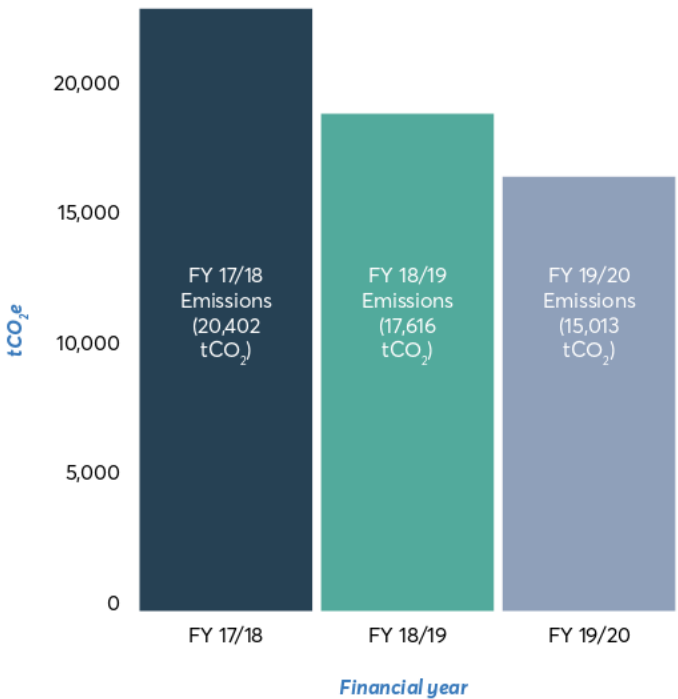


The following figures show the pathway for Council to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and the main sources of Council's GHG emissions. The main initiatives Council will use to reduce its emissions are improving energy efficiency, use of renewables, low emissions vehicles for its fleet, behaviour change and waste minimisation.

Process



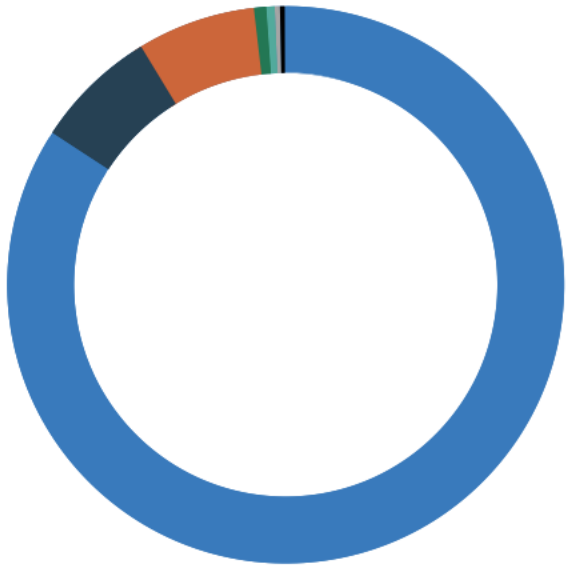
Council Operational GHG emissions



Top 10 sources of GHG emissions for Council Operational emissions

Activity 2017/2018

- Landfill waste - mixed waste
- Wastewater
- Electricity
- Diesel Stationary Combustion
- Air Travel Domestic
- Diesel
- Petrol Regular



Mitigation Actions to Reduce Council's Carbon Footprint

Actions underway

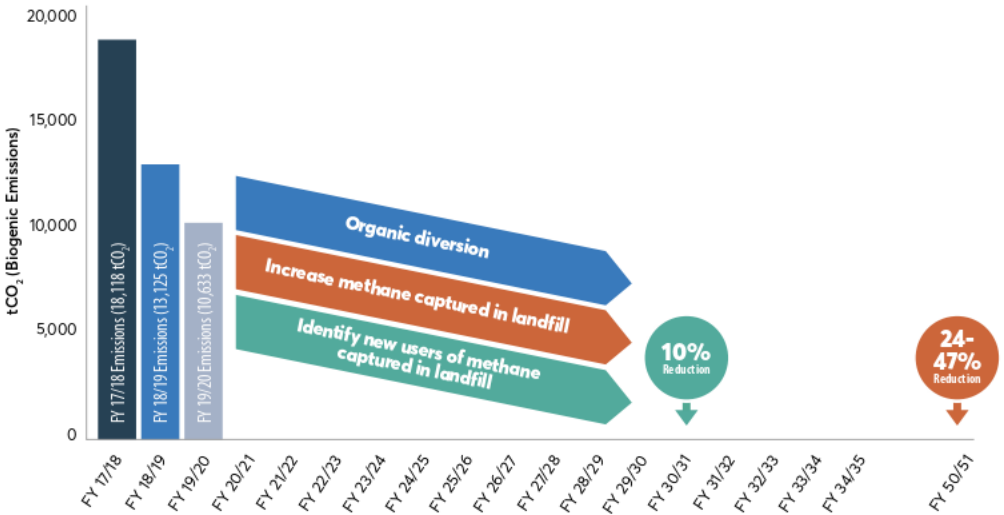
- Energy audits in key Council buildings will have recommendations for lower carbon operations, such as:
 - Energy efficiency initiatives
 - Fossil fuel switching for a low carbon emission alternative
 - Renewable energy
 - Replacing existing refrigerants with low global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants (Budget: \$81,970 across 3 years starting from FY 21/22) Budgets for implementation of recommendations identified in the energy audits will be allocated once the energy audits are completed.
- The Civic House Refurbishment will consider waste minimisation and will include initiatives that will contribute to running a more efficient building in terms of energy consumption for heating, ventilation, and lighting. These initiatives will be implemented in stages within a period of 7 years. (Budget: a portion of the total of \$20,509,270 Civic House refurbishment, Civic House renewal plant & equipment and Civic House roof renewal). To be decided by Council in FY 21/22.
- Energy audits and implementation of recommendations will occur in water, wastewater and stormwater assets, including a GHG emissions study to improve accuracy of measurement data (Budget: \$148,000 across six years starting from FY 20/21).
- Identify potential users for the energy (heat) mapped in the wastewater network that is potentially available to be recovered and reused in various parts of the city. (Budget: \$30,000 approx., FY 21/22).
- Council has adopted an electric first policy when replacing/adding cars to its fleet (Budget: A portion of \$100,000 for FY 21/22 will be allocated to electric vehicle purchase)
- Conventional lighting will be switched to more efficient lighting technology in buildings and sportsgrounds (Budget: \$452,804 for Trafalgar Park and \$860,000 for sports ground for the next 10 years)
- Council is working to ensure that waste minimisation is built into the operation of its facilities and events, both in its own operations, and the conditions of use by the public. This includes a focus on reduce and reuse over recycle, composting of food scraps and integration of recycling where appropriate. The Rethink Waste programme is being used to upskill event organisers and improve resources for waste minimisation in tandem with this process.
- Behavioural change programmes (eg, active transport, waste minimisation).
- Council's revised Procurement Policy, which is now guided by the underlying principle of minimising GHG emissions, will be implemented.
- All Council reports will consider the potential impacts and risks that climate change presents so that this is included in decision-making processes.

To be implemented

- An Energy Management Programme, based on ISO 50001, will be implemented.
- A framework to include climate change consideration in all business cases will be developed.
- There will be continuous monitoring of data from buildings management systems (energy meters, utility bills and other sources) so these can be regularly analysed to identify further energy savings.
- Behavioural change programmes (eg building energy usage).

KEY: How we will live and work How we will reduce consumption and waste How we will move How we will protect nature

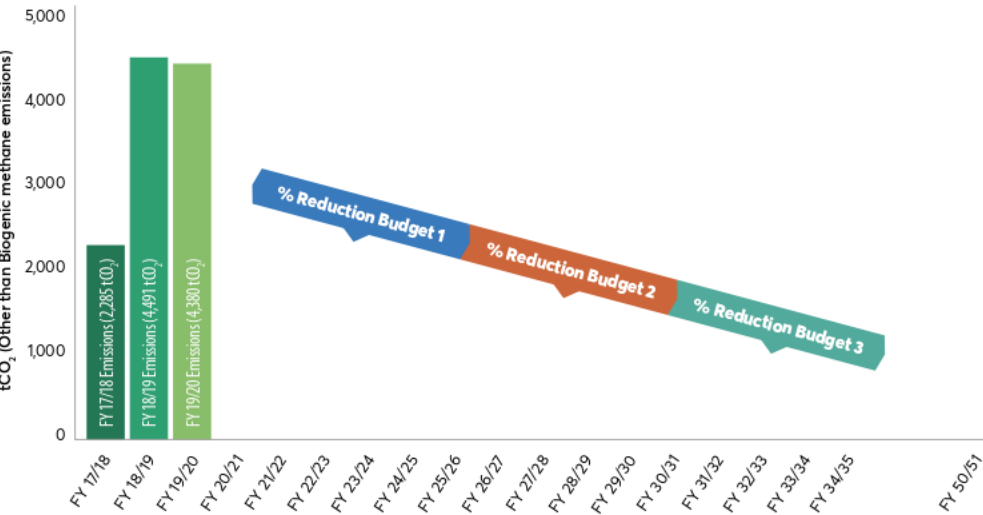
Biogenic Methane Emission Targets



Biogenic methane emissions are the result of biological processes in the waste sector (landfill and wastewater treatment plants). In base year FY 2017/18, Council's gross GHG biogenic methane emissions were about 18,118 t CO₂-e. The reduction target for these emissions are:

- 10% by 2030
- A minimum of 24% by 2050 (but aiming up to 47% or higher)

Other than Biogenic Methane Emission Targets



Emissions other than biogenic methane are related to carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and F-gases (hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride). In base year FY 2017/18, Council's gross GHG emissions other than biogenic methane were about 2,285t CO₂-e. The percentage of the emissions reduction's targets over the three budget periods are yet to be set by government by 31 December 2021 and will be adopted by Council.

Mitigation of Community Emissions

Council is playing a leading role in supporting and encouraging the community to implement mitigation initiatives that reduce emissions, as well as delivering its own programmes to mitigate community emissions. Council has identified key enablers such as the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum, a community-led initiative that draws from the collective strength and leadership of community groups. Additionally, in Te Taihu (the Top of the South) Businesses for Climate Action is taking the lead in creating a zero carbon Aotearoa within a resilient sustainable economy, adaptable to both the opportunities and disruptions of climate change. This section includes the GHG emissions from the Nelson community and the initiatives that Council is taking to reduce GHG at this level.

“We ask Council to play a leading role in the region's transition to a low-emissions economy”.

Zero Carbon Nelson Tasman, LTP Submissions 2021

“Together we can transform our business community to create lasting, positive impact”.

Business for Climate Action

“We are all part of the cloth our community is weaving from the threads of knowledge and passion for a more resilient Nelson”.

Nelson City Council

“We aim to get everyone in our climate change response waka paddling quickly in the same direction. Our mission is to weave individuals, households, civil society organisations, businesses, councils and iwi together around urgent, strategic action on climate change in the Nelson-Tasman region”.

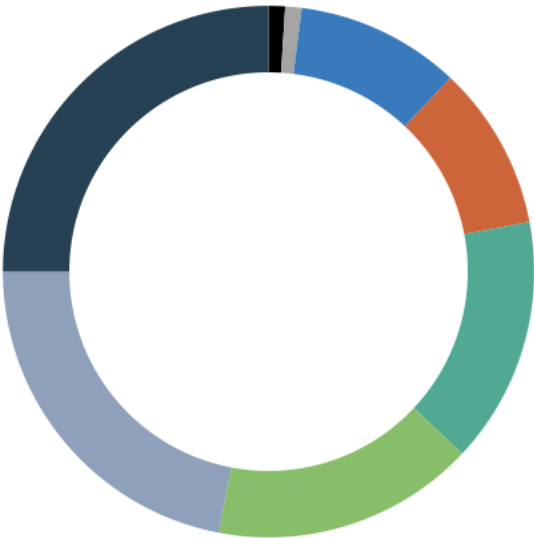
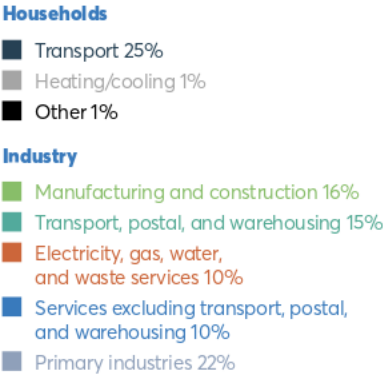
Nelson Tasman Climate Forum



Process



Top 10 sources of GHG emissions in Community for 2019



Source: Statistic NZ, 2021

Mitigation Actions to Reduce the Community's Carbon Footprint

- **Carbon sequestration – development of new carbon sinks**
 - ●● Afforestation/reforestation and implementation of ecological restoration plans on Council-owned land will increase carbon capture (Budget: \$804,408/year includes: replacement planting, new planting, revegetation, street garden development, street tree development). Budget for retired forestry: over \$800,000 across the next 10 years)
 - ●● Implementation of an Urban Greening Plan to expand our urban canopy, will bring more CO2 absorbing plants and trees into our City Centre while reducing air and noise pollution and supporting biodiversity and food resiliency (Budget: \$20,000 allocated).
 - ● Support for afforestation/reforestation and implementation of ecological restoration plans on privately-owned land will increase carbon capture (Budget: Grants totalling \$336,000 were awarded in 2020/21 year from Council's Nelson Nature, Healthy Streams and Sustainable Land Management programmes, and a similar amount is budgeted in 2021/22)
 - ● Seagrass and saltmarsh research, mapping, monitoring and enhancement will support marine carbon sequestration. (Budget: a portion of the \$53,373 budget for Tasman Bay monitoring and research being spent in 2021/22)
 - ● Council will seek new grant funding for projects to increase terrestrial carbon sequestration, such as Jobs for Nature funding. These projects will be delivered through Council work programmes and partnerships, including with the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance and the Tasman Environment Trust.
 - ● Project Mahitahi is a Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Jobs for Nature project focused on terrestrial ecosystem protection, enhancement and resilience in the Maitai River catchment. The project includes the
- planting of \$125,000 trees over 5 years (Budget: \$1,411,359 in 21/22 funded by Ministry for the Environment and Department of Conservation).
- **Carbon sequestration - protecting existing carbon sinks to reduce carbon loss**
 - ● Reducing soil loss through addressing erosion. Council's Sustainable Land Management programme will support soil retention and health through reducing hill country erosion and supporting sustainable land use (Budget: in FY 21/22 is \$330,000 funded by Ministry for Primary Industries and \$67,353 funded through rates).
 - ● A portion of the Nelson Nature budget (\$434,912 in FY21/22) will support ecological resilience (adaptation) of terrestrial habitats and species by undertaking pest plant and animal control to protect ecosystems and allow continuing carbon sequestration by those ecosystems. Nelson Nature is Council's terrestrial biodiversity programme, and along with improving indigenous biodiversity it has climate change co-benefits including increased carbon sequestration and adaptation/resilience of ecosystems to changing climate.
 - ● The Jobs for Nature Wakapuaka and Whangamoa Project beginning in 2021/22 will protect existing carbon capture by Significant Natural Area ecosystems on private land in the Wakapuaka and Whangamoa catchments, by addressing the impacts of pest plants and browsing animals such as goats on growing and mature trees (Budget: \$990,638 over 3 years).
 - ● Understanding the extent of our estuarine carbon sinks through Council's coastal and marine programme, and working with partners such as Taman District Council, Te Taihu iwi,

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How we will move

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How we will protect nature

MITIGATION

COMMUNITY

Kotahitanga mō te Taiao and Tasman Environmental Trust, will help to protect these carbon sinks by informing decision making and reducing the likelihood of disturbance (Budget: allocated to Tasman Environment Trust through the LTP: \$10,000 per year for three years).

• **Emissions mitigation advice, information and education provided to the community:**

- Free advice to residents from Council's Eco Design Adviser will help reduce energy usage and improve house performance, which supports reduction in energy consumption (Budget: A portion of the Resilience and Sustainability budget which is \$39,839 in 2021/22)
- Council's contribution to the Warmer Healthier Homes Nelson-Tasman-Marlborough project will support reductions in energy use (Budget: \$52,800 per year for the next 10 years).
- Council will promote external funding for renewable energy or energy efficiency (e.g. through interest-free bank home loan top-ups, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority grants or other government schemes)
- Investment in behaviour change programmes will continue to support a shift away from single occupancy use of private vehicles towards public transport and active transport
- Information will be provided to the community on how to avoid or reduce waste through the Rethink Waste|Whakaarohia programme.
- The EnviroSchools programme supports educating our tamariki and rangatahi to make better choices about using resources and reducing waste; reduction in energy consumption; habitat restoration/ protection and active transport (Budget: \$112,112 for FY 21/22).
- As well as financial support and implementation of projects, Council's environmental programmes including Nelson Nature, Healthy Streams, Sustainable Land Management, Air Quality, Coastal and Marine, and Biosecurity provide advice, education

and information to support the community to care for our natural spaces (Budget: The education component is an integral part of these programmes).

• **Council collaboration with community initiatives for climate action**

- Participating in the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum and supporting it to deliver actions outlined in its Climate Action Book. (Budget: \$100,000 per year for three years).
- Supporting initiatives such as Businesses for Climate Action (Budget: \$175,000 over three years, \$38,000 of that funding is the remaining funds from the Climate Change Reserve and \$137,000 is ratepayer funded)
- Investigating the potential for a Nelson Climatorium (centre of innovation for tackling climate change)
- Supporting Community Compost's initiative to grow its organic collection operation (Budget: through a grant of \$32,000 from the Climate Change Reserve in FY 20/21).

• **Waste minimisation initiatives are funded from the waste levy to the solid waste closed account. The objective of Council's waste minimisation programme is to avoid or reduce the creation of waste. The initiatives implemented in the coming financial year(s) include:**

- **Rethink Waste programme: Programmes and activities that enable people in Nelson to avoid or reduce waste**
 - Waste minimisation grants to enable community-led projects, to avoid or reduce waste and support the development of a circular economy. Reducing single-use initiatives including the refillery programme and cup bond subsidies
 - Development of activities to support a culture of repair and reuse
 - Secondhand Sunday
 - Support for diversion of e-waste including subsidies
 - Focus on textile waste, including Op Shop map

KEY: ● How we will live and work ● How we will reduce consumption and waste ● How we will move ● How we will protect nature

MITIGATION

COMMUNITY

identification of new users of methane captured in landfill is directly linked with the previous action of increasing methane captured.

- Council's Wastewater activity will develop projects to implement outcomes from the emissions reduction investigative work (currently underway) from FY 22/23 till 30/31. (Budget: \$1,425,000 through LTP)

• **Influencing transport emissions/travel demand management**

- Travel demand management initiatives (Budget: \$1.5M over 10 years). Options to reduce vehicle km travelled will be investigated e.g. car sharing scheme development
- Installation of solar powered compacting bins in public places will reduce servicing requirements and therefore transport emissions (Budget: \$160,000 per year for the next 10 years, sourced from the waste account)
- At the point of contract renewal Council will look to achieve a low emission option for public transport. Included in the budget of \$65M over 10 years classified as paid by fare revenue (approximately 51-65% will be subsidised by NZTA).
- Council will facilitate higher density housing in areas which are close to where people work and shop, to reduce travel.
- Council will encourage more inner city living and intensification to reduce traffic and congestion.
- Council is developing a Parking Strategy which can encourage more use of public transport and walking/cycling. (Budget estimated: \$120,000 from FY 20/21)

• **Investigating the adoption of new technologies, where safe and effective**

- Council is investigating low carbon emissions fuel options (hydrogen, biofuel, etc) as fuel for vehicles

Future Actions

- A road map towards low-emission public transport will be developed (Budget: Climate Change mitigation \$1.239 M over the next 10 years)

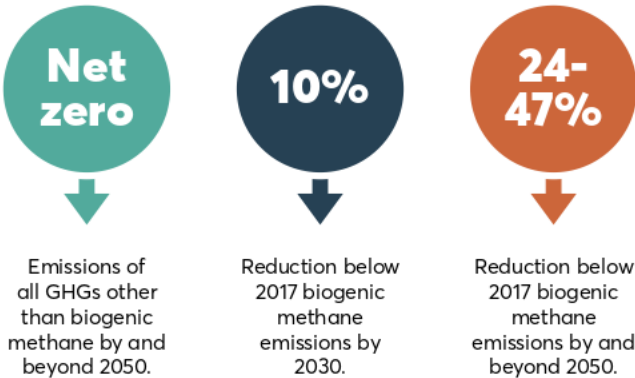
- Event waste minimisation
- Community workshops
- **Construction & Demolition Waste reduction programme**
 - Support for building waste diversion
 - Deconstruction case study (deconstruction allows building components to be recycled and reused when the building reaches end of life)
 - Building sector engagement
- **Organic waste reduction**
 - Kitchen waste composting trial. If this project progresses to a full kerbside service it will contribute to our commitment to reduce overall waste to landfill by 10% per capita by 2030.
 - Home composting workshops and subsidies
 - Support for Love Food Hate Waste programme
 - Support for the Nelson Marlborough Health leadership of the Good Food City initiative
 - Waste minimisation at Council events

• **Infrastructure**

- Investigation of EV Charger installation for our community in public spaces will support uptake of electric vehicles (FY 21/22)
- Improvements to cycling, walking (shared walk/cycle paths) infrastructure will promote modal shift (Budget: \$32M over 10 years - approximately 51% will be subsidised by Waka Kotahi NZ).
- Improvements to public transport options will help to reduce traffic (Budget: \$65M over 10 years classified as paid by fare revenue - approximately 51-65% will be subsidised by NZTA).
- Council's Future Development Strategy will manage urban growth in Nelson over the next 30 years
- The project to develop the new city library will include sustainability and climate change objectives
- Installation of new wells to increase methane captured in landfill. This action will be implemented by the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit (Budget: \$2M for York Valley). The

Adaptation to Climate Change by Council

The domestic 2050 target requires at least:



Climate change is impacting organisations in various ways. Climate change adaptation is required to reduce threats and maximize opportunities presented to Council in its assets, operations, and services. This section focuses solely on Council operations, identifying climate change risks and opportunities to reduce those risks, as well as opportunities to increase resilience and reduce vulnerability. The process that Council will follow will be aligned with ISO 14090 (Adaptation to climate change – Principles, requirements, and guidelines). By following an international standard, Council can develop measures and report on adaptation activity in a verifiable way. Council will be also able to demonstrate that its approach to climate change adaptation is credible.

We are taking a whole-of-Council approach to make this transition. For example, we have embedded this thinking in the Infrastructure Strategy, which looks forward 30 years to identify climate issues that could affect our core infrastructure as well as providing options to address these issues. The Local Government Leaders Climate Change Declaration also provides guidance for this work.



Process



Source: ISO 14090 – Adaptation to climate change – Principles, requirements, and guidelines

Risk Identification

- Alignment with Council's Risk Register. Review identified climate risks with reference to Council's risk criteria and capture relevant risks in Council's Risk Register. This action will involve the following tasks:
 - Undertake a risk assessment to identify and assess impact on Council's ability to:
 - A Maintain public safety
 - B Protect and enhance the local economy
 - C Protect existing community structures and the lifestyle enjoyed by the local people
 - D Manage our natural and built environments
 - E Ensure sound public administration and governance
- Include the Council's insurer in the risk management discussion
- Implement ISO 14090 (Adaptation to climate change – Principles, requirements, and guidelines) in Council operations to reduce risk, increase resilience and reduce climate vulnerability in Council buildings.
- Identify natural hazard risks under the Resource Management Act, Local government Act, Building Act and others.

Adaptation Actions

- Future planned actions
 - An Adaptation Plan for Council assets, operation and services based in the risk assessment will be developed (Budget: Climate Change adaptation \$1.464 M over the next 10 years)

KEY:

● How we will live and work

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● How we will move

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City Context

We have a challenge ahead: to adapt to a changing climate – and the natural hazard impacts that comes with it. To respond to this challenge, Council is working with specialists, iwi, other agencies and the community. The aim is to have a clear pathway to adapt to complex and uncertain climate change impacts.

Projections of climate change depend on future GHG emissions, which are uncertain. Table 1 indicates the regional projections for Nelson-Tasman region:



Temperature

- Compared to 1995, temperatures are likely to be 0.7°C to 1.0°C warmer by 2040 and 0.6°C to 3.0°C warmer by 2090.
- By 2090, some parts of Nelson-Tasman are projected to have from 5 to 43 extra days per year where maximum temperatures exceed 25°C, with around 9 to 28 fewer frosts per year.



Rainfall

- Rainfall will vary locally within the region. The largest changes will be for particular seasons rather than annually.
- Seasonal projections show summer, autumn and winter rainfall increasing by up to 10, 7 and 11 per cent respectively by 2090, with little change in spring rainfall.
- Extreme rainy days are likely to become more frequent throughout the Nelson-Tasman region by 2090 under the highest emissions scenario.



Snowfall

- A reduction in the number of snow days experienced annually is projected throughout New Zealand, including the Nelson-Tasman region. The duration of snow cover is also likely to decrease, particularly at lower elevations. Places that currently receive snow are likely to see a shift towards increasing rainfall instead of snowfall as snowlines rise to higher elevations due to rising temperatures.



Wind

- The frequency of extremely windy days in the Nelson-Tasman region is not likely to change significantly. There may be an increase in westerly wind flow during winter, and north-easterly wind flow during summer.



Storms

- Future changes in the frequency of storms are likely to be small compared to natural inter-annual variability. Some increase in storm intensity, local wind extremes and thunderstorms is likely to occur.



Sea-level Rise

- New Zealand tide records show an average rise in relative mean sea level of 1.7 mm per year over the 20th century. Globally, the rate of rise has increased and further rise is expected in the future.

Table 1: Climate Change projections for the Nelson-Tasman region, Ministry for Environment, May 2018



Coastal hazards

- There may be increased risk to coastal roads and infrastructure from coastal erosion and inundation, increased storminess and sea-level rise.



Heavy Rain

- The capacity of stormwater systems may be exceeded more frequently due to heavy rainfall events which could lead to surface flooding. River flooding and hill country erosion events may also become more frequent.



Drought

- By 2090, the time spent in drought ranges from minimal change through to more than double. More frequent droughts are likely to lead to water shortages, increased demand for irrigation and increased risk of wild fires.



Disease

- There may be an increase in the occurrence of summer water-borne and food-borne diseases such as Salmonella. There may also be an increase in tropical diseases.



Biosecurity

- Climate change could increase the spread of pests and weeds. Warmer temperatures will make pests such as mosquitoes, blowflies, ants, wasps and jellyfish more prevalent in the region. Similarly, crop diseases such as fungi and viruses may penetrate into the region where currently they are excluded by lower temperatures. There may also be a loss of habitat for native species.

Table 2: Impacts of climate change for Nelson-Tasman region, Ministry for Environment, May 2018

Adaptation to Climate Change by the Community

The science is clear: our climate is changing and will continue to do so in the future. We are already seeing the impacts of more extreme weather events in Nelson. Part of Nelson City Council's role is to understand what the impact will be for our region and to work with our community to adapt and prepare for those impacts.

Council has undertaken extensive computer modelling to help determine the nature and extent of flood hazard events and coastal inundation and there have been some initial conversations with the community about managing these risks. Council has also undertaken activities across multiple impacts such as water security and management, slope instability and land management.

Council will work with Local Government New Zealand, central government and the community to address the broader issues and examine how impacts can be managed. Discussions with the community through the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan process, will help drive some of the local conversation on managing the effects of climate change.

Delivering a climate-resilient future requires all cities to take transformational action to reduce transport emissions, improve building energy efficiency, remove fossil fuels from the energy supply, minimise waste to landfill and change consumption patterns. It also requires cities to strengthen their ability to deal with the impacts of climate change through adaptation

The process that Council will follow is known as Dynamic Adaptive Planning Pathways (DAPP). The DAPP process assists Council and the community to identify the different options

for adaptation and assess these against various climate change scenarios. This process will help Council and the community with the management of change and adaptation to unavoidable climate change impacts. The Ministry of Environment guidelines Coastal Hazards and Climate Change (2017) sets out the process and can be accessed at <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/coastal-hazards-guide-final.pdf>

Dynamic Adaptive Pathways Planning (DAPP) approach will be applied for working with the community on coastal inundation (flooding from sea water) and erosion hazards and with other hazards separately. This process allows Council and the community to identify options for adaptation and assess these against various climate change scenarios

Council is currently working on the early stages of the DAPP process which involves the assessment of coastal hazards, determining the matters that the community values that may be impacted and considering the risks to the community and its assets from the hazards.

This section of the Plan refers to a climate action process informed by the community and key stakeholders, which identifies the risks and develops adaptation plans.



Risk Identification

Sea level rise, heavy rainfall, flooding events, storm, drought, bush fires and extreme temperatures.

- ● Mapping areas of coastal inundation and identification of coastal structures (sea level rise, tidal and storm inundation)
- ● Mapping flooding areas (river tidal)
- ● Mapping coastal erosion
- ●●● High level identification and assessment of climate change risks from coastal inundation, erosion and flooding on the lower Maitai river across five domains (human environment, natural environment, economy environment, built environment and governance) for short and long-term climate change impacts. These will be monitored and reviewed over a series of LTP processes as a result of the iterative process
- ● Identification of vulnerable species and habitats at risk from climate change impacts, including threatened coastal habitats and species at risk from sea level rise
- ● Marine, freshwater and terrestrial biosecurity field monitoring to identify any new biosecurity risks resulting from changing climate and water temperatures
- ● State of the Environment monitoring programme which gathers long-term environmental data. Key parameters may be useful to inform decision making as the environment changes in response to climate change (groundwater salinity, groundwater level, sea level, tidal, water temperature, rain changes, river flows, draught resistance plants etc.). Budget is a portion of the roughly \$900k Monitoring the Environment activity (in FY 21/22).
- ● Collection of data and monitor shoreline changes through CoastSnap
- ● Identification of vulnerable people and communities and transition to a more resilient environment.
- ●●● Identification and assessment of risks and opportunities from all other relevant climate change effects such as heavy rainfall, flooding events, storms, drought, bush fires and extreme temperatures for short and long-term climate change impacts across the five domains (see above), considering the New Zealand's most significant climate change risks described in the National Climate Change Risk Assessment (MfE, 2020).
- ●● Detailed and specific cultural heritage impacts assessment if required
- ●● Identification of impacts on key infrastructure (roads, state highway, bridges, landfill, water supply, wastewater, and stormwater assets)
- ●● Liaison with key organisations (Port, Airport, Waka Kotahi) to complement and find synergies with the climate change risk identification and assessment done by each organisation

KEY: ● How we will live and work ● How we will reduce consumption and waste ● How we will move ● How we will protect nature

Adaptation Actions

Current Actions

- ● To reduce flooding and coastal inundation the following projects will be undertaken: Stormwater and flood prevention projects: Saxton Creek Upgrade, Orphanage Stream Upgrade, Little Go Stream Upgrade (Rutherford Stages 1 and 2), York Stream Upgrade, Maitai Flood Mitigation Project, Jenkins Creek Upgrade, Poorman Valley Stream Upgrade (Budget: \$52M over 10 years)
- ● Preparation of land use plan/s to support adaptation (Budget: Whakamahere Whakatu Nelson Plan \$2.12 for FY 21/22)
- ●●● Natural hazards will be assessed, starting with coastal inundation (flooding from sea water) and erosion hazards. Ongoing
- ●●●● Public engagement will be undertaken on coastal hazards as part of the DAPP (Dynamic Adaptive Pathways Planning) process
- ● The resilience of our natural environment and biodiversity is being monitored, protected and built through Council's Nelson Nature, Healthy Streams, Sustainable Land Management, Coastal/Marine, Freshwater monitoring and Biosecurity programmes. This is related to how the natural environment is adapting to climate change, and how resilient habitats and species are responding to changes. Activities include freshwater, coastal and marine monitoring and research into vulnerable habitats and species. Potential adaptations are being explored such as coastal habitat retreats and understanding the drought resistance profile of native plants (Budget: a portion of the roughly \$900k Monitoring the Environment activity, plus a portion of the \$434,912 Nelson Nature budget in 2021/22)
- ● A biosecurity programme is in place to manage existing marine, freshwater and terrestrial biosecurity risks, and identify and respond to new risks (Budget: \$333,108 including \$40,000 specifically for emerging pests and \$56,832 for invasive marine species monitoring in the 2021/22 year)
- ● Council is working with landowners to support climate change resilience in the rural sector through the Sustainable Land Management programme (Budget: \$67,353 in 2021/22)
- ● An inventory of biodiversity and natural features at risk from sea level rise (Biodiversity Strategy - Outcome 5 "Biodiversity is resilient in the face of climate change") has been completed and areas will be prioritised for protection and ecological restoration
- ● Drought response advice and information for rural landowners, including advice on water conservation measures Water demand management for households on reticulated water supply (Budget: Staff time only).

Planned Future Actions

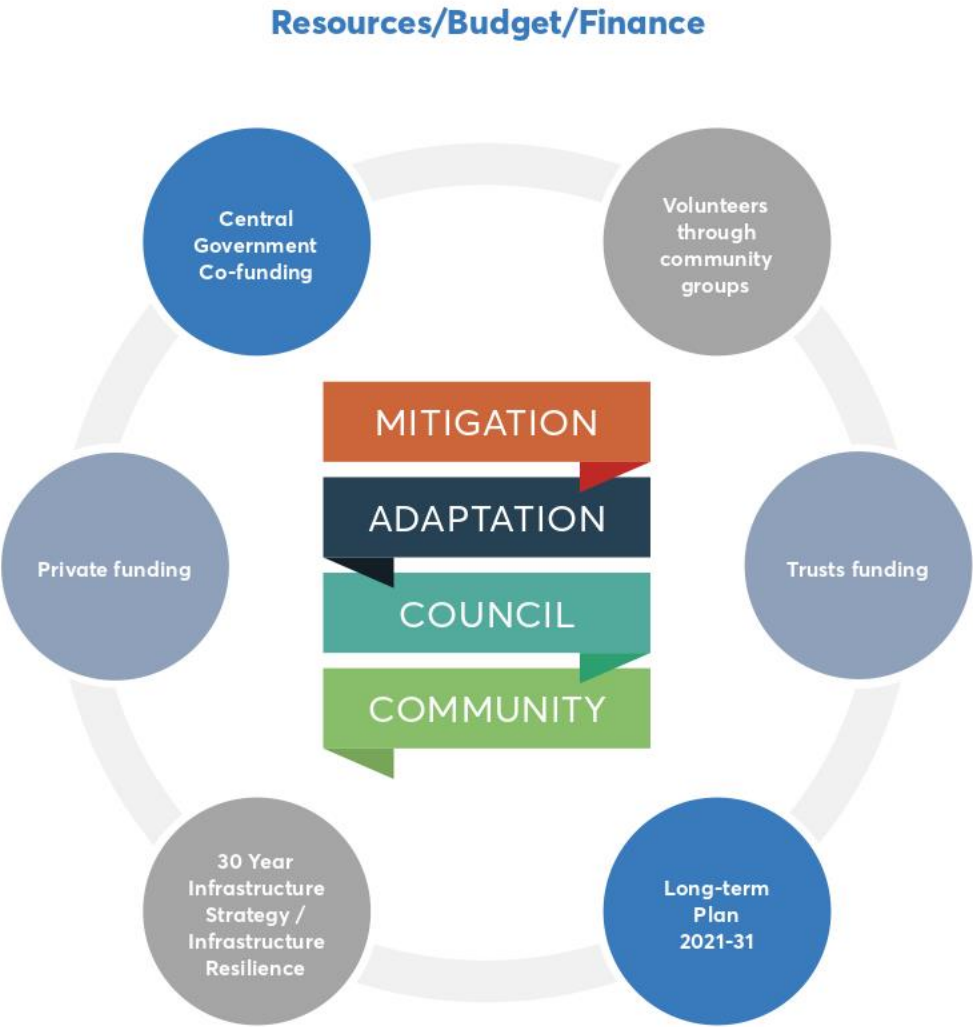
- ●● Community values and objectives will be identified, followed by consideration of risks from hazards, and options available to respond starting with coastal inundation (flooding from sea water) and erosion. Other hazards will be considered separately
- ●●● Feedback will be sought from the community about how they are already responding, or planning to respond, to the risks and impacts from inundation
- ●●● Options/pathways for adaptation for coastal hazards will be developed over the short, medium and long term. Budget is funded through the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031, draft Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan and Infrastructure programmes
- ●●● Adaptation plans, including options, timeframes, funding sources and responsibilities for other climate change hazards will be developed. Budget is funded through the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031, draft Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan and Infrastructure programmes
- ● Nature-based solutions will be assessed when developing adaptation plans
- ● Development of City Centre Spatial Plan which will consider climate change adaptation opportunities for Nelson's city centre (Budget: \$8M for the next 10 years through LTP))
- ● A resilient transport network will be developed
- ● Social infrastructure will be incorporated in the analysis of risks (e.g. schools, medical clinics)
- ● The most suitable platform to engage with the community will be identified
- ●● Engagement with Māori/iwi will take place to assess values and embrace Te Ao Māori view in the development of adaptation actions
- ● Council will plan for and respond to biosecurity incursions that occur as the climate alters (Budget: A portion of \$40,000 for FY 21/22 for emerging pests which are expected to increase as a result of warming air and sea temperatures and changing climate; and \$56,832 in 21/22 for invasive marine species monitoring)
- ● Council will prioritise species and habitat protection programmes based on climate change vulnerability as well as biodiversity significance
- ● Council will use the latest science to inform project delivery, such as using drought resistant plants in areas vulnerable to dry soils, and understanding the requirements for long-term site-specific ecosystem resilience
- ● Council will implement applicable legislation and subordinated documents such as the Climate Adaptation Act (when it is released by Central Government) to support climate adaptation, NZ Coastal policy, etc.
- ●●● Council will respond to the Strategic Plan Act (regional perspective) – which is part of the Resource Management Act reforms
 - Explore the future, find out how communities are affected and develop objectives
 - Identify and evaluate what we can do and develop adaptive management strategies
- Implement strategy
- Monitor strategy using early signals and triggers (decision points) for adjusting between pathways
- ● Council's Water Supply activity will include climate change adaptation projects (Budget: \$2,089,200 through LTP from FY 25/26 till 30/31)
- ●● There are a number of projects in Council's Wastewater/Water activity (Budget: \$3,850,000 for wastewater and \$270,450 for water through LTP)
 - Climate Change – Vulnerability Assessment Implementation from FY 25/26 till 30/31
 - Climate Change – Adaptation Strategy from FY 25/26 till 30/31
- ●●● Climate Change - Adaptation Strategy Implementation from FY 26/27 till 30/31

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“
We agree that the population of the Nelson area will need to be educated to be resilient and proactive if any headway is to be made on this difficult topic. We are encouraged by the work the Council have done and consider the work being done by the Climate Commissioner as vital”.
National Council of Woman

“
NMH is supportive to the flood protection works outlines in the Activity summary. Council's flood protection system is designed to protect people and property from harm while minimising the negative impacts of flood protection activities on the surrounding environment”.
Nelson Marlborough Health, LTP 2021 Process





nelson.govt.nz

A2739648

Nelson Tasman Climate Forum feedback

Climate action plan should be expanded to incorporate all 5 value domains (NB: the domains are listed in the review of the Maitai flood plain). **Amended.**

Page 5 1st para 2nd column you could mention the 1.5 requirement of the ZCA here. **Amended.**

Page 8 Last para , expand co benefits to include clean air, and many health benefits from active transport. **Amended.**

Page 10 last para date the MfE guidelines 2017. **Amended.**

Page 12 The first sentence is fine but the example is not good enough. Procurement policies should be mentioned and behaviour change (internal and external within the community). **Amended.**

Page 12 Offsetting is not discussed , but shown in the process chain. How will this be done and how much will be accepted? **"Unavoidable" added.**

Page 15 and page 20 – Suggested rewording for EnviroSchools. Suggested to include more examples?. **Amended**

Page 26&27 Suggest you put publication dates on these 2 tables. (think they will be changed after AR6). **Amended.** 4th para in black please date the MfE 2017. **Amended.**

Page 30 9thbullet do you mean vulnerable human or nature communities , or both? **Amended to clarify.**

A2772355

Council



17 November 2021

REPORT R26391

Recommendation from 4 November 2021 Environment and Climate Committee - Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 At its 4 November 2021 meeting, the Environment and Climate Committee decided to change the following recommendation to the Committee, to a recommendation to Council.
- 1.2 The original report to the 4 November 2021 Environment and Climate Committee is appended as Attachment 1 (A2781941).

2. Recommendation to Council

That the Council

- 1. ***Receives the report Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update (R26248) and its attachment (A2781941); and***
- 2. ***Approves the revised recommended programme, including:***
 - a) ***pausing work on the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan, to progress a Housing Choice Plan Change to the Nelson Resource Management Plan; and***
 - b) ***continuing with the freshwater planning framework development; and***
 - c) ***continuing with the Coastal Hazard Dynamic Adaptive Pathways planning programme; and***
 - d) ***considering other priorities for plan changes following the enactment of the Natural and Built Environment Act.***

Item 9: Recommendation from 4 November 2021 Environment and Climate
Committee - Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update

Attachments

Attachment 1: A2781941 - Report to 4 November 2021 Infrastructure
Committee - Wakahamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Update [↓](#)

Item 8: Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update



**Environment and Climate
Committee**

4 November 2021

REPORT R26248

Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide an update on the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan and to decide on a revised programme for the Nelson Plan.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The review of the Nelson Resource Management Plan, including the Regional Policy Statement and Air Plan, is underway with draft versions of the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan (WWNP or the Plan) released for public feedback in late 2020 and also September 2021.
- 2.2 Delays to the programme have been driven by planner shortages, COVID-19, additional demands from national policy directions and Resource Management Act (RMA) reforms. The consequence from these delays is that notification of the replacement Plan cannot occur until late 2022/early 2023.
- 2.3 The notification of the Plan needs to be carefully considered against the backdrop of RMA reforms. Replacement legislation is proposed to be introduced at the start of 2022. The Nelson Plan programme will need to consider additional resourcing demands and efficient use of staff, increasing workload and costs associated with the new legislation, and regional demands for a potential new Combined Plan and new Regional Spatial Plan.
- 2.4 The legislative changes fundamentally affect Council's choices and are largely out of its direct control. As an implementor of central government legislation, Council will be obliged to develop new plans and processes once the new laws are enacted. This presents Council with a difficult choice – proceed with the multi-year programme of WWNP and associated costs; or pause until the new legislation is in place so that the WWNP can be re-positioned under the new legislation.
- 2.5 Officers are recommending a pause to the WWNP as the most efficient option given the constraints and risks facing the programme. The new

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programme would mean most of the current work would be 'parked' until it can be used in the replacement plans.

- 2.6 Until the new legislation (the Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) and Spatial Planning Act (SPA)) is in place, officers are recommending a plan change is proposed to the Nelson Resource Management Plan (NRMP) to introduce greater housing choice. The plan change would carry forward the residential work already done under the WWNP – specifically to enable intensification and greater housing choice in urban zones.
- 2.7 The Environmental Planning team would continue to work on coastal hazard planning and freshwater management, while the majority of work on other topics would pause.
- 2.8 Topics for other priority plan changes can be considered following the enactment of RMA replacement legislation.

3. Recommendation

That the Environment and Climate Committee

1. ***Receives the report Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan Programme Update (R26248); and***
2. ***Approves the revised recommended programme, including:***
 - a) ***pausing work on the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan, to progress a Housing Choice Plan Change to the Nelson Resource Management Plan; and***
 - b) ***continuing with the freshwater planning framework development; and***
 - c) ***continuing with the Coastal Hazard Dynamic Adaptive Pathways planning programme; and***
 - d) ***considering other priorities for plan changes following the enactment of the Natural and Built Environment Act.***

4. Background

- 4.1 The Environmental Planning team regularly reports progress on the WWNP via quarterly reports to the Environment and Climate Committee; and since 2020, also reports to the Audit and Risk Subcommittee. The recent reports have signalled risks to the delivery of the planned

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programme due to staff vacancies, increasing activity with resource management national directions and RMA reforms.

- 4.2 As a consequence of the RMA reforms, officers have regularly been considering implications to the WWNP Programme and prepared a range of options for Council to consider. These were considered at a Council workshop on 13 April 2021. Staff were requested to report back to Council for a decision about the WWNP programme later in the year once the Draft NBA had been released and there was more clarity around the timing, anticipated combined plan with Tasman and Marlborough Councils, and the extent of changes that may be required.

5. Discussion

Constraints to the Delivery of the WWNP

- 5.1 Currently, the Environmental Planning team has three planner vacancies – out of a team of 7 planners. A national shortage of planners is affecting the ability to recruit and retain staff. The nature of resource management policy work means retention of local knowledge and experience are important factors in the efficient delivery of the Nelson Plan.
- 5.2 COVID-19 has further delayed the programme, with the recent lockdown pushing out the timeframe for engagement on selected topics of the WWNP; and limited the capacity of some consultants (particularly those working from Auckland).
- 5.3 Activity in resource management national directions has significantly increased with a large volume of material being issued from the Ministry for the Environment for input, submissions and implementation. Alongside this, the complexity of the Freshwater Management package and increased need for iwi and community collaboration means more time is needed to progress the freshwater planning framework.
- 5.4 The constraints on the WWNP programme mean that a notification decision by early to mid-2022 cannot be achieved. There are a number of significant remaining steps prior to notification, including processing and responding to the public feedback on river flood hazards, Airport Zone and airport noise, and Port Noise; integration between topics to ensure cohesive approaches to management of issues; quality control and testing; legal review; notification to iwi and Ministers, responding to their feedback, with then final sign-off by Council.

Opportunities for Better Alignment

- 5.5 Whether Council decides to extend the notification date, or pause until the new legislation is in place, there are a number of opportunities for better outcomes. These include the ability for the Plan to incorporate outcomes from Te Ara ō Whakatū - City Centre Spatial Plan and potentially align with the Future Development Strategy 2022.

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- 5.6 The WWNP may also be able to include anticipated new National Directions, such as the National Policy Statement (NPS) Indigenous Biodiversity, National Emission Reduction Plan, National Adaptation Plan, NPS Highly Productive Soil, and Air Quality National Environmental Standard, among others – if these are available in time to incorporate into the WWNP.
- 5.7 Work on the Freshwater planning framework may also progress, with greater direction from iwi on the Te Mana O Te Wai programme expected over the next 12 months. Noting that this programme is still being developed and timeframes are not yet defined. The freshwater components are required to be processed through a separate plan hearing process prescribed under the NPS Freshwater Management. The planning outputs from the freshwater work may be subject to a variation to the WWNP.
- 5.8 Mapping of Sites and Areas of Significance to Maori is nearing completion and the outcomes and approaches to management of these sites could be aligned with Tasman District Council – providing a more efficient approach for iwi.
- 5.9 The Coastal Hazards Dynamic Adaptive Pathways Planning (DAPP) work is expected to progress through 2022, but may not be at a stage for inclusion in the WWNP (refer 5.15 below). The planning outputs from DAPP may be subject to a variation to the WWNP.

Implications from Resource Management Reform

- 5.10 The resource management reforms are picking up pace. Replacement legislation for the Resource Management Act is anticipated to be introduced to Parliament in early 2022. While there is still uncertainty about the specific content of the legislation and transition timeframes, the Draft Exposure Bill of the Natural and Built Environment Act indicates that planning documents will need to be substantively reconstructed to deliver new outcomes sought in the replacement legislation.
- 5.11 Positively, it is anticipated that much of the WWNP technical work, and work with stakeholders and communities that has helped establish baselines and frameworks for management of issues, will be able to be carried over into plans under the replacement legislation.
- 5.12 The Randerson Report recommended that Nelson City Council, Marlborough District Council and Tasman District Council produce a single combined unitary plan. While Council has not received a formal response from the Minister for the Environment on whether or not the three councils will be producing a combined plan, there have been indications that a combined NBA plan and Regional Spatial Plan with at least Tasman is likely.
- 5.13 Preparing a combined NBA plan and Regional Spatial Plan is likely to take a number of years, and the timeframe will be initially dependant on

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Central Government's delivery of the proposed National Planning Framework, and transitional arrangements. At this time, there is no clarity on these timeframes.

- 5.14 In the interim, an alternative programme is proposed to address Nelson's pressing housing issue. The alternative involves a plan change to the NRMP, to increase housing choice across the urban environment.
- 5.15 The scope of the NRMP plan change would be limited to enabling greater residential development opportunities. The plan change would bring the work that has been done on the WWNP for housing, and restructure it into the NRMP. Due to the limited scope of the plan change, the work already completed, and the engagement on the draft WWNP, it is anticipated that a decision to notify the NRMP plan change could be made in mid-2022.
- 5.16 Other priority topics may be considered for NRMP plan changes once the RMA replacement legislation has been enacted.

Coastal Hazard DAPP Update

- 5.17 Council has commenced working through the DAPP process, having released the coastal inundation mapping for discussion with the community in late 2020. The feedback provided has assisted in obtaining an understanding of the community's values.
- 5.18 In late June, Council held a workshop with stakeholders, iwi representatives and Council technical officers to consider the impacts and associated risks of climate change in relation to coastal inundation and erosion and flooding of the lower Maitai River. The workshop delivered outputs for further consideration and provided an opportunity for participants to obtain an understanding of the work of other organisations. A report on the workshop findings is expected to be publicly released before the end of 2021.
- 5.19 During 2022 and 2023, the DAPP programme will include further work in relation to the identification of values and objectives and vulnerability and risk assessments. Obtaining the views of the community and government agencies through a community engagement process will be an important part of this work.
- 5.20 Along with public engagement, officers are expecting to complete assessments of the coastal areas identified as being prone to erosion, update coastal inundation mapping with the latest LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) remote sensing imaging, and complete the identification and assessment of coastal structures including sea walls.
- 5.21 An essential part of the DAPP process will be the consideration of the implications of anticipated new legislation, national policy directions and the National Adaptation Plan in relation to the Nelson region. The national framework will inform the next stages of the DAPP process, including the completion of vulnerability and risk assessments and consideration of options and pathways.

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6. Options

The following table considers the two main options of:

1. Extending the WWNP programme, with notification in late 2022/early 2023.
2. Notifying a NRMP plan change to increase housing choice, and pausing the WWNP until replacement RMA legislation has been enacted.

Option 1: Extending the WWNP programme	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains momentum on WWNP and presents a largely cohesive planning document (excluding Freshwater). • Allows for alignment with Future Development Strategy and Spatial Plan. • Maintains public confidence in the planning process to date. • Some additional directions may be able to be incorporated, reducing the need for subsequent Variations to the WWNP.
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very high potential for NBA and SPA requirements to start before WWNP process is completed. • Potential for on-going planner shortage to affect programme delivery due to significant size of the programme needs (i.e. preparing parallel plans), and wider national demand for planners. • Higher costs than Option 1 as there are likely to be parallel process for developing Nelson Plan and NBA/SPA plans. • Council will not meet statutory timeframe for notifying changes under the NPS Urban Development. • Freshwater plan variation still required.
Option 2: Notifying a NRMP plan change and pausing the WWNP (recommended option)	
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A housing plan change will implement Council's priorities and the NPS Urban Development (in part).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enables work on freshwater management and coastal hazard DAPP to continue. • Reduces risk of inefficiencies from parallel planning processes occurring, particularly if new legislative transition timeframes are short. • More efficient use of staff resources and budget. Lower costs than Option 1. • Enables time to start considering regional alignment across topics. • Potential capacity to consider other priority issues for NRMP plan changes. • If replacement legislation presents long transition timeframes and does not require a combined plan, the WNNP work can be re-ignited and the WNNP could likely be notified in 2023.
Risks and Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertainty about the timeframes for legislation and the national planning framework. • Uncertainty about transitional arrangements. • Risk that information and technical material becomes out of date. • Risk that feedback from residents, stakeholders and public becomes out of date.

6.2 A large range of variables affect this programme and likely costs. Staff estimate that Option 1 costs will be higher than Option 2 as parallel workstreams are likely to be required to meet new legislative demands, while continuing with the hearing and appeal phases of the WNNP. The exact amount of additional costs have not been estimated at this time as they are difficult to confirm until new legislation is enacted. Under Option 1, the phasing of the budget needs to be adjusted, with some additional costs arising from the delay to notification of the Plan.

6.3 Option 2 costs are likely to be lower than Option 1, based on an assumption that large sections of work that have been completed for the Nelson Plan will be able to be applied to a combined plan under the NBA. Officers also expect significant cost savings to occur due to the reduced appeal process signalled for plan-making. However, there are likely to be unavoidable costs associated with creating two new plans (NBA and SPA plans) and funding a joint committee and independent hearing panel. Under Option 2, costs will also be incurred for progressing the Housing Choice Plan Change, DAPP and freshwater planning processes.

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7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The WWNP programme requires amendment. Two options have been presented for consideration. The recommended option is to pause the WWNP programme until new legislation has been passed, and in the interim, progress a plan change to introduce greater housing choice in the urban area.

8. Next Steps

- 8.1 If the recommended option is accepted, the next steps are to:
- Prepare the scope of a housing plan change.
 - Progress Freshwater Planning work with iwi and Top of the South Councils.
 - Continue the Coastal Hazard DAPP programme.
 - 'Park' remaining topics of the WWNP, in preparation for their use in the NBA plan or Regional Spatial Plan, or priority plan changes in the future.

Author: Maxine Day, Manager Environmental Planning

Attachments

Nil

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Important considerations for decision making
<p>1. Fit with Purpose of Local Government</p> <p>The update on the WWNP provides council with an opportunity to understand factors affecting the programme and make informed decisions on the Resource Management Act functions of local government.</p>
<p>2. Consistency with Community Outcomes and Council Policy</p> <p>The report relates to the following community outcomes: <i>Our urban and rural environments are people-friendly, well planned and sustainably managed</i></p>
<p>3. Risk</p> <p>There are low risks from the decisions in this report. The WWNP represents a substantial change in how our natural and built environment will be managed. Delays to its release affect how impacts are managed and how people use and develop their land. However, the current NRMP does provide a level of control on activities and protection for the environment, meaning that a delay to the WWNP programme has low risks.</p>
<p>4. Financial impact</p> <p>Detailed financial impacts of the options cannot yet be provided, noting the large range of variables that may affect this programme. A broad consideration of costs shows that Option 2 is expected to have lower costs than Option 1.</p> <p>Option 1 enables the WWNP programme to use the budget contained in the Long Term Plan 2021 – 2031; however costs for parallel workstreams (to develop additional plans under NBA and SPA) will be additional costs and have not yet been included in the LTP. These additional costs are difficult to estimate accurately until new legislation is enacted.</p> <p>Under Option 1, the phasing of the budget needs to be adjusted, with some additional costs arising from the delay. These costs will primarily be staff costs, and some consultant costs from incorporating new directions, the FDS and Spatial Plan. Currently the WWNP is underspent on its budget. The WWNP costs are loan funded as a capital project.</p> <p>Option 2 costs are expected to be lower than Option 2 costs as much of the technical work to underpin policy development has already occurred under the WWNP programme. The value from that technical work is expected to be applied to the new plan/s. Officers also expect significant</p>

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<p>cost savings to occur due to the reduced appeal process signalled for plan-making. However, there are likely to be unavoidable costs associated with creating two new plans and funding a joint committee and independent hearing panel.</p> <p>Under Option 2, costs will also be incurred for progressing the Housing Choice Plan Change, DAPP and freshwater planning processes.</p> <p>Costs currently budgeted in the LTP 2021-2031 could be reallocated under Option 2, and may require further adjustment once the new legislation has been enacted (estimated in late 2022).</p>
<p>5. Degree of significance and level of engagement</p> <p>This matter is of low/medium significance because the work does not involve a change to a level or service, has a moderate financial impact, impacts some aspirations of the community, does not involve a strategic asset, may affect council debt to a low-medium level, is not an irreversible decision, and there is limited historic interest. No consultation on this decision is proposed.</p>
<p>6. Climate Impact</p> <p>This report relates to the timing of policy development that may impact how climate change impacts are managed or adapted to. In particular, the report provides an update on the DAPP programme.</p>
<p>7. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process</p> <p>The WWNP programme is supported by the eight iwi of Te Tau Ihu through an Iwi Working Group. The constraints on the programme and decision/s being sought in this report have been discussed with that working group.</p>
<p>8. Delegations</p> <p>The Environment and Climate Change Committee has the following delegations to consider the removal of minimum car parking rates from the Nelson Resource Management Plan:</p> <p><i>Areas of Responsibility:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>District Plan</i> <p><i>Delegations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Developing, approving, monitoring and reviewing policies and Plans</i> <p><i>Powers to Recommend (if applicable):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Approval of final versions of strategies, policies and plans</i>

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Report to 4 November 2021 Environment and Climate Committee