Regional Pest Management Plan

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BIOSECURITY ACT 1993

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Only Marlborough

Cover Images

Front

Left – Rough horsetail (*Equisetum hyemale*). A species earlier used in landscaping/ornamental settings. It has only recently shown to be invasive by way of establishing in natural settings. To be managed under a Sustained Control programme.

Centre – Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*). A marine fouling organism and pest that can establish very quickly and in large numbers. An imminent threat to Marlborough's aquaculture industry and marine environment. To be managed under an Exclusion programme to prevent establishment

Right - Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). One of the world's most invasive plant species threatening riparian areas and wetlands. Once used in ornamental settings with the small number of sites in Marlborough to be managed under a Sustained Control programme.

Rear

Top – A South Marlborough landscape – in this case, the Avon Valley, south-west of Blenheim.

Centre – Operational staff from the Department of Conservation (DOC) removing Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) during a joint operation between DOC and Marlborough District Council.

Bottom – Picton Harbour, the gateway to Queen Charlotte Sound.

Regional Pest Management Plan

It is hereby certified that this is a correct copy of the Regional Pest Management Plan prepared under the Biosecurity Act 1993 as approved by resolution of the Marlborough District Council on 25 June 2020.

M S Wheeler

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Common Seal of the Marlborough District was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

Note –

This Plan is not operational until the operative date below and the Common Seal of Marlborough District Council has been affixed here.

M S Wheeler

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

J C Leggett

MAYOR

Date Operative: 1 September 2020

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Amendments

Date	Amendment/action
20 September 2018	Regional Pest Management Plan made by Council by affixing the Common Seal (operative date 1 October 2018).
25 June 2020	Council decision to amend the Plan to incorporate a programme for pest conifers (operative date 1 September 2020).

Part One Introduction and Statutory Requirements

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Regional Pest Management Plan 2018 (RPMP) is to outline the framework to efficiently and effectively manage specified organisms in the Marlborough region.

The RPMP will empower Marlborough District Council (Council) to exercise the relevant advisory, service delivery and regulatory provisions available under the Biosecurity act 1993 (Act) to deliver the specific objectives identified in Part Two: Pest Management.

While the RPMP is a major guiding mechanism for Council targeting specific organisms, it is not the only mechanism used by Council. Other services related to biosecurity are implemented by Council and guided by the Council's overarching Biosecurity Strategy and levels of service decisions made by Council. For example, Council's approach to a response involving a new biosecurity threat to the region, irrespective of the presence of the RPMP, is articulated in Appendix 1 (page 113). Some RPMP programmes, such as that for wallabies, rooks and brushtail possums, contain an objective to keep Marlborough free of these organisms. In the event they are detected in Marlborough, Council may need to initiate a response to address the immediate threat of establishment and/or assess the status of the population detected and decide next steps.

The Act has prerequisite criteria that must be met to justify intervention using a RPMP. This RPMP identifies programmes for organisms that, in the opinion and analysis undertaken by Council, meet those prerequisite criteria.

1.2 Context

Marlborough is a province with an extensive coastline, productive river valleys and high country. Its major industries are aquaculture, viticulture, pastoral farming and forestry. It is also a region with a relatively low ratepayer base - some 24,000 - of an overall population of 46,200. Therefore through this RPMP Council has prioritised the particular pests identified as being of the most risk, either directly or indirectly, to these main industries and/or the environment in general. Some programmes in the RPMP are directed towards the exclusion of pests not yet established in Marlborough.

Established species that are commonly identified as a risk to the wider biodiversity values across Marlborough will be managed under separate biodiversity protection programmes, usually on the basis of protecting values at specific places. Management of these species through RPMP programmes is often not feasible which is why they do not appear in this RPMP.

1.3 Coverage

Unless otherwise stated in an individual pest programme, the RPMP will operate within the administrative boundaries of the Marlborough District, including territorial waters, and covers a total area (land and sea) of 1,768,886 hectares.

Of note is that in accordance with section 69(5) of the Act, a good neighbour rule within the RPMP is the only way in which the RPMP may cause the Crown to be bound to meet obligations. There is however no limitation on the Crown agreeing in principle to fund, support, or voluntarily meet obligations associated with RPMP programmes and Council will continue to foster this approach.

Map 1: The Marlborough District

1.4 Duration

The RPMP will take effect on the date it becomes operative under section 77 of the Act (see inside cover). The RPMP will be reviewed in accordance with section 100D of the Act, which outlines that a mandatory review must take place within 12 months of the RPMP being in effect for a period 10 years. Therefore, that mandatory review must be initiated on or before 1 October 2027 and the RPMP will terminate in the absence of a review on 2 October 2028.

Under the provisions of section 100D, reviews affecting part of the RPMP can take place at any time. In addition, minor changes to the RPMP can also be made under section 100G. Such reviews will not alter the underlying duration outlined within this section. Such reviews will not alter the underlying duration outlined within this section

2. Responsibilities and obligations

2.1 The management agency

Council is the management agency responsible for implementing the RPMP. Council is satisfied that it meets the requirements of section 100 of the Act in that it:

a) is accountable to the RPMP funders, including any Crown agencies, through the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002;

b) is acceptable to the funders and those persons subject to the RPMP management provisions because it implemented previous Regional Pest Management Strategies; and

c) has the capacity, competency and expertise to implement the RPMP.

2.2 Compensation and disposal of receipts

The RPMP does not provide for compensation to be paid to any persons meeting their obligations under its implementation. However, should the disposal of a pest or associated organism provide any net proceeds, a person will be paid disbursement in the manner noted under section 100I of the Act.

2.3 Affected parties

2.3.1 Occupiers

For some programmes, occupiers are responsible for the management of pests in accordance with the applicable rules for that programme. They may also be obliged to report new incidences of the pest not previously known.

If occupiers are found to be not complying with their obligations, Council can use enforcement and/or prosecution provisions available within the Act (see Section 8, page 101).

The term occupier has a wide definition under the Act and includes:

- the person who physically occupies the place; and
- the owner of the place; and
- any agent, employee or other person acting or apparently acting in the general management or control of the place.

Under the Act, place includes: any building, conveyance, craft, land or structure and the bed and waters of the sea and any canal, lake, pond, river or stream.

An owner and/or occupier cannot stop an authorised person from entering a place at any reasonable time to:

- find out whether pests are on the property;
- manage pests; or
- ensure the owner and/or occupier is complying with biosecurity law.

While the occupier may choose the methods they will use to control any pests, they must also comply with the requirements under other legislation (e.g. Resource Management Act 1991 and/or the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996).

This RPMP treats all private land equitably and emphasises the responsibilities and obligations of all occupiers, including Māori. Council acknowledges the complex and variable relationships of Māori land ownership and occupation. This includes multiple owners (including lessees) or a range of corporate management systems under the Companies Act 1993 or Te Ture Māori Whenua Act 1993. Where owners and/or occupiers are unknown, the Māori Land Court or the Registrar of Companies may help to identify and communicate with them.

2.3.2 Legal roads

The Act allows the option of making either road authorities or adjoining occupiers responsible for pest management within legal road corridors (see section 6(1) of the Act).

As such, Marlborough Roads (a company responsible for managing both state highways and local authority roads in Marlborough) is required to control the pests in the RPMP in accordance with RPMP objectives and rules, within all **formed legal roads**, including:

a) rest areas;

b) weighpit and stockpile sites;

c) except where:

   i) the boundary is unfenced and the adjacent owner has ready access to the legal road (for example unfenced legal roads through pasture);

   ii) the pests broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) have encroached from adjacent land onto legal road and are endemic to the locality. This only applies when the occupiers of adjacent land are not undertaking reasonable steps to manage broom and gorse. If the occupier is undertaking reasonable steps and programme obligations apply, then the obligation stands.

Adjoining occupiers are required to control pests on all **unformed legal roads** or “paper roads”.

3. Matters required by the National Policy Direction (NPD) for Pest Management

The NPD was approved by the Governor-General on 24 September 2015. The stated purpose of the NPD is to ensure that activities under Part 5 of the Act (Pest Management) provide the best use of available resources for New Zealand’s best interests, and align with each other (when necessary), to help achieve the purpose of Part 5.

Matters specifically addressed in this RPMP include:

1. Programme objectives are set in accordance with clause 4 of the NPD.

2. Programmes are described in accordance with clause 5 of the NPD.

3. Processes used to determine the allocation of costs and funding were done so in alignment with clause 7 of the NPD.

4. Rules identified as a Good Neighbour Rule were done so in accordance with clause 8 of the NPD.

Part Two Pest Programmes

4. Pests

The plants, animals and organisms listed in Table 1 are to be managed through programmes within the RPMP for Marlborough. As a result, these organisms are declared pests in accordance with the Act. The table also indicates what management programme or programmes will apply to the pest and if a Good Neighbour Rule (GNR) applies.

Attention is also drawn to:

- The general administrative powers of inspection and entry, contained in Part 6 of the Act, which would be made available to the Council; and
- The statutory obligations of any person under sections 52 and 53 of the Act. These sections prohibit anyone from selling, propagating or distributing any pest, or part of a pest, should they be specified as such in an RPMP. Not complying with sections 52 and 53 is an offence under the Act and may result in the penalties noted in section 157(1) of the Act.

Table 1: Pests to be managed in the RPMP

Common Name	Scientific Name	Management Programme	GNR Applies
African feather grass	*Cenchrus macrourus*	Sustained Control	
Bathurst bur	*Xanthium spinosum*	Sustained Control	
Boneseed	*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*	Sustained Control	
Broom	*Cytisus scoparius*	Sustained Control	Yes
Brushtail possum	*Trichosurus vulpecula*	Exclusion	
Bur daisy	*Calotis lappulacea*	Eradication	
Cathedral bells	*Cobaea scandens*	Sustained Control	
Chilean needle grass	*Nassella neesiana*	Sustained Control	
Chinese pennisetum	*Pennisetum alopecuroides*	Sustained Control	
Climbing spindleberry	*Celastrus orbiculatus*	Eradication	
Cotton thistle	*Onopordum acanthium*	Sustained Control	
Eel grass	*Vallisneria australis*	Sustained Control	
Evergreen buckthorn	*Rhamnus alaternus*	Sustained Control	
Giant needle grass	*Austrostipa rudis*	Sustained Control	
Gorse	*Ulex europaeus*	Sustained Control	Yes
Kangaroo grass	*Themeda triandra*	Sustained Control	
Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Sustained Control	
Mediterranean fanworm	*Sabella spallanzanii*	Exclusion	
Moth plant	*Araujia hortorum*	Sustained Control	
Nassella tussock	*Nassella trichotoma*	Sustained Control	
Parrots feather	*Myriophyllum aquaticum*	Sustained Control	
Pest conifers	*Various sp. – see programme for details*	Progressive Containment	Yes
Purple loosestrife	*Lythrum salicaria*	Sustained Control	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Management Programme	GNR Applies
Rabbits - feral	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*	Sustained Control	
Reed sweet grass	*Glyceria maxima*	Sustained Control	
Rooks	*Corvus frugilegus*	Exclusion	
Rough horsetail	*Equisetum hyemale*	Sustained Control	
Saffron thistle	*Carthamus lanatus*	Sustained Control	
Senegal tea	*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*	Exclusion	
Spartina	*Spartina anglica*	Eradication	
Tall wheat grass	*Thinopyrum ponticum*	Sustained Control	
Wallabies	Family Macropodidae	Exclusion	
White-edged nightshade	*Solanum marginatum*	Sustained Control	
Willow-leaved hakea	*Hakea salicifolia*	Eradication	
Woolly nightshade	*Solanum mauritianum*	Sustained Control	

4.1 Programme explanations

The programme for each pest aligns with the National Policy Direction for Pest Management 2015 which are outlined below. Each programme type relates to a corresponding outcome that the objective(s) for the programme must contain:

1. "Exclusion Programme" in which the intermediate outcome for the programme is to prevent the establishment of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, that is present in New Zealand but not yet established in an area.
2. "Eradication Programme" in which the intermediate outcome for the programme is to reduce the infestation level of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to zero levels in an area in the short to medium term.
3. "Progressive Containment Programme" in which the intermediate outcome for the programme is to contain or reduce the geographic distribution of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to an area over time.
4. "Sustained Control Programme" in which the intermediate outcome for the programme is to provide for ongoing control of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.
5. "Site-led Pest Programme" in which the intermediate outcome for the programme is that the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, that is capable of causing damage to a place is excluded or eradicated from that place, or is contained, reduced or controlled within the place to an extent that protects the values of that place.

5. Programmes

5.1 African feather grass *(Cenchrus macrourus)*

Why is it a threat?

African feather grass is a robust, perennial grass with spreading rhizomes that originates from tropical and southern Africa. It forms dense tussocks and produces long, narrow flower heads. It is a garden plant that has escaped into surrounding habitat. It spreads utilising seeds and rhizomes. African feather grass is unpalatable to stock and is a threat to pastoral production if left uncontrolled. This plant is very adaptable and will also displace native species in wetlands. It will colonise pastoral land, wetlands, roadsides, urban areas and forest margins throughout Marlborough if left uncontrolled.

After years of intensive management, infestations are now few and manageable located near Riverlands, Wharanui and Ngakuta Bay.

5.1.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control of African feather grass (*Cenchrus macrourus*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

a) Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors.

b) Delivering a service to manage African feather grass in liaison with the occupier.

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

a) Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.1.2 Rules

Rule 5.1.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of African feather grass (*Cenchrus macrourus*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.2 Bathurst bur *(Xanthium spinosum)*

Why is it a threat?

Bathurst bur is a shrubby annual that originates from South America. It spreads utilising hooked seeds. These hooked seeds, along with their long sharp spines, injure stock and contaminate wool. Bathurst bur will also displace preferred pasture species and if left uncontrolled will interfere with cereal harvesting.

With large areas of Marlborough in pastoral sheep farming systems in particular, keeping the small number of known infested areas near Blenheim under management will ensure this species does not create impacts.

5.2.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control bathurst bur (*Xanthium spinosum*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2014 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control bathurst bur in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.2.2 Rules

Rule 5.2.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of bathurst bur (*Xanthium spinosum*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.3 Boneseed *(Chrysanthemoides monilifera)*

Why is it a threat?

Boneseed is an evergreen perennial shrub that originates from the Cape region of South Africa. It has a vigorous root system, produces many seeds, which are resistant to fire, and tolerates very dry conditions. Birds disperse its seed as a result of eating its fruit. The fruit falls to the ground if not eaten. It is one of New Zealand's most serious environmental weeds, as it will displace native species on coastal cliffs, in salt marshes and on sand dunes. It will grow on islands, sand dunes and coastal cliffs and in disturbed or regenerating forest, ungrazed pasture, riverbeds, roadsides, parks, quarries, wastelands and exotic plantations.

Infestations are known in the Queen Charlotte Sound, Tory Channel, at Rarangi and Lake Timara. Ongoing management will ensure that susceptible habitats both in these areas and further afield are protected.

5.3.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2015 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service in conjunction with the Department of Conservation to manage boneseed.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

a) Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.3.2 Rules

Rule 5.3.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.4 Broom *(Cytisus scoparius)*

Why is it a threat?

Broom is an erect perennial shrub that will grow up to 3 metres high and originates from Eurasia. It will form dense patches if left uncontrolled. It seeds explosive fruits, which are resistant to fire. Broom will displace preferred pasture species and dense patches of it will impede stock access. It will grow on pastoral country, in hedgerows, waste places and plantations from the coast to high altitudes. Its vigorous growth habit will displace native herbaceous species. The presence of broom will greatly reduce the economic viability of a farming unit.

While broom is widespread in Marlborough, there are some major catchments that are either free from broom or have low infestation levels. In other parts of the district, areas clear and infested form a patchwork meaning infestations moving across boundaries become a threat to clear areas.

5.4.1 Objectives

5.4.1.1 Over the duration of the RPMP, control broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) in the Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone (excluding the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area), Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

5.4.1.2 Over the duration of the RPMP, control broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) across the remainder of the district, in situations where the presence of broom on boundaries threatens adjoining land clear of or being managed for broom and to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcomes:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Pests are to be destroyed.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, propagated, sold or distributed).

2) Council Inspection

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.4.2 Rules

Rule 5.4.2.1

Occupiers within the Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone (see Map 2, page 16) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless:

a) The land they occupy falls within the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area (see Map 2, page 16) which is subject to Rule 5.4.2.2 or;

b) A management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.4.2.2

Occupiers of land within the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area (see Map 2, page 16) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), on land they occupy, each year before they produce seed 10 metres inside the Containment Area boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.4.2.3

Occupiers within the Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Control Zone (see Map 3, page 17) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless:

a) The land they occupy falls within the Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Containment Area (see Map 3, page 17) which is the subject of Rule 5.4.2.4 or;

b) A management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.4

Occupiers of land within the Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Containment Area (see Map 3, page 17) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), on land they occupy, each year before they produce seed 10 metres inside the Containment Area boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.5

Occupiers within the Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zone (see Map 4, page 18), shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless a management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.6

No person shall transport any risk goods into the Upper Awatere, Upper Wairau or Waima/Ure Broom Control Zones that may contain broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plant material.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.7 (Good Neighbour Rule)

Occupiers shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land they occupy, within 10 metres of their property boundary each year before they produce seed, where the adjoining land is clear of, or under management for broom.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.8

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) on land that they occupy within the Upper Awatere, Upper Wairau or Waima/Ure Broom Control Zones within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data held by Council is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rules:

The purpose of Rules 5.4.2.1 - 5.4.2.5 are in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers within the respective Broom Control Zones are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest establishing on that land.

The purpose of Rule 5.4.2.6 is in accordance with section 73(5)(e) in that activities that may be at risk of introducing broom in to the Control Zones are regulated as the constant re-introduction of broom into the Control Zones via contaminated goods will affect the implementation of the RPMP.

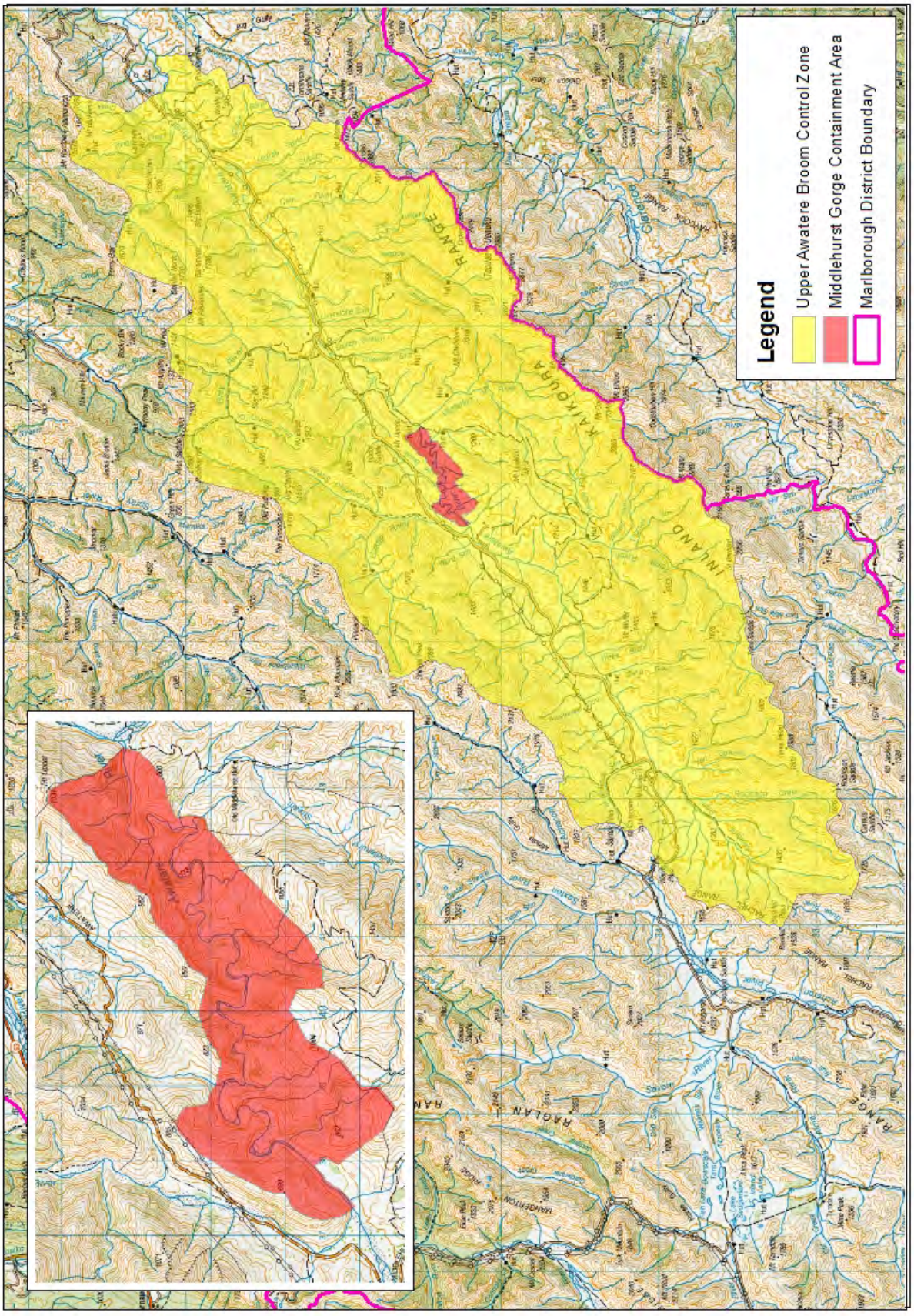
The purpose of Rule 5.4.2.7 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers of land harbouring an infestation of broom are being required to take specified actions to prevent spread pressure onto adjoining properties where the adjoining land is clear of, or under management for broom.

The purpose of Rule 5.4.2.8 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties in addition to Council's own monitoring will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

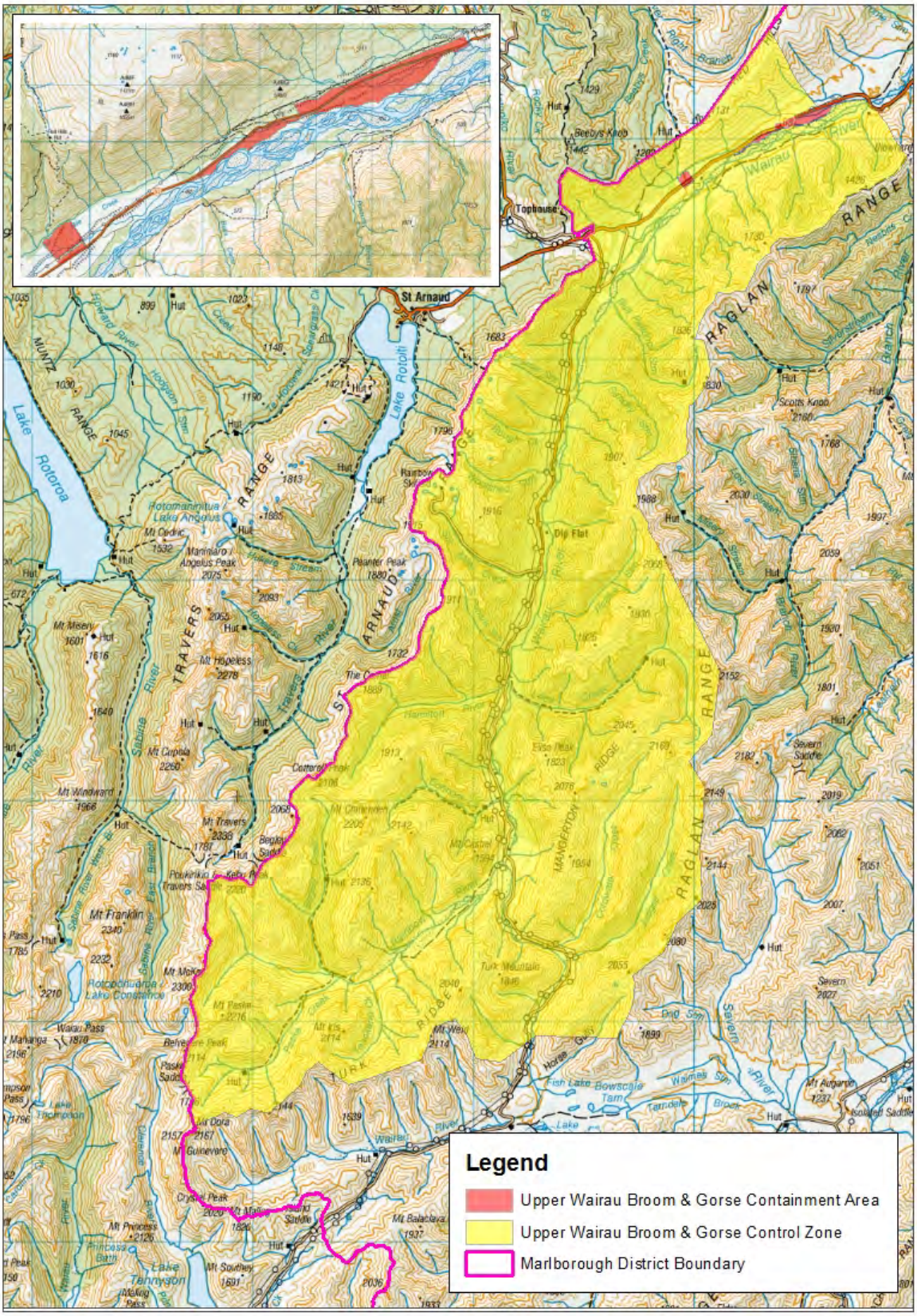
Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

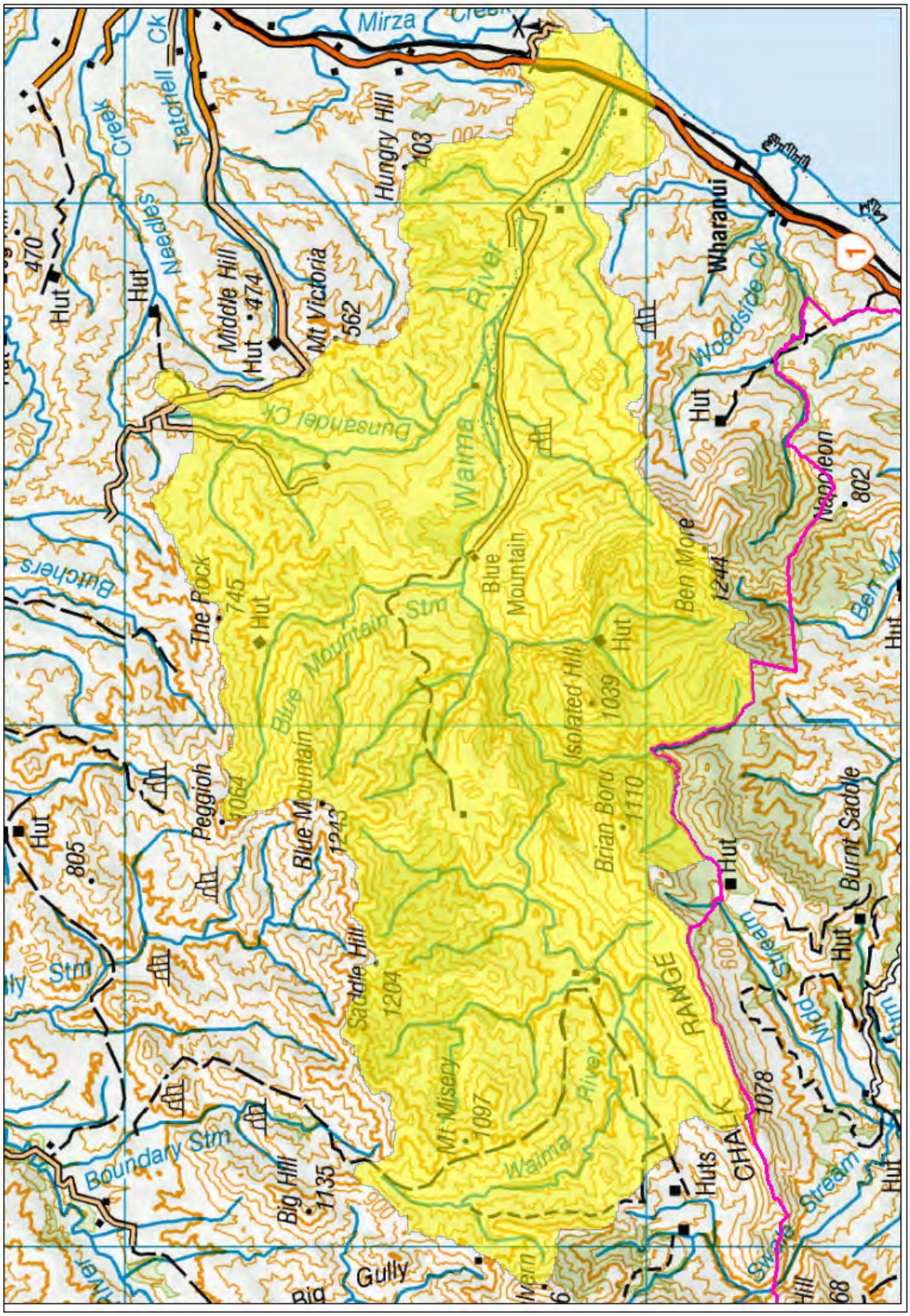
Council as the management agency will administer these rules.



Map 2: Upper Awatere Broom Programme



Map 3: Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Programme



Map 4: Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zone

5.5 Brushtail possum *(Trichosurus vulpecula)*

Why is it a threat?

The brushtail possum (known as possums) originates from Australia. They were released in New Zealand in the late 1800s to establish a fur trade similar to that flourishing in Australia at the time. Possums selectively browse preferred plant species. They cause extensive canopy defoliation in native forest. They also cause economic damage in exotic forest plantations. Possums will prey on ground and tree nesting birds and their eggs. The possum is a recognised vector in the spread of the disease bovine tuberculosis to domestic livestock.

Whilst the brushtail possum has long been established on mainland Marlborough, numerous islands in the Marlborough Sounds are free from the impact of brushtail possums. These islands range from small island sanctuaries through to the large islands of Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island and Arapaoa Island. Protecting these islands is the focus of this programme.

5.5.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, prevent the establishment of brushtail possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula)* on islands currently known to be possum-free in the Marlborough Sounds (see Appendix 2, page 114 and Map 5, page 21) to prevent future impacts on the environment and to enable enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	**Eradication**	**Progressive Containment**	**Sustained Control**	**Site-led**

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation, may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to respond and investigate sightings of possums on the islands.

b) Delivering a service to eradicate possums in liaison with land owners/occupiers if applicable.

c) Carry out surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) The use of administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (bred, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

b) Facilitate or commission research.

5.5.2 Rules

Rule 5.5.2.1

Any person is required to notify Council of the presence of brushtail possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), observed or suspected on any of the possum-free islands, within 24 hours of the initial observation or suspicion.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.5.2.2

No person shall transport, move or distribute brushtail possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) to or within 1 kilometre of a possum-free island listed in Appendix 2, page 114 and shown on Map 5, page 21.

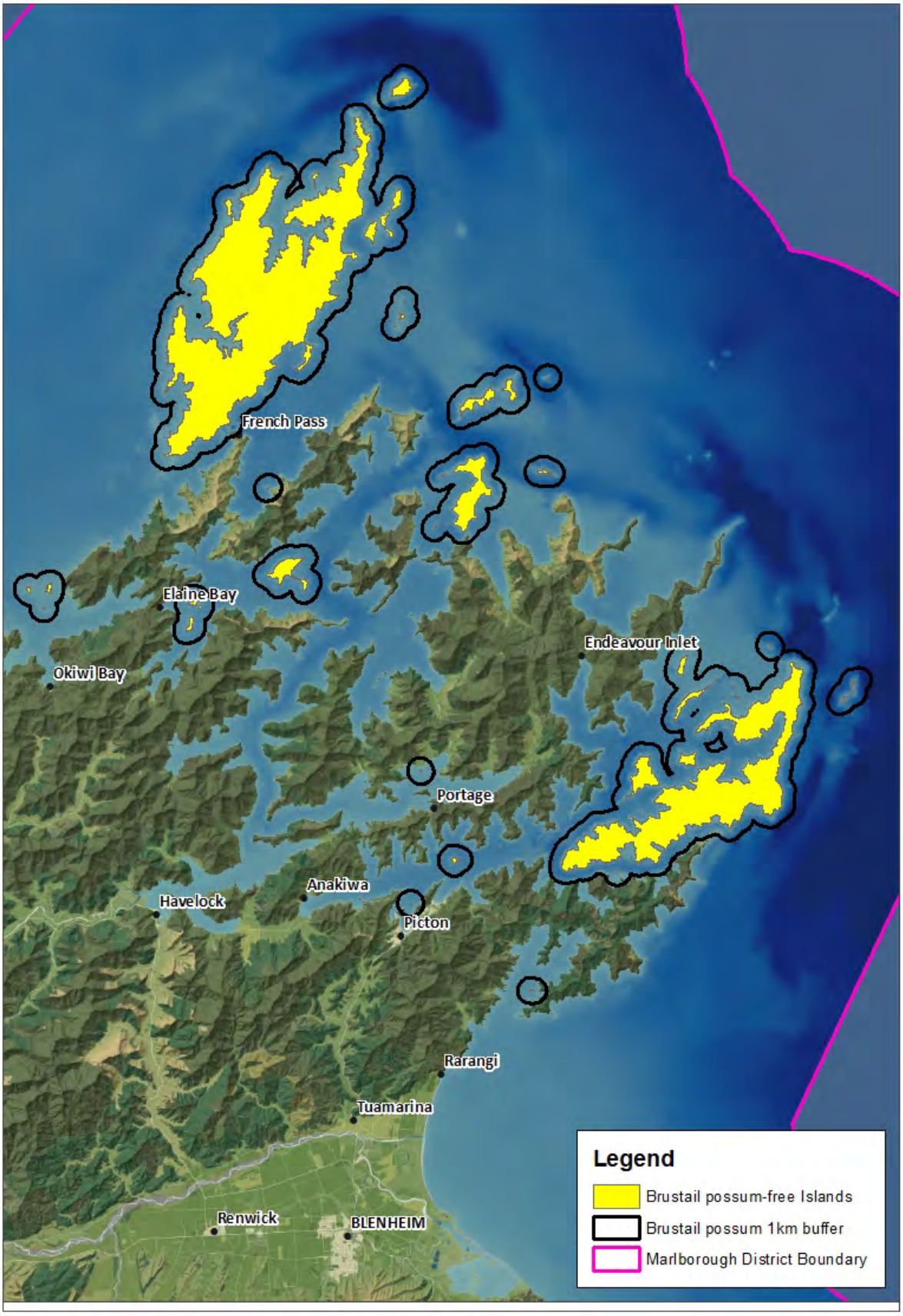
A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of Rule 5.5.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) for the entire community to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring people to notify Council, in addition to the Department of Conservation or Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme.

The purpose of Rule 5.5.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(e) in that the transport, movement or distribution of possums within 1 kilometre of the possum-free islands is seen as an activity that can affect measures taken to implement the RPMP. There is an increased risk of the assisted introduction of possums over and above the background risk of self-introduction via swimming or arriving on flotsam.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.



Map 5: Brushtail Possum Programme

5.6 Bur daisy *(Calotis lappulacea)*

Why is it a threat?

Bur daisy is an erect perennial herb, which originates from Australia. It grows up to 30 centimetres high and has small yellow flower heads, which form spiny burs. It displaces desirable pasture species and the spiny burs contaminate wool. It has the potential to spread throughout Marlborough's dry grassland country.

With only one known infestation and large areas of Marlborough in pastoral sheep farming systems in particular, keeping the single infestation under management will ensure this species does not create future impacts across the district.

5.6.1 Objectives

5.6.1.1 By 2035, bur daisy (*Calotis lappulacea*) will be controlled to zero density, where no plants are found in the preceding 5 years, in the Marlborough district to prevent adverse effects on the economy.

5.6.1.2 By the end of the term of this RPMP, bur daisy (*Calotis lappulacea*) will only be found at densities less than or equal to 0.05 plants per man hour effort in the Marlborough district to prevent adverse effects on the economy.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control bur daisy in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.6.2 Rules

Rule 5.6.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of bur daisy (*Calotis lappulacea*) on land that they occupy.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.7 Cathedral bells *(Cobaea scandens)*

Why is it a threat?

Cathedral bells is a climbing perennial evergreen vine which can grow to 6 metres. The plant originates from Central and South America. The vine has distinctive large round deep purple lantern like flowers. The fruit are large and oval from 6-10 centimetres long and release winged seeds. The plant is susceptible to frost and heavy shading. Occasionally plants will root from nodes on the stems where they touch the ground. Seed is dispersed by wind over short distances and can be spread by fragments or seed in water, gravel or soil over large distances. It has the potential to become a major weed in a variety of habitats where it will displace native species.

There are a very small number of sites in Marlborough, within the Marlborough Sounds, that are under intensive management.

5.7.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service in conjunction with the Department of Conservation to manage cathedral bells.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

a) Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

i) The presence of pests is to be reported.

ii) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.7.2 Rules

Rule 5.7.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is for occupiers to assist Council with surveillance. Having occupiers notifying Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Department of Conservation surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.8 Chilean needle grass *(Nassella neesiana)*

Why is it a threat?

Chilean needle grass (CNG) is highly invasive, exhibits high reproductive rates, rapid growth and high climatic and soil tolerance. It quickly forms dense cover over large areas which exclude preferred pasture species. This reduces the productivity of the land for pastoral farmers through direct impact on livestock and the limitations imposed to minimise further spread of the species. Chilean needle grass can also pose a threat to natural tussock and grassland ecosystems. Chilean needle grass flowers between November and April. A Chilean needle grass adult plant is unpalatable to stock during the flowering period.

Chilean needle grass is capable of producing seed by three means:

1. Aerial seeds;
2. Stem seeds; and
3. Basal seeds (cleistogenes).

The aerial seeds have sharp tips, which can bore into the eyes and pelts of animals. The seeds penetrate wool and reduce agricultural capability within the region. Chilean needle grass seed is not readily spread by wind but is easily spread by machinery, livestock, hay, waterways and people.

5.8.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to baseline levels* to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

*A baseline assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the RPMP commences.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control Chilean needle grass, in liaison with the occupier.

b) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Certain high spread risk activities are regulated.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

f) Continue to engage with the Chilean Needle Grass Action Group (CNGAG) Marlborough.

5.8.2 Rules

Rule 5.8.2.1

Occupiers shall destroy all Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless a management plan* approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

*A management plan for the purposes of Rule 5.8.2.1 is an agreed plan between the occupier and Council that outlines how Chilean needle grass will be managed on the land they occupy and will contain administration provisions relating to the maintenance of the RPMP.

Note 1: A minimum requirement (but may not be the only requirement) for management plans approved by Council for Chilean needle grass will be the annual destruction of plants within 20 metres of property boundaries, except on boundaries with other heavily infested properties.

Note 2: Approved management plans will be dynamic and available to the occupier for reference at any time via the online Property File system.

Rule 5.8.2.2

No person shall move sheep from a property with a known infestation of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*), unless:

1. The sheep are being transported directly to slaughter, or
2. The sheep were solely grazed in an unaffected area of the property, as agreed to by Council,

A record that details the steps taken to meet the rule requirement must be kept for a minimum period of 5 years from the date of movement.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.8.2.3

No person shall move cattle from a property with a known infestation of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*), unless:

1. The cattle are being transported directly to slaughter, or
2. The cattle were solely grazed in an unaffected area of the property, as agreed to by Council, or
3. The movement is taking place between 1 April and 30 September, and
4. The movement is taking place when ground conditions are dry, and
5. The cattle are stood down (to empty out), for 12 hours prior to movement.

A record that details the steps taken to meet the rule requirement must be kept for a minimum period of 5 years from the date of movement.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.8.2.4

No person shall move any domestic animal or farmed livestock (excluding sheep and cattle) off a property containing a known infestation of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*) if that domestic animal or farmed livestock is carrying seed or plant parts of Chilean needle grass.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.8.2.5

No person shall move any machinery off a property containing a known infestation of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*), unless:

1. The machinery has been cleaned on the originating property to a standard where there is no visible soil or organic matter; and
2. The machinery has been inspected by a person approved by Council to inspect machinery for the purposes of this rule; or
3. The machinery has been operating within an unaffected area of the property, as agreed to by Council.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: An exemption to this Rule may be available. See section 5.8.3 below and also Section 7, page 100.

Rule 5.8.2.6

No person shall move any hay or other stock feed/arable crop product off a property containing a known infestation of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*), unless the hay or any other stock feed/arable crop has originated from an unaffected area of the property, as agreed to by Council.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.8.2.7

No person shall spread or cause to spread plant parts of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*) including seed or soil likely to contain seed from an infested property.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.8.2.8

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation* of Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

***** Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rules:

The purpose of Rule 5.8.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers within an infestation of Chilean needle grass are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest establishing on that land.

The purpose of Rules 5.8.2.2 to 5.8.2.7 are in accordance with section 73(5)(e) in that activities that may be at risk of introducing Chilean needle grass into new unaffected areas of Marlborough are regulated as the constant threat of movement via contaminated goods will affect the implementation of the RPMP.

The purpose of Rule 5.8.2.8 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.

5.8.3 Exemptions

Exemptions to any of these rules may be developed by Council where necessary, or via application, and are assessed on a case by case basis. When applied for, they can be granted, granted with conditions or denied in accordance with section 78 of the Biosecurity Act 1993. The detailed process is in Section 7 on page 94.

5.9 Chinese pennisetum *(Pennisetem alopecuroides)*

Why is it a threat?

Chinese pennisetum is a perennial, tufted grass that originates from Eastern Asia. It will grow up to 1 metre high and has purple seed heads, which look like small bottlebrushes. It spreads using seed, which attaches itself to passing animals. It is capable of forming dense mats and is unpalatable to stock. Chinese pennisetum prefers higher rainfall areas and has the potential to invade large areas of Marlborough.

After many years of management in the areas of Port Underwood, Whatamango Bay and the Onamalutu Valley, infestation are now at very low levels but persistent.

5.9.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control Chinese pennisetum (*Pennisetum alopecuroides*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control Chinese pennisetum in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.9.2 Rules

Rule 5.9.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of Chinese pennisetum (*Pennisetum alopecuroides*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.10 Climbing spindleberry *(Celastrus orbiculatus)*

Why is it a threat?

Climbing spindleberry is a vigorous climber, which originates from Eastern Asia. It has the ability to kill trees by smothering them due to its shade tolerance and rampant growth. Birds will disperse its seed into remote areas. It has a bad record overseas, causing major problems in plantation forests and natural areas of Eastern Asia.

There are a very small number of sites in Marlborough, within the Marlborough Sounds, that are under intensive management.

5.10.1 Objective

By the end of the term of this RPMP, climbing spindleberry (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) on all known sites in the Marlborough district will have been controlled to zero density to prevent adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	**Eradication**	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service in conjunction with the Department of Conservation to control climbing spindleberry in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.10.2 Rules

Rule 5.10.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of climbing spindleberry (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.11 Cotton thistle *(Onopordum acanthium)*

Why is it a threat?

Cotton thistle is native to Europe, western and central Asia. It arrived in New Zealand during the 1880s. Cotton thistle is an erect annual or biennial thistle growing up to 2 metres tall (typically 1-1.2 metres). The main dispersal method is by seeds attaching to animal coats. Seeds hairs are not adequate for wind dispersal, but can be transported by strong winds. It invades and colonises pasture. If left uncontrolled it will form dense infestations and displace preferred pasture species and impede access to stock. It is a competitive weed in improved pasture and favours soils with high levels of nitrogen. Cotton thistle is prevalent in Canterbury and Otago. Cotton thistle has the potential to be a significant farmland weed throughout Marlborough.

There are three known areas with infestations in Marlborough. Two of these are small in nature near the Wairau Bar and Waihopai Valley respectively. The third occurs over a larger area in the Upper Awatere Valley. Ongoing management will ensure infestations do not both escalate and spread to other areas.

5.11.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control cotton thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to baseline levels* to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

*A baseline level assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the RPMP commences.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to manage cotton thistle in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.11.2 Rules

Rule 5.11.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of cotton thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.12 Eel grass *(Vallisneria australis)*

Why is it a threat?

Eel grass is a submerged, aquatic, perennial herb that originates from Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia. It is a potential competitor with native wetland and aquatic species. It will block drains and impede water flows. It spreads by rhizome fragments. Spread is often aided by humans who may have this previously popular aquarium plant at home then dispose of it into waterways.

As a likely result of aquarium material disposal, infestations have been identified and managed within the Ōpaoa Loop and Waterlea Creek. Ongoing management can mitigate the infestations building to problem levels.

5.12.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control eel grass (*Vallisneria australis*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to manage eel grass.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

a) Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

i) The presence of pests is to be reported.

ii) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.12.2 Rules

Rule 5.12.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of eel grass (*Vallisneria australis*) on any place that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is for occupiers to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants in a place they occupy, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.13 Evergreen buckthorn *(Rhamnus alaternus)*

Why is it a threat?

Evergreen buckthorn is an evergreen shrub that originates from the Mediterranean region. It will grow in scrub around forest margins, in plantations and on coastal cliffs. It is spread by birds as its seed is contained in a fleshy fruit. It displaces native species and hinders regeneration of forest remnants.

Infestations are limited to the Manaroa area in the Marlborough Sounds that are under ongoing, intensive management. This will protect large areas of vulnerable ecosystems the Marlborough Sounds in particular.

5.13.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control of evergreen buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2015 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service in conjunction with the Department of Conservation to manage evergreen buckthorn.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.13.2 Rules

Rule 5.13.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of evergreen buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.14 Giant needle grass *(Austrostipa rudis)*

Why is it a threat?

Giant needle grass is a perennial, tussock forming grass, which originates from Eastern Australia. Its general appearance is not unlike Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*). It will grow up to 1.3 metres high, which is twice the height of Chilean needle grass. It spreads through seed, which lacks the aggressive point and barb that Chilean needle grass has. Giant needle grass will displace desirable pasture species and forms dense infestations if left uncontrolled.

A small number of infestations have been identified in Marlborough located in the Upper Wairau Valley and Weld Pass areas. Intensive management has been ongoing while the infestations are small in nature.

5.14.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control giant needle grass *(Austrostipa rudis)* in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2014 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control giant needle grass in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.14.2 Rules

Rule 5.14.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of giant needle grass *(Austrostipa rudis)* on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.15 Gorse *(Ulex europaeus)*

Why is it a threat?

Gorse is an erect, spiky, perennial shrub that will grow up to 4 metres high and originates from Eurasia. It will form dense patches if left uncontrolled. It seeds from explosive fruits, which are resistant to fire. Gorse will displace preferred pasture species and dense patches impede stock access. It will grow on pastoral country, in hedgerows, waste places and plantations from the coast to high altitudes. Its vigorous growth habit will displace native herbaceous species. The presence of gorse will greatly reduce the economic viability of a farming unit and biodiversity.

While gorse is widespread in Marlborough, there are some major catchments that are either free from gorse or have low infestation levels. In other parts of the district, areas clear and infested form a patchwork meaning infestations moving across boundaries become a threat to clear areas.

5.15.1 Objectives

5.15.1.1 Over the duration of the RPMP, control gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) in the Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone and the Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

5.15.1.2 Over the duration of the RPMP, control gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) across the remainder of the district, in situations where the presence of gorse on boundaries threatens adjoining land clear of or being managed for gorse, to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Pests are to be destroyed.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, propagated, sold or distributed).

2) Council Inspection

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.15.2 Rules

Rule 5.15.2.1

Occupiers within the Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone and Upper Wairau or Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones (see Maps 3, 4 and 6, pages 17,18 and 45), shall destroy all gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless a management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone and Upper Wairau or Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones are able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.15.2.2

No person shall transport any risk goods into the Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone or Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control zones that may contain gorse (*Ulex europaeus*).

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.15.2.3 (Good Neighbour Rule)

Occupiers shall destroy all gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) plants, on land they occupy, within 10 metres of their property boundary each year before they produce seed where the adjoining land is clear of, or under management for gorse.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.15.2.4

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) on land that they occupy within the Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone or Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data held by Council is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rules:

The purpose of Rule 5.15.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers within the Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone or Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Gorse Control Zones are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest establishing further on that land.

The purpose of Rule 5.15.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(e) in that activities that may be at risk of introducing gorse in to the Control Zones are regulated as the constant re-introduction of gorse into the Control Zones via contaminated goods will affect the implementation of the RPMP.

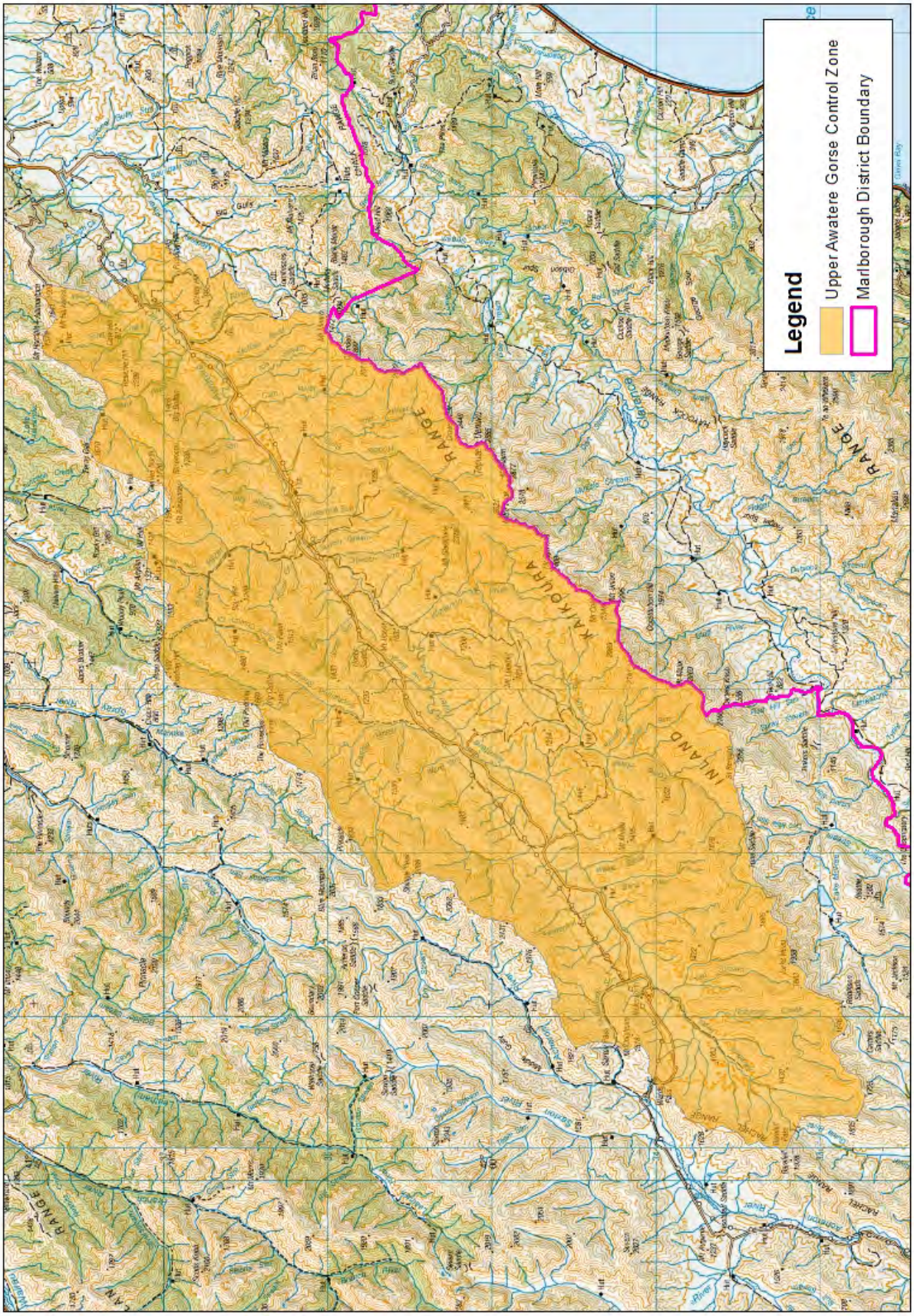
The purpose of Rule 5.15.2.3 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers of land harbouring an infestation of gorse are being required to take specified actions to prevent spread pressure onto adjoining properties where the adjoining land is clear of, or under management for gorse.

The purpose of Rule 5.15.2.4 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.



Map 6: Upper Awatere Gorse Control Zone

5.16 Kangaroo grass *(Themeda triandra)*

Why is it a threat?

Kangaroo grass is a large perennial grass that originates from Africa. It is an invasive species, which will form dense patches and can exclude preferred pasture species. It is considered to be a valuable grass in the dry areas of Australia, where it is grazed following burning. Once it produces a seed head again, it becomes unpalatable to stock and must be re-burned. In Marlborough, a burn and graze regime is not appropriate due to the proximity of forestry to the sites and the possible fire risk. The result has been the establishment of three large infestations of mature kangaroo grass that has little or no feed value. In New Zealand, Marlborough has the only substantial infestation of this pest plant with other records of smaller isolated infestations in Christchurch, Nelson and Browns Island in the Hauraki Gulf.

The infestations in Marlborough are located in the mid-Wairau Valley and the lower Welds Pass area. An isolated infestation is also located near Ward.

5.16.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to baseline levels* to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

*A baseline assessment will be made either prior to or immediately after the RPMP commences.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b) Delivering a service to manage kangaroo grass in liaison with the occupier.

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Pests are to be destroyed.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, propagated, sold or distributed).

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.16.2 Rules

Rule 5.16.2.1

Occupiers shall destroy all kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*) plants, on land that they occupy before the plants produce seed, unless:

a) The land they occupy falls within a Kangaroo Grass Containment Area (see Maps 7, 8 and 9, pages 51-53), which is subject to Rule 5.16.2.2, or;

b) A management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.16.2.2

Occupiers of land within a Kangaroo Grass Containment Area (see Maps 7 – 9, pages 51-53) shall destroy all kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*) on land they occupy before they produce seed within 5 metres of the Containment Area boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The Kangaroo Grass Containment Areas able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.16.2.3

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of Rule 5.16.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers without a heavy infestation are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest establishing on that land.

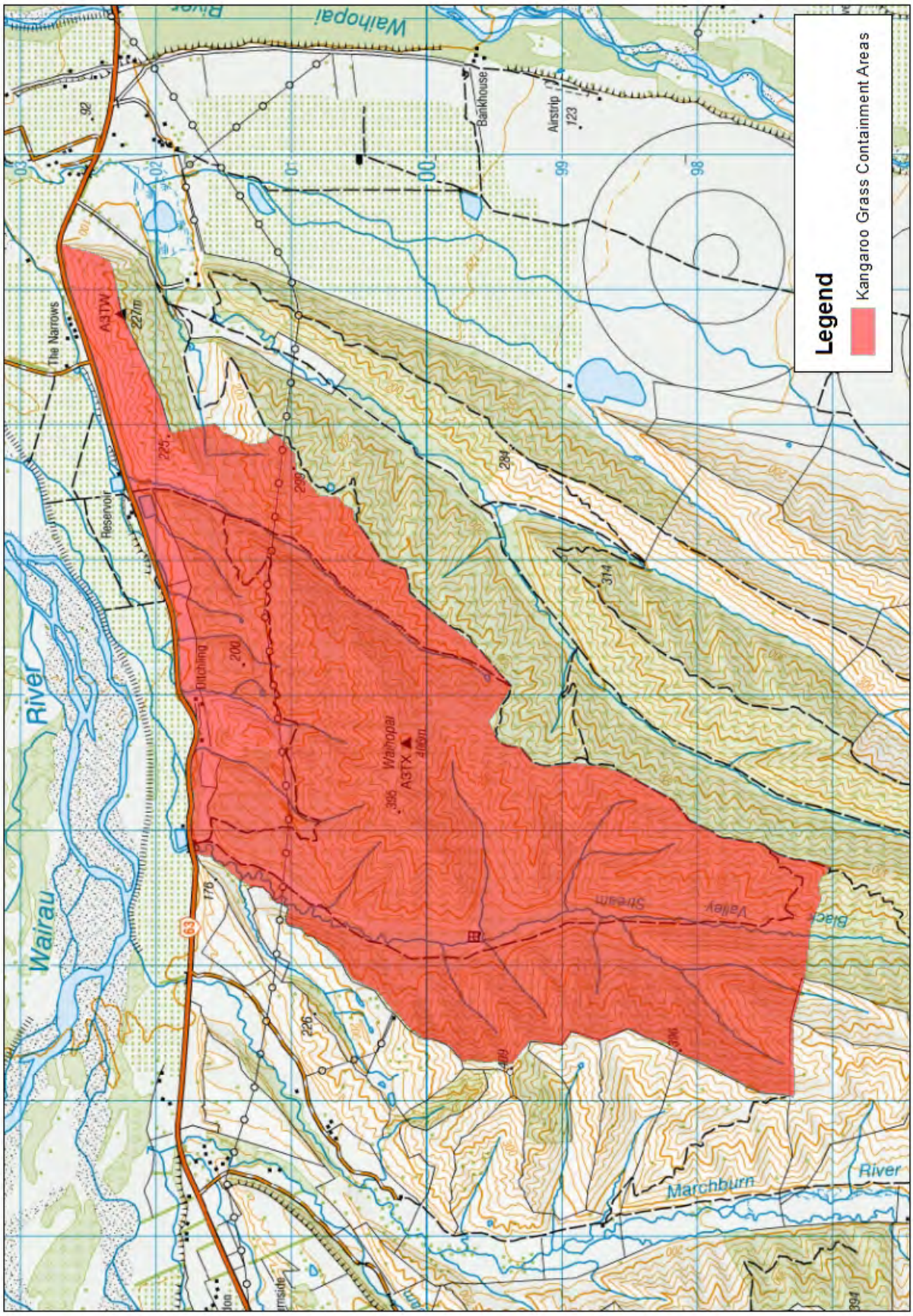
The purpose of Rule 5.16.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that the occupiers of land where heavy infestation occur are required to take specified actions to prevent spread pressure on the edges of the Containment Area.

The purpose of Rule 5.16.2.3 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

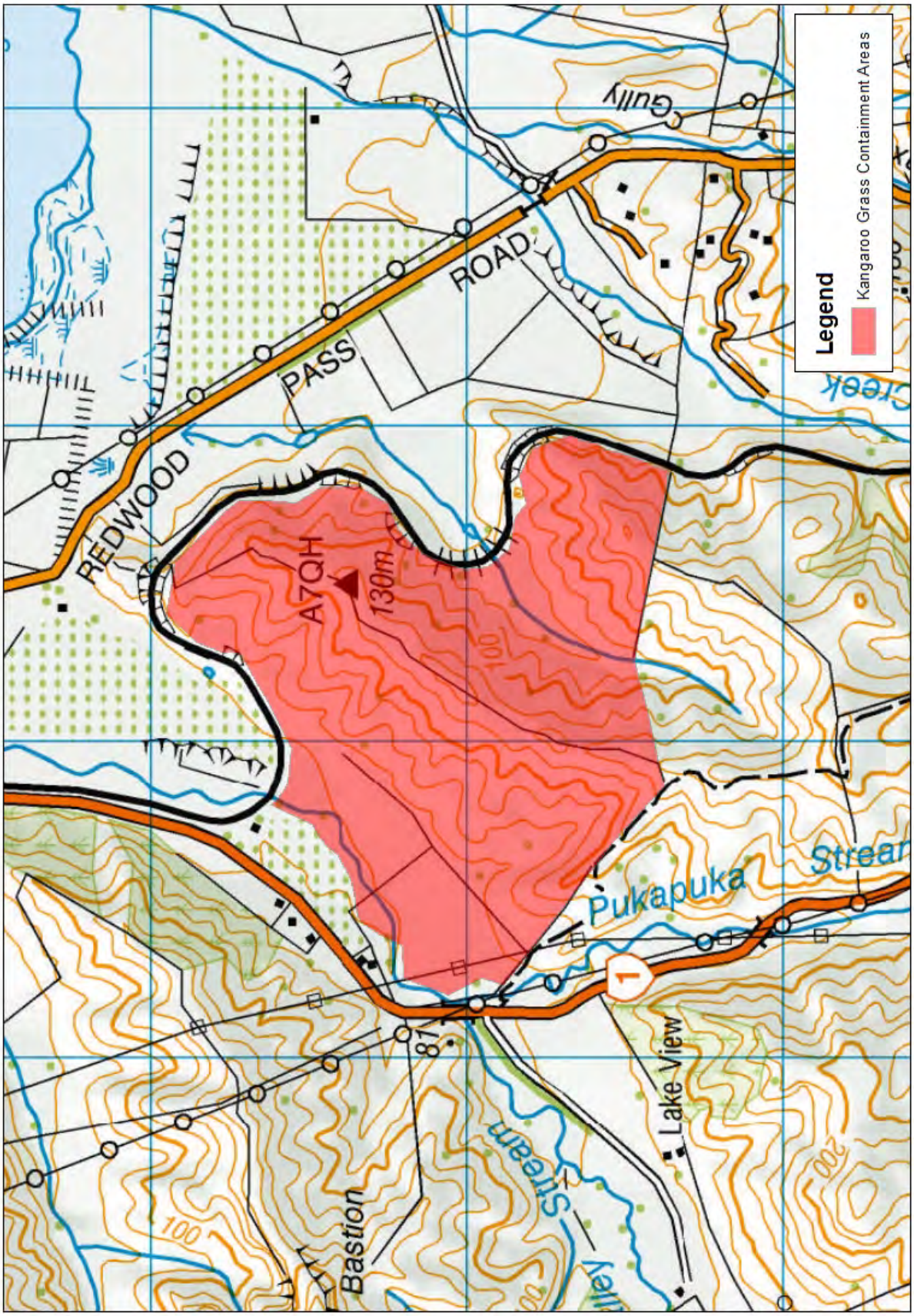
Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.



Map 7: Kangaroo grass programme - The Narrows Containment Area



Map 8: Kangaroo Grass Programme - Vernon Containment Area

Map 9: Kangaroo Grass Programme - Kaka Road Containment Area

5.17 Madeira vine *(Anredera cordifolia)*

Why is it a threat?

Madeira vine is a vigorous climber, which originates from tropical South America. It grows from an underground tuber and also has aerial tubers that grow attached to the stem. The aerial tubers can break off easily to form new plants when they come in contact with the ground. It will also grow from rhizomes. It blocks light to supporting plants by smothering them. It can become so heavy that it breaks branches of supporting plants. It is tolerant to drought and salt spray. It prefers to grow in warm coastal sites.

There are a small number of sites in Marlborough. These are located within the Marlborough Sounds and other isolated locations associated with home gardens. All infestations have been and continue to be under intensive management.

5.17.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control madeira vine (*Anredera cordifolia*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2017 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service in conjunction with the Department of Conservation to manage madeira vine.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.17.2 Rules

Rule 5.17.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of madeira vine (*Anredera cordifolia*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.18 Mediterranean fanworm *(Sabella spallanzanii)*

Why is it a threat?

The Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*) is a marine fouling species that forms dense colonies that could affect native species by competing for food and space. Recent studies have indicated impacts on the establishment of new generations of some species and on nutrient flow. The presence of dense colonies of this species could also change the underwater scenery of an area, potentially impacting on dive tourism activities. While Mediterranean fanworm has not yet been recorded to have had significant impacts on fisheries in New Zealand, it could become a nuisance to recreational and commercial fishers by clogging dredges and fouling other fishing gear when in high densities. This fanworm has been detected on some mussel farms in the Hauraki Gulf and Coromandel region recently. Because mussels and fanworms are filter feeders, the productivity of mussels may be affected if the fanworm infestations become high.

Mediterranean fanworm has been found within Picton Marina and on a small number of vessels that have entered Marlborough carrying fanworms amongst biofouling.

5.18.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, prevent the establishment of Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*) in Marlborough to eliminate adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Requirement to Act

Persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate such.

2) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities targeted toward persons that operate within the marine environment.

b) Promote industry requirements and best practice to persons that operate in the marine environment.

c) Encourage any person to report any pests they find.

d) Facilitate or commission research.

3) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Conducting in-water surveillance and/or inspection activities.

b) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

5.18.2 Rules

Rule 5.18.2.1

The owner or person in charge of a craft entering Marlborough must ensure that the fouling on the hull and niche areas of the craft does not exceed 'light fouling' unless:

i) The craft is entering Marlborough for the purpose of a haul out. The haul out must be undertaken within 24 hours of arriving. Proof via receipt from a haul out facility must be provided upon request of an Authorised person, or

ii) The craft is required to enter Marlborough in an emergency relating to the safety of the craft and/or the health and safety of any person on the craft, or

iii) The craft is required to enter Marlborough in response to a declaration of a state of emergency acknowledged by the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note 1: For ii) and iii) above, once the immediate danger to life or the craft has past, or declaration of emergency lifted, Rule 5.18.2.1 will apply to the craft.

Note 2: Rule 5.18.2.1 does not apply to craft that have entered New Zealand waters in compliance with the Craft Risk Management Standard (CRMS) for Biofouling in the period 2 months prior to either directly or subsequently entering Marlborough waters.

Note 3: An exemption to this Rule may be available. See section 5.18.3 below and also Section 7, page 102.

Rule 5.18.2.2

The occupier of any place shall take all reasonable steps to destroy Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*) that is identified to be harbouring on that place unless a management plan has been put in place, and approved by Council.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.18.2.3

In undertaking steps to destroy Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*), the place (such as a craft or structure) shall first be slipped or contained within an encapsulation system and treated with biocode. If that is not practicable, Mediterranean fanworm may be removed in water by divers who are appropriately trained and all Mediterranean fanworm must be contained and returned to the surface for disposal to landfill.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.18.2.4

Any person who suspects to have observed Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*) in Marlborough shall notify Council within 24 hours of making the observation, detailing the location and situation of the suspected pest.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Mediterranean fanworm is also a notifiable organism by way of the Biosecurity (Notifiable Organisms) Order 2016. As such, the suspected presence of Mediterranean fanworm must also be reported to MPI in accordance with section 46 of the Biosecurity Act.

Explanation of the rules:

The purpose of Rule 5.18.2.1 is in accordance section 73(5)(e) in that it is prohibiting or regulating specified uses of goods that may promote the spread or survival of Mediterranean fanworm. The prevalence of Mediterranean fanworm in other parts of New Zealand, including the key recreational vessel hubs of Auckland and Whangarei Harbour, means the arrival of craft into Marlborough that are carrying bio-fouling are the biggest risk to the achievement of the proposed Exclusion Programme.

The purpose of Rule 5.18.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that it is requiring an occupier of a place to destroy Mediterranean fanworm on that place. The effective management of Mediterranean fanworm, if identified, requires both rapid and intensive management to occur both initially and over the course of the ensuing years to prevent establishment. While in most instances the initial response will be led by the management agency under a management plan, this rule will also place a baseline requirement upon the occupier of that place to remain vigilant and continue to play an active role in preventing establishment.

The purpose of Rule 5.18.2.3 is in accordance section 73(5)(d) in it is regulating specified methods used to managing the pest. Using improper methods to remove and/or dispose of Mediterranean fanworm from the marine environment can result in unintended exacerbation of the pest population.

The purpose of Rule 5.18.2.4 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) in that it is requiring a person notify the suspected presence of Mediterranean fanworm to enable the management agency to determine or monitor the presence or distribution of the pest. An Exclusion Programme relies upon preventing establishment of Mediterranean fanworm. For this to occur, early detection and intervention is crucial. While active surveillance will be part of the proposed management agency programme, passive surveillance and timely notification from all other persons will assist with detection and early intervention.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.

5.18.3 Exemptions

Exemptions to any of these rules may be developed by Council where necessary, or via application, and are assessed on a case by case basis. When applied for, they can be granted, granted with conditions or denied in accordance with section 78 of the Biosecurity Act 1993. The detailed process can be seen in Section 7 on page 102.

5.19 Moth plant *(Araujia hortorum)*

Why is it a threat?

Moth plant is a vigorous evergreen climber that will grow up to 6 metres high. It originates from tropical South America. It spreads by wind-borne seeds that are released from pods as they dry out and split during autumn and winter. Moth plant will smother native species and is a problem in gardens where it can become the dominant species. The plant is poisonous and its sap has an irritant effect on contact with the skin.

There are a large number of sites in Marlborough associated with home gardens, predominantly in urban Blenheim, but also located as far afield as Tennyson Inlet and Port Underwood. All infestations have been and continue to be under intensive management.

5.19.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control moth plant (*Araujia hortorum*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to manage moth plant.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.19.2 Rules

Rule 5.19.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of moth plant (*Araujia hortorum*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.20 Nassella tussock *(Nassella trichotoma)*

Why is it a threat?

Nassella tussock is a perennial tussock that originates from South America. It can grow up to 70 centimetres high and a mature plant can produce up to 120,000 seeds. These seeds have the potential to spread 10 kilometres in strong winds. The seed has the ability to remain viable in the soil for many years. Nassella tussock is well adapted to invade and smother other grassland species and is largely unpalatable to livestock. It will also compete with native species. If left unmanaged, due to the prolific nature of seed set, it will form large unpalatable monocultures and spread rapidly to un-infested areas in Marlborough.

In terms of distribution, nassella tussock is the most widespread of the pests managed under a RPMP programme. Infested areas are predominantly in the drier hill country of South Marlborough although isolated infestations also occur through in the Okaramio-Kaituna area and as far afield as the eastern side of Cape Soucis.

5.20.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control nassella tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) in the Marlborough district to a population trend that is level or reducing to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Pests are to be destroyed.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, propagated, sold or distributed).

2) Council Inspection

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.20.2 Rules

Rule 5.20.2.1

Occupiers shall destroy all nassella tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless a management plan* approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

*A management plan for the purposes of Rule 5.20.2.1 is an agreed plan between the occupier and Council that outlines how nassella tussock will be managed on the land they occupy and will contain administration provisions relating to the maintenance of the RPMP.

Management plans will be dynamic and also available to the occupier for reference at any time via the online Property File system.

Rule 5.20.2.2

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of nassella tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of Rule 5.20.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers with an infestation of nassella tussock are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest increase to levels affecting productivity or neighbouring properties.

The purpose of Rule 5.20.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.

5.21 Parrots feather *(Myriophyllum aquaticum)*

Why is it a threat?

Parrots feather is a stout, hairless perennial semi-aquatic plant that originates from South America. It was introduced to New Zealand as an ornamental aquarium plant. It will grow up to 2 metres in length. It can emerge up to 15 centimetres above the water. It will grow in freshwater ponds, dams, ditches, lakes and streams up to 2 metres deep. It forms tangled mats of vegetation which impede drainage, displace native vegetation and disrupt recreational activities.

After many years of through the Ruakanakana (Gibsons) Creek and the Ōpaoa River systems, infestations are now isolated, but persistent. Many other lowland waterways such as the spring-fed streams of the lower Wairau could be at threat from parrots feather.

5.21.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control parrots feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2013 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to manage parrots feather in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.21.2 Rules

Rule 5.21.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of parrots feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.22 Pest conifers

Why are they a threat?

Pest conifers can have significant impacts on native ecosystems, particularly low-growing ecosytems such as tussock and indigenous grasslands, alpine ecosystems and subalpine scrub. In the regenerating scrub/forest of the Marlborough Sounds, pest conifers can act as a pioneering species thereby out-competing and altering these ecosystems. The likes of Douglas fir, being shade tolerant, can also readily establish in closed forest ecosystems. This can make control operations additionally challenging. Soil and soil fauna are also altered when pest conifers replace native ecosystems.

Pest conifers can also adversely affect visual amenity and landscape values by establishing themselves along ridgelines, in natural alpine landscapes or amongst natural tussock grasslands. In areas where there is long term, seasonal soil moisture deficits, dense pest conifer stands can contribute to reductions in surface water flows, potentially impacting on water availability and associated aquatic ecosystems.

All the impacts outlined above can adversely affect values held by iwi, rūngana and hapū across Te Tau Ihu. In particular, feedback from Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura outlined pest conifers as an issue of concern due to their widespread impact on indigenous species and cultural landscape values.

In areas of extensive pastoral farming, pest conifer infestations adversely impact economic wellbeing by reducing available grazing and limiting the options for future land use related to livestock production.

The subjects listed in Table 2 are to be managed as part of the pest conifer programme:

Table 2: Subjects of the pest conifer programme

Individual subjects	
Common Name	**Scientific Name**
Lodgepole or contorta pine	*Pinus contorta*
Scots pine	*Pinus sylvestris*
Mountain pine	*Pinus.mugo (including sub-species and botanical variants)*
Bishops pine	*Pinus muricata*
Maritime pine	*Pinus pinaster*
Mexican weeping pine	*Pinus patula*
Ponderosa pine	*Pinus ponderosa*
Corsican pine	*Pinus nigra*
European larch	*Larix decidua*
Western white pine	*Pinus monticola*

Class of subjects
Wilding conifers **Description** Wilding conifers means any introduced conifer tree, of the individual species listed as subjects in Table 2 and those species listed Table 3, established by natural means, unless it is located within a plantation forest and does not create any greater risk or wilding conifer spread to adjacent or nearby land than the plantation forest that it is part of.

Table 3: Species for the purposes of the wilding conifers class description

Common Name	Scientific Name
Douglas fir	*Pseudotsuga menziesii*
Radiata pine	*Pinus radiata*

5.22.1 Objective

Over the duration of this Plan, progressively contain pest conifers through containing and reducing, where feasible, the geographic distribution of pest conifers within the Marlborough region to reduce adverse effects on the environment, enjoyment of the natural environment and economic wellbeing.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	**Progressive Containment**	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Providing Regional Leadership

Council will play a leadership role in facilitating, establishing, and subsequently supporting as a partner, collaborative programmes that carry out the on-ground management of pest conifers. It will also be responsible for overseeing progress against the programme objective for the Marlborough region.

A major component in Marlborough will include Council actively supporting community-led initiatives such as those driven by the community trusts.

2) National Wilding Conifer Control Programme

The outcome of the programme will be heavily reliant on the successful ongoing implementation of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme (NWCCP) - a collaborative model for wilding conifer control. Significant joint Crown funding from the Ministry for Primary Industries, Department of Conservation and Land Information New Zealand came into effect in 2016 but requires ongoing successful Crown budget support to continue.

This programme will see substantial investment in management operations primarily within the High Risk Conifer Management Area. This may also occur outside this area should it be prioritised and resources made available by the NWCCP.

3) Council Inspection and/or Service Delivery

Inspection and/or service by Council may include staff, contractors or other authorised persons:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations, if there are any;

b) Undertaking service delivery to manage pest conifers;

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present;

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control;

e) Using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary, which could include:

i) Issuing a Notice of Direction to an occupier or person under section 122;

ii) Undertaking default works and recovering the cost under section 128;

For the full range of administrative powers available to Council as management agency, see section 8.

4) Advocacy and Education

Council in conjunction with the many parties involved in pest conifer management may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.22.2 Rules

Rule 5.22.2.1

Occupiers shall destroy all pest conifers present on land they occupy (except land within the High Risk Pest Conifer Management Area), prior to cone bearing, if the pest conifers are located within an area on that land which has had a control operation carried out on it, or in accordance with a negotiated handover agreement.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: For the purposes of Rule 5.22.2.1, control operation means an operation to remove pest conifers from the land to a point where infestations have been managed to a level where coning trees are at, or close to, zero density and there is also no seed rain that could cause unreasonable levels of re-infestation. This assessment to determine unreasonable levels of re-infestation will take into account risk of seed dispersal from sources that can affect the property, vulnerability and nature of the land cover and use on the property. Occupiers will be notified by the management agency should a control operation meet this threshold. A period of handover can be negotiated and documented via a negotiated handover agreement. The agreement acknowledges the likely variation in situations associated with pest conifer management. Should the occupier of the land change before the obligation under Rule 5.22.2.1 is triggered, any such agreement in place will end and require renewal with the new occupier.

Rule 5.22.2.2

Occupiers shall destroy all pest conifers listed as individual subjects in Table 2, present on land they occupy, prior to cone bearing, unless the land they occupy falls within the High Risk Pest Conifer Management Area identified in Map 10.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The High Risk Pest Conifer Management Area identifies an area of land that contains infestations of high risk pest conifer species where an obligation on occupiers to destroy them is considered unreasonable given the history and nature of infestations.

Rule 5.22.2.3 (Good Neighbour Rule)

Occupiers shall destroy all pest conifers present, listed as individual subjects in Table 2, on land they occupy within 200 metres of an adjoining property boundary, where that adjoining property has previously been cleared through control operations and that adjoining occupier is taking reasonable steps to manage pest conifers, within 200 metres of the boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.22.2.4 (Pest Agent Rule)

Occupiers shall destroy any Pest Agent Conifer present on land they occupy within 200 metres of adjoining property, if pest conifers have been destroyed through control operations on the adjoining property, within 200 metres of the boundary, and that adjoining occupier is taking reasonable steps to manage pest conifers, within 200 metres of the boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Explanation of the rules:

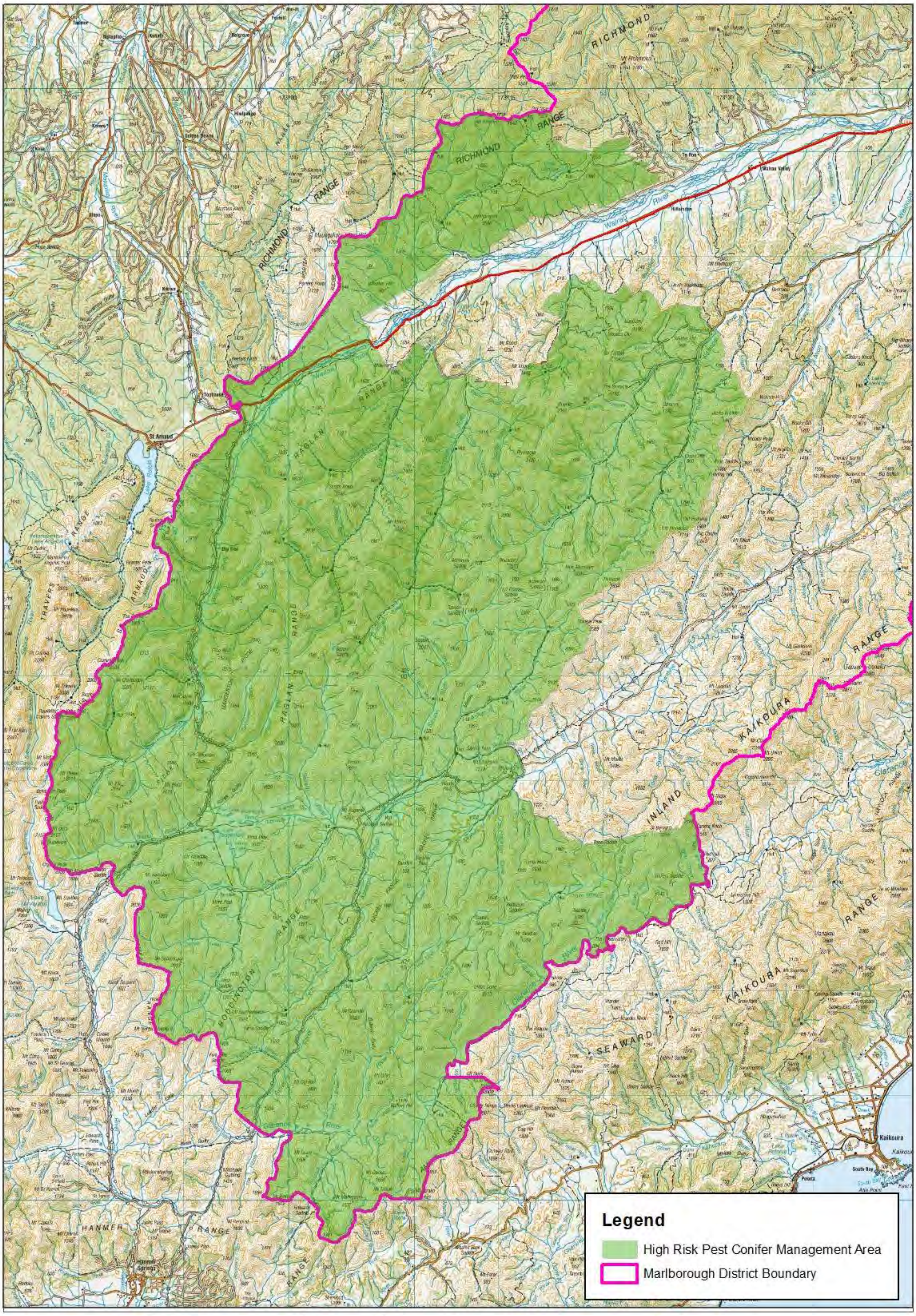
The purpose of Rule 5.22.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that occupiers of land within areas that have been subject to operations to destroy pest conifers are required to take specified actions to prevent the pest re-establishing on that land.

The purpose of Rule 5.22.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that occupiers of land that have the high-risk species of pest conifers present, are required to take specified actions to destroy those pest conifers, should they occur outside of the High Risk Pest Conifer Management Area.

The purpose of Rule 5.22.2.3 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that occupiers of land adjacent to areas that have been subject to control operations are required to take specified actions to prevent inaction on their property causing cross-boundary re-establishment of the pest on land that has been subject to control.

The purpose of Rule 5.22.2.4 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that occupiers of land adjacent to areas that have been subject to control operations are required to take specified actions to prevent a pest agent on their property causing cross-boundary re-establishment of the pest on land that has been subject to control.

Council as the management agency will administer the rules.



Map 10: High Risk Pest Conifer Management Area

5.23 Purple loosestrife *(Lythrum salicaria)*

Why is it a threat?

Originating from Europe, western Asia and North Africa purple loosestrife was introduced to New Zealand as an ornamental garden plant. It was first recorded in the wild in 1958. Purple loosestrife destroys wetland and marginal habitats. It forms large, tall, impenetrable stands that exclude all other species. This can reduce food sources for many fish and bird species. It encourages an increase in sedimentation leading to waterway blockages and flooding. It has the potential to become a major weed in wetlands, swamps, lakesides, rivers and streams. Purple loosestrife is a prolific seeder. Mature plants can produce over 2 million seeds. These are dispersed by water and on contaminated machinery, soil, livestock and hay.

Numerous small infestations have been found and eradicated in urban areas of Blenheim. However, a small number of infestations have been found outside of the urban landscape within Ruakanakana (Gibsons) Creek, at Rapaura and near Canvastown.

5.23.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control purple Loosestrife *(Lythrum salicaria)* in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control purple loosestrife in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.23.2 Rules

Rule 5.23.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of purple loosestrife *(Lythrum salicaria)* on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.24 Rabbits – feral *(Oryctolagus cuniculus)*

Why are they a threat?

The feral rabbit is a small to medium sized herbivore that originates from Europe. Feral rabbits were released in New Zealand in the late 1700s and 1800s as a food source. They quickly adapted to New Zealand's conditions and have thrived in our environment.

High feral rabbit population levels:

a) Affect soil and water quality;

b) Have a detrimental impact on economic production; and

c) Increase the risk of soil erosion.

Factors such as topography, climate, aspect and altitude all contribute to the variation in the feral rabbit population.

Certain parts of Marlborough are highly prone to feral rabbits building to high population levels. These areas include the mid to upper Awatere Valley, Molesworth Station, Avon/Waihopai Valley, mid-Wairau Valley and coastal Ward. In other parts of the district, feral rabbits can also build up in small pockets creating smaller-scale nuisance.

5.24.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control feral rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) in the Marlborough district to a population trend that is level or reducing to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing and the environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Pests are to be destroyed.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, bred, sold or distributed).

2) Council Inspection

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.24.2 Rules

Rule 5.24.2.1

Occupiers shall destroy feral rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), on land that they occupy, to ensure population levels are not maintained higher than the respective Maximum Allowable Levels (see Table 4) for a period of time greater than 12 months.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

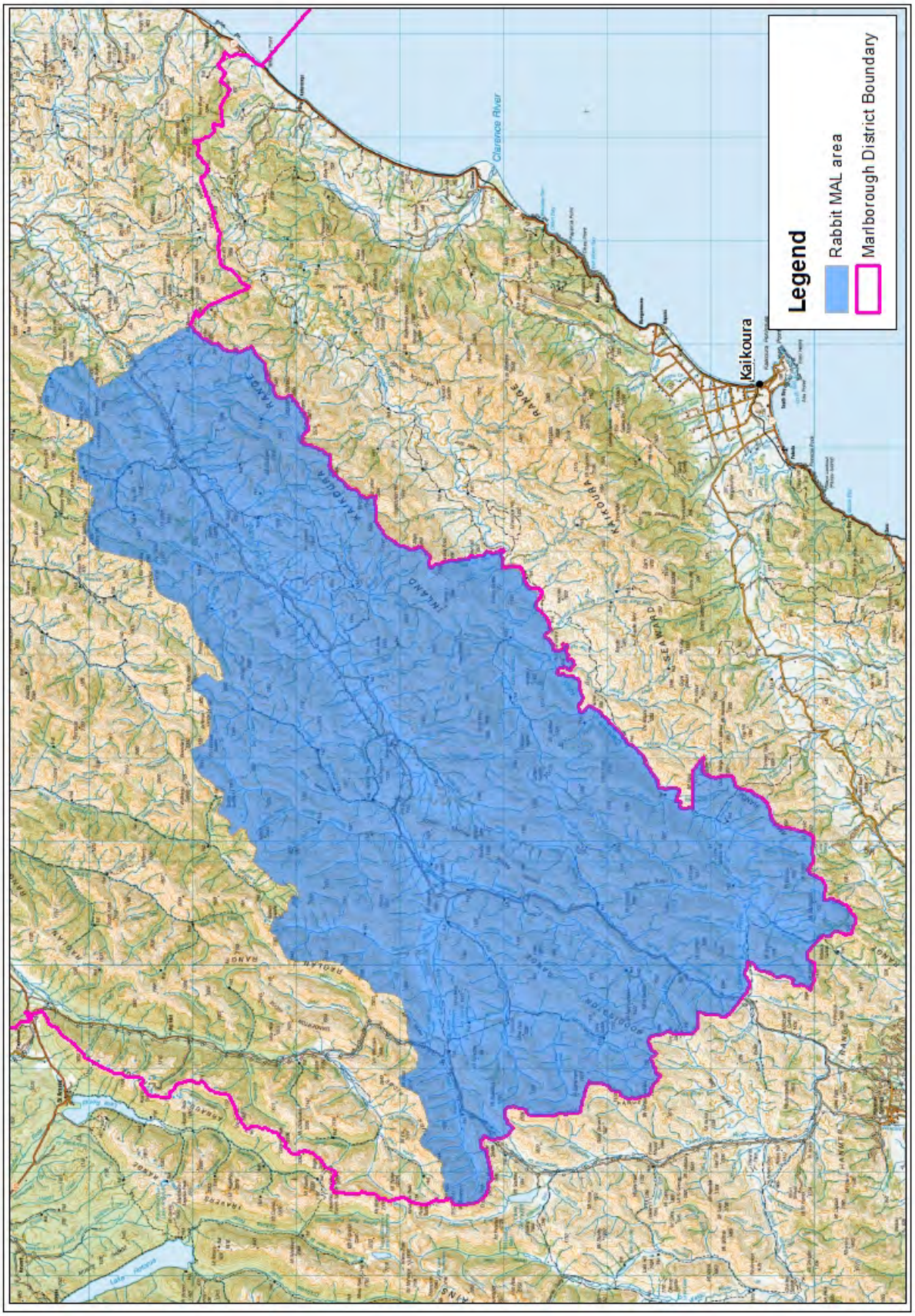
Table 4: Maximum allowable rabbit populations

Sub-Regions		**Maximum Allowable Population Level** Modified McLean Scale (see Appendix 3, page 116)
Upper Awatere/Clarence	Map 11 (page 74)	Level 4
Remainder of area within district		Level 3

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of Rule 5.24.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers that have rabbits on land they occupy are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest increase to levels affecting productivity or neighbouring properties.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.



Map 11: Rabbit Programme – MAL 4 Area

5.25 Reed sweet grass *(Glyceria maxima)*

Why is it a threat?

Reed sweet grass is a large rhizomatous grass which originates from Europe. It grows along the margins of a wide range of both flowing and standing watercourses. It forms dense, impenetrable stands of emergent marginal vegetation which:

a) Impede drainage;

b) Displace native vegetation; and

c) Disrupt recreational activities.

It has also been implicated in the cyanide poisoning of livestock.

While present in Marlborough, there are a small number of key infestations that are being actively managed. These are located at Northbank, Ruakanakana (Gibsons Creek), Grovetown Lagoon, the Wairau drainage network and Boundary Creek, Redwood Pass.

5.25.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control reed sweet grass (*Glyceria maxima*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2017 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to manage reed sweet grass in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.25.2 Rules

Rule 5.25.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of reed sweet grass (*Glyceria maxima*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.26 Rooks *(Corvus frugilegus)*

Why are they a threat?

Rooks are large, black birds with a violet-blue glossy sheen that originate from Europe. They will forage on fields of cereal at all stages of the crop and will tear up large areas of pasture in search of grass grub and other invertebrates. Rookeries (nests) are generally built in pine or eucalyptus trees, although they have been found in poplar and walnut trees. When established, rookeries may approach several hundred birds.

Historically, there were rookeries present in Marlborough. Through active management over the last few decades, these are no longer present. From time to time, vagrant birds appear

5.26.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, prevent the establishment of rooks (*Corvus frugilegus*) in the Marlborough district to prevent future impacts on economic wellbeing.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to respond and investigate sightings of rooks in Marlborough.

b) Delivering a service to control rooks if required, in liaison with the occupier.

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate the presence of pests is to be reported.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

b) Facilitate or commission research.

5.26.2 Rules

Rule 5.26.2.1

Any person is required to notify Council of any suspected rook (*Corvus frugilegus*) within 5 working days of making the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) is for the entire community to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring people to notify Council of sightings, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. This will mean birds new to the district can be found quickly with control plans put in place if they are persisting in an area.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.27 Rough horsetail *(Equisetum hyemale)*

Why is it a threat?

Rough horsetail is an erect, colony-forming primitive fern-ally. The stems have a distinctive black collar at the joints. It forms an extensive network of underground rhizomes. This plant spreads rapidly and can re-sprout from underground stems. It can form pure stands in a wide range of damp habitats, and preventing the growth and regeneration of native species. These stands can also hinder or even block watercourses that can lead to an increased risk of flooding.

In Marlborough, one small infestation occurs in the natural environment on the outskirts of Renwick. However, this pest has been found on numerous occasions within the confines of a manged or semi-managed garden landscape due to a history of being propagated and grown for landscaping purposes.

5.27.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control rough horsetail (*Equisetum hyemale*) in the Marlborough district to a population trend that is level or reducing, to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control rough horsetail in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.27.2 Rules

Rule 5.27.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of rough horsetail (*Equisetum hyemale*) on land they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.28 Saffron thistle *(Carthamus lanatus)*

Why is it a threat?

Saffron thistle is an erect annual herb, which originates from Europe and Asia. It has woody stems, prominent spines and small yellow flower heads. It can form impenetrable strands if left uncontrolled and has the potential to devalue fibre, injure stock and interfere with cereal harvesting.

Ideally suited to the Marlborough climate, saffron thistle has been found across a number of rural properties prominently across South Marlborough. While all infestations have been intensively manged down to low levels, a small number continue to sustain active infestations. Like a typical thistle, flushes or peaks in seed germination occurs from time to time. The aim of the programme is to ensure new seed is not entering the infested sites or being available for spread elsewhere.

5.28.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control saffron thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to manage saffron thistle in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.28.2 Rules

Rule 5.28.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of saffron thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is for occupiers to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.29 Senegal tea *(Gymnocoronis spilanthoides)*

Why is it a threat?

Senegal tea is a perennial, semi-aquatic herb which grows to 1.5 metres when flowering. It originates from Central and South America. It spreads by vegetative fragmentation. New plants are produced from stem nodes and by seed. It forms dense floating mats which can quickly cover waterbodies. They exclude native flora and fauna and impede water flows and navigation and recreational activities.

Two small infestation associated with managed gardens have been successfully eradicated from Marlborough. With no re-emergence from these infestations, and with no other infestations located, Marlborough is currently free from this threatening aquatic herb.

5.29.1 Objective

Over the term of the RPMP, prevent the establishment of Senegal tea (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*) in the Marlborough district to prevent future impacts on environmental values and the enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

a) Delivering a service to respond and investigate reports of Senegal tea in Marlborough.

b) Delivering a service to control Senegal tea if found, in liaison with the occupier.

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.30.2 Rules

Rule 5.29.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of Senegal tea (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*) on land they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Historical distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.30 Spartina *(Spartina anglica)*

Why is it a threat?

Spartina is a sward forming grass that originates from the United Kingdom. It grows from underground rhizomes. The rhizomes break off and establish elsewhere. It will also spread via seed. It grows in estuaries and displaces native plants and animals of salt marshes and mud flats. It can cause accelerated sedimentation in estuaries. It can also impede river water flows.

Up until the mid-2000's, extensive spartina infestations were centred in the Pelrous and Kaituna estuaries. Numerous scattered infestations were also spread across the heads of many bays and inlets in the Marlborough Sounds. A joint programme between the Department of Conservation (DOC) and Council began in 2004 with the aerial spraying of the main infestations. Since then, all infestations have been intensively managed to very low levels. Technical assessments by DOC have concluded that eradication is feasible.

5.30.1 Objective

By the end of the term of this RPMP, spartina *(Spartina anglica)* on all known sites in the Marlborough district will have been controlled to zero density to prevent adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	**Eradication**	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service in conjunction with the Department of Conservation to control spartina in liaison with the occupier (if applicable).

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.30.2 Rules

Rule 5.30.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of spartina (*Spartina anglica*) on land they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.31 Tall wheat grass *(Thinopyrum ponticum)*

Why is it a threat?

Tall wheat grass is a rigid, erect, perennial tussock-forming grass (termed as bunchgrass in the USA) growing taller than other Thinopyrum species, up to 3 metres tall. It is well adapted to seasonally flooded, salt influenced habitats, especially those where summer droughts are frequent. The main infested area in Marlborough is adjacent to the lower Ōpaoa River and seeds are likely to disperse through drainage channels to this and the Waikārapi Lagoons and Te Pokohiwi/Boulder Bank which is an important conservation area. Values threatened by tall wheat grass invasion would be likely displacement of a range of salt marsh vegetation types that include the at-risk declining species *Mimulus repens* by tall growing monocultures of this grass. The conservation area also supports possibly the greatest diversity of wetland birds in New Zealand and the tall dense vegetation likely to result from invasion would affect a number of birds by reducing foraging and nesting areas, increasing shelter for predators and increasing fire risk.

5.31.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control tall wheat grass (*Thinopyrum ponticum*) in the Marlborough district to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control tall wheat grass in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.31.2 Rules

Rule 5.31.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of tall wheat grass (*Thinopyrum ponticum)* on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

5.32 Wallabies (Family Macropodidae)

Why are they a threat?

Wallaby species known to occur in New Zealand within the Family Macropodidae include (but are not limited to) the following species:

- Bennett's wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus rufogriseus)*
- Dama wallaby (*Macropus eugenii)*
- Parma wallaby (*Macropus parma*)
- Brush-tailed rock wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*)
- Swamp wallaby (*Wallabia bicolor*)

At high densities in New Zealand, wallabies can have significant adverse environmental effects. These include the prevention of regeneration of native bush, depletion of forest under-storey and possible impacts on water quality. Wallabies also damage tall tussock grasslands, including the inter-tussock vegetation that can become depleted with a consequent increase in bare ground and increased risk of soil erosion. Economic effects include damage to pasture with anecdotal evidence of complete clearance of cover in places. There is evidence of wallabies grazing on green feed crops particularly where these border suitable cover. Wallabies also damage exotic forests, particularly at the establishment stage, with damage being more serious in areas bordering native bush or scrub areas.

The majority of the Marlborough district is highly suitable habitat for wallabies. This ranges from the regenerating scrub/forest ecosystems in the Marlborough Sounds (Dama wallaby) to the extensive short tussock grasslands and scrub of South Marlborough (Bennett's wallaby). If programmes to contain or manage the Bennett's wallaby in South Canterbury continue, threat from overland natural dispersal us unlikely. However, the immediate threat is wallabies that have been raised as pets from joeys then escape or deliberately released to create new hunting opportunities.

5.32.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, prevent the establishment of wallabies (Family Macropodidae) in the Marlborough district to prevent future impacts on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to respond and investigate sightings of wallabies in Marlborough.

b) Delivering a service to control wallabies if required, in liaison with the occupier.

c) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

d) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

e) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

b) Facilitate or commission research.

5.32.2 Rules

Rule 5.32.2.1

All persons are required to notify Council of any suspected wallabies (Family Macropodidae) observed within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.32.2.2

No person shall have in their possession or keep in captivity on a place they occupy, any live wallabies (*Family: Macropodidae*).

Note: This rule does not derogate in any way from the statutory obligation of persons under section 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of Rule 5.32.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) for the entire community to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring people to notify Council of sightings, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. Any animal(s) released or being kept illegally within the district can be found and managed appropriately to prevent establishment.

The purpose of Rule 5.32.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(e) in that the possession of, and keeping of wallabies is seen as an activity that can affect measures taken to implement the Plan by attempting to introduce new animals to the Marlborough district, or increase the risk of captive animals escaping.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.

5.33 White-edged nightshade *(Solanum marginatum)*

Why is it a threat?

White-edged nightshade is a large shrub or tree with aggressive spines. It originates from North Africa. It will grow up to 3 metres high and will form dense thickets, which become impenetrable and displace preferred pasture species. It will also displace native species in ecosystems that are vulnerable.

There is one geographic area in Marlborough that contain the only known infestations of white-edged nightshade. That is the Forsyth/Beatrix Bay area. The four affected properties are associated with historical pastoral farming in the area that likely resulted in the source and initial spread of the species. Since then, one of these properties (and historically the most heavily infested) is now rapidly reverting to native scrub. This is in fact out-competing the pest in many areas. However, surrounding properties still face the challenge of preventing infestations reaching problem levels.

5.33.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control white-edged nightshade (*Solanum marginatum*) in the Marlborough district (excluding the White-edged Nightshade Containment Area) to less than or equal to 2016 levels to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) Pests are to be destroyed.

b) The presence of pests is to be reported.

c) Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, propagated, sold or distributed).

2) Council Inspection

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.33.2 Rules

Rule 5.33.2.1

Occupiers shall destroy all white-edged nightshade (*Solanum marginatum*) plants, on land that they occupy before they produce seed, except in areas of land they occupy that falls within the White-edged Nightshade Containment Area (see Map 12, page 94), which is subject to Rule 5.34.2.2.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.33.2.2

Occupiers of land within the White-Edged Nightshade Containment Area (see Map 12, page 94) shall destroy all white-edged nightshade (*Solanum marginatum*), on land they occupy before they produce seed, within 50 metres of the Containment Area boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The White-Edged Nightshade Containment Area boundary is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.33.2.3

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of white-edged nightshade (*Solanum marginatum*) on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of Rule 5.33.2.1 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers without a heavy infestation are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest establishing on that land.

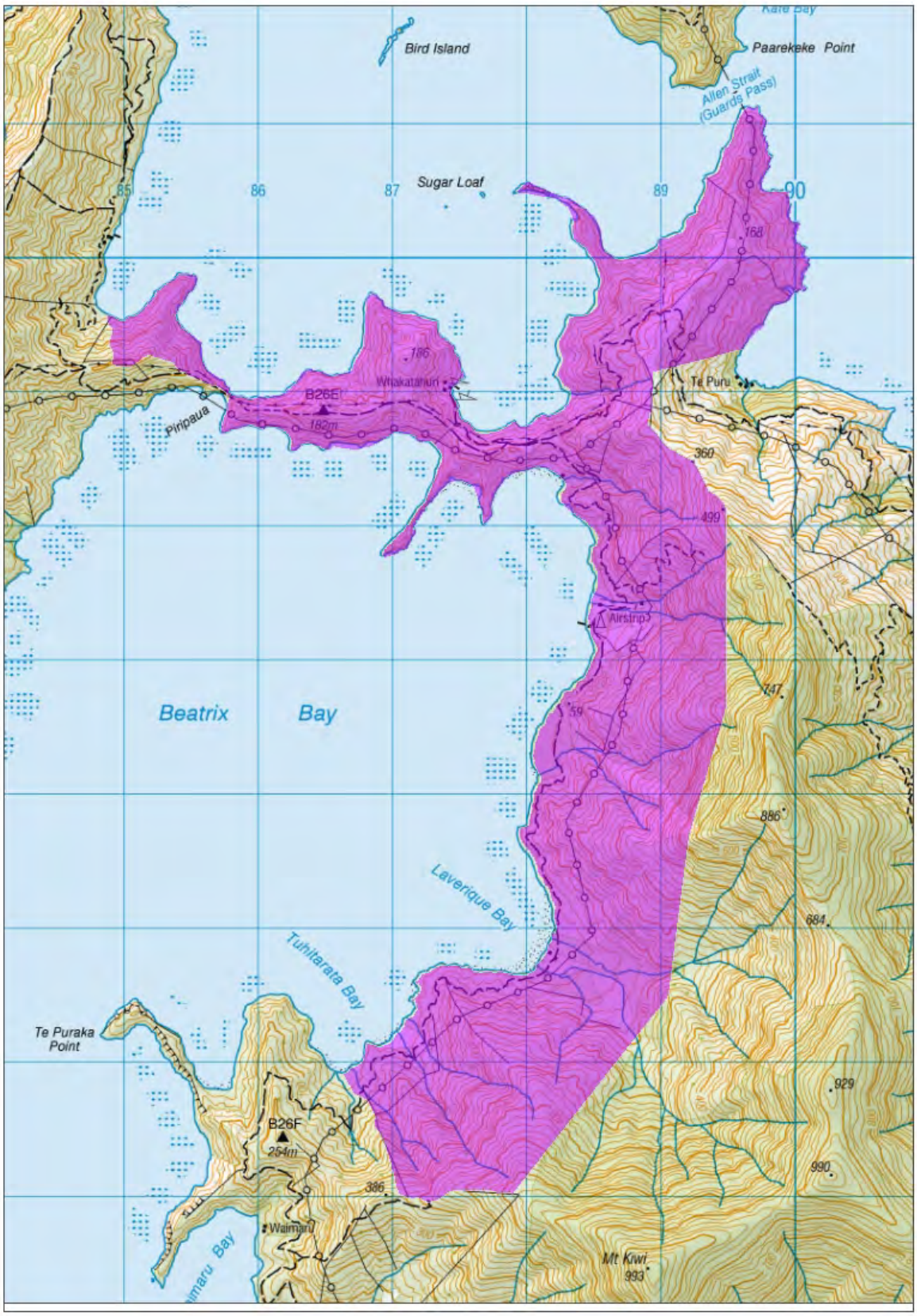
The purpose of Rule 5.33.2.2 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that the occupiers of land where heavy infestation occur are required to take specified actions to prevent spread pressure on the edges of the Containment Area.

The purpose of Rule 5.33 .2.3 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.



Map 12: White-Edged Nightshade Containment Area

5.34 Willow-leaved hakea *(Hakea salicifolia)*

Why is it a threat?

First recorded in New Zealand in 1908, willow-leaved hakea is a large, erect shrub or small tree <5 metres high and not prickly. A leathery, flattened and willow-like leaf have either little or no stem and has woody oval fruits, with curved beak, that release winged seeds. It is an aggressive and fast growing plant and originating from Eastern Australia, particular well adapted to colonise after fire.

It forms extensive stands in shrublands, displacing native vegetation.

While infestations are recorded across Marlborough, the relatively isolated infestation on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island near Kopowai is of the most concern. It is in close proximity to the unique and high-value ultramafic ecosystems. Previously analysis by the Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust has shown this infestation is manageable to zero levels.

5.34.1 Objectives

5.34.1.1 By 2035, willow-leaved hakea (*Hakea salicifolia*) on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island (see Map 13, page 97) will have been controlled to zero levels, where no plants are found over the preceding 5 years, to prevent adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

5.34.1.2 By the end of the term of this RPMP, willow-leaved hakea (*Hakea salicifolia*) on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island will have been controlled to less than 10% of the original infestation size at the commencement of management based on plant numbers, to prevent adverse effects on the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control willow-leaved hakea in liaison with occupiers.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.34.2 Rules

Rule 5.34.2.1

Occupiers on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island are required to notify Council of any new infestation of willow-leaved hakea (*Hakea salicifolia)* on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

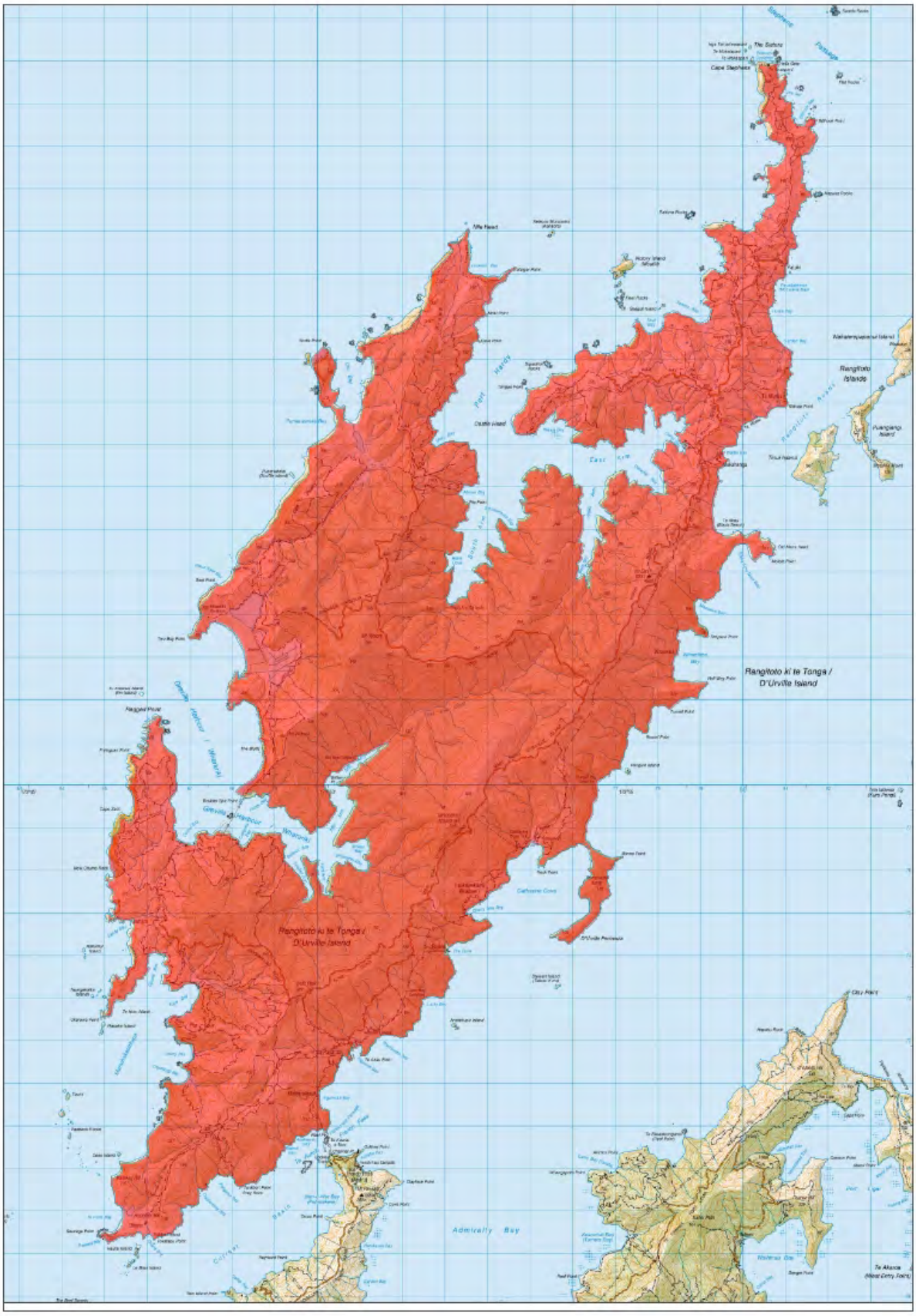
Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.



Map 13: Willow-Leaved Hakea Programme Coverage

5.35 Woolly nightshade *(Solanum mauritianum)*

Why is it a threat?

First recorded in New Zealand in 1883, woolly nightshade is an invasive lowland shrub that can grow to trees 8-10 metres high and is now widely established in northern parts of the New Zealand. It is an aggressive and fast growing plant; each plant can live for 20 years. Once established, it can form dense, exclusive colonies, crowding out other plants and preventing native plant regeneration. The dust from the leaves and stems can irritate the skin, eyes, nose and throat. Each plant can produce thousands of seeds which are dispersed by birds that eat the berries. It reproduces very quickly in that seedlings germinated in summer are able to flower and produce seeds by autumn.

Infestations of this plant are very limited in Marlborough. The most substantial is an infestation within the Port Hardy, on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island. Other small infestations occur in Moetpau Bay and Moenui.

5.35.1 Objective

Over the duration of the RPMP, control woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*) in the Marlborough district by maintaining or reducing the number of plants found in known areas to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcome:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	**Sustained Control**	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1) Council Inspection and Service Delivery

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a) Delivering a service to control woolly nightshade in liaison with the occupier.

b) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c) Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d) Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

2) Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a) The presence of pests is to be reported.

b) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold or distributed).

3) Advocacy and Education

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

5.35.2 Rules

Rule 5.35.2.1

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum)* on land that they occupy within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rule:

The purpose of this rule is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties, in addition to Council's own surveillance, will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.

Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate.

Council as the management agency will administer the rule.

6. Monitoring the programmes

6.1 Measuring against programme objectives

Each programme contains one or more programme objectives. It is progress against these objectives that provide the key measures of success of the RPMP implementation.

Each year within the report on the Operational Plan, progress against each of the programme objective(s) will be outlined and reported upon.

The way in which each programme is monitored varies depending on the biological nature of the organism, the nature of infestations and also the cost effectiveness of the method of monitoring relative to the programme cost. A summary of the programme monitoring methods is outlined below in Table 3.

Table 5: Programme monitoring methods summary

Common Name	Monitoring method	Frequency
African feather grass	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Bathurst bur		
Boneseed		
Broom		
Brushtail possum	Detections/Reports	Summarised annually
Bur daisy	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Cathedral bells		
Chilean needle grass	Population assessments	Annually
Chinese pennisetum	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Climbing spindleberry		
Cotton thistle		
Eel grass		
Evergreen buckthorn		
Giant needle grass		
Gorse		
Kangaroo grass		
Madeira vine or mignonette vine		
Mediterranean fanworm		
Moth plant		
Nassella tussock	Population assessments	Annually
Parrots feather	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Pest conifers	National Wilding Conifer Programme methods including analysis of infestation data within the Wilding Conifer Information System (WCIS)	Summarised annually
Purple loosestrife	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations

Common Name	Monitoring method	Frequency
Rabbits - feral	Population assessments	Annually
Reed sweet grass	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Rooks	Detections/Reports	Summarised annually
Rough horsetail	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Saffron thistle		
Senegal tea		
Spartina		
Tall wheat grass		
Wallabies	Detections/Reports	Summarised annually
White-edged nightshade	Outputs as a proxy for population	Annually during operations
Willow-leaved hakea		
Woolly nightshade		

6.2 Monitoring the management agency's performance

As the management agency responsible for implementing the RPMP, Council will:

(a) Prepare an Operational Plan within three months of the RPMP being made operative;

(b) Report on the Operational Plan, review the Operational Plan and amend the Operational Plan if needed within five months after the end of each financial year.

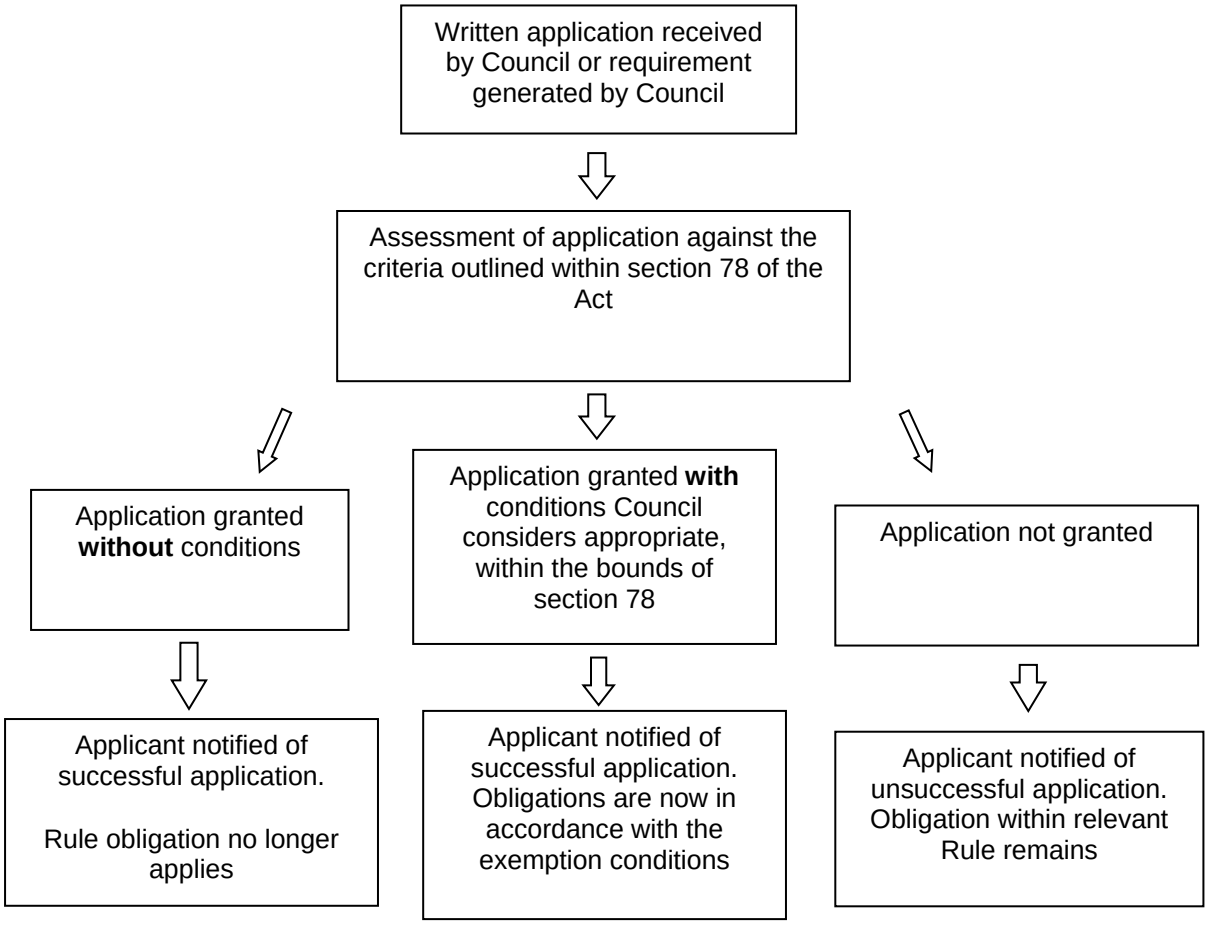
Financial reporting and performance will be outlined within the Annual Plan Report produced by Council each year in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

A combination of the annual report on the Operational Plan and the Annual Plan Report will provide a comprehensive summary of the management agency's performance.

7. Exemptions

Any occupier or other person may write to Council to seek an exemption from any provision of a rule set out in Part Two of the RPMP. However, a rule may state that no exemptions will be considered, or it may limit the circumstances to which exemptions apply (e.g. scientific purposes).

The requirements in section 78 of the Act must be met for a person to be granted an exemption. This includes an obligation by Council to keep and maintain a register that records the number and nature of exemptions granted. This register will be made available during normal business hours or on a website maintained by Council. The process followed for an application for an exemption is outlined below.



Part Three Administrative provisions

8. Powers conferred

8.1 Powers of Authorised Persons under Part 6 of the Act

The Principal Officer (Chief Executive) of Marlborough District Council may appoint authorised persons to exercise the functions, powers and duties under the Act in accordance with section 103 of the Act.

Where necessary, Authorised Persons will use those statutory powers of Part 6 of the Act, as shown in Table 4, to implement this RPMP.

Table 6: Powers from under Part 6 to be used

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

8.2 Powers under other sections of the Act

A Chief Technical Officer (employed under the State Sector Act 1988) may appoint authorised people to implement other biosecurity law considered necessary. One example is where restrictions on selling, propagating and distributing pests (under sections 52 and 53 of the Act) must be enforced. Another example is where an occupier or any person is asked for information under section 43 of the Act.

9. Funding

9.1 Funding sources and reasons for funding

Funding for the implementation of the RPMP is sourced through three distinct avenues:

1. By placing an obligation, and resulting cost, on occupiers (of land or vessels) through Plan rules;
2. Directly collecting funds from ratepayers within the region via the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to cover Council costs;
3. Other direct funding sources; for example, Crown contributions or direct actions toward the programme implementation.

The Council costs for implementing the RPMP are to be funded through general rates collected under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. In making this decision, Council is given regard to section 100T of the Act (see Table 7).

Table 7: Assessment against section 100T of the Act for the use of rates

Provisions within section 100T of the Biosecurity Act 1993	Assessment
The extent to which the RPMP relates to the interests of the occupiers of the properties on which the rate would be levied.	The costs allocation model outlined below has given regard to all relevant sub-sections of section 100T of the Biosecurity Act 1993. This has been through the use of differing weightings across the rating districts that have regard to: • the nature of the land; • direct and indirect benefits; • the presence or prevalence of the proposed pests; and/or • the collective benefits to ratepayers from the implementation of the RPMP.
The extent to which the occupiers of the properties on which the rate would be levied will obtain direct or indirect benefits from the implementation on the RPMP.	
The collective benefits of the implementation of the RPMP to the occupiers of the properties on which the rate would be levied compared with the collective costs to then of the rate.	
The extent to which the characteristics of the properties on which the rate would be levied and the uses to which they are put contribute to the presence or prevalence of the pest or pests covered by the RPMP.	

9.1.1 Allocation model for Council costs

An allocation model has been used to allocate Council costs across the rating districts used in Marlborough for the collection of general rates. This model uses the same four groupings of beneficiaries and exacerbators outlined in the Proposal. The grouping assigned to each programme can be seen in Table 8 and Table 9.

The final Council cost for the implementation of the RPMP is then allocated across the rating districts in accordance with the calculations used to allocate rates in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

Table 8: Grouping assigned to each programme for the purposes of Council cost allocation

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cost Allocation Grouping
African feather grass	*Cenchrus macrourus*	3
Bathurst bur	*Xanthium spinosum*	3
Boneseed	*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*	4
Broom	*Cytisus scoparius*	2
Brushtail possum	*Trichosurus vulpecula*	4
Bur daisy	*Calotis lappulacea*	3
Cathedral bells	*Cobaea scandens*	4
Chilean needle grass	*Nassella neesiana*	2
Chinese pennisetum	*Pennisetum alopecuroides*	3
Climbing spindleberry	*Celastrus orbiculatus*	4
Cotton thistle	*Onopordum acanthium*	3
Eel grass	*Vallisneria australis*	4
Evergreen buckthorn	*Rhamnus alaternus*	4
Giant needle grass	*Austrostipa rudis*	3
Gorse	*Ulex europaeus*	2
Kangaroo grass	*Themeda triandra*	2
Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	4
Mediterranean fanworm	*Sabella spallanzanii*	4
Moth plant	*Araujia hortorum*	4
Nassella tussock	*Nassella trichotoma*	2
Parrots feather	*Myriophyllum aquaticum*	4
Pest conifers	*Various sp.*	1
Purple loosestrife	*Lythrum salicaria*	4
Rabbits	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*	2
Reed sweet grass	*Glyceria maxima*	3
Rooks	*Corvus frugilegus*	3
Rough horsetail	*Equisetum hyemale*	4
Saffron thistle	*Carthamus lanatus*	3
Senegal tea	*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*	4
Spartina	*Spartina anglica*	4
Tall wheat grass	*Thinopyrum ponticum*	3
Wallabies	Family Macropodidae	1
White-edged nightshade	*Solanum marginatum*	2
Willow-leaved hakea	*Hakea salicifolia*	4
Woolly nightshade	*Solanum mauritianum*	4

Table 9: Breakdown of weightings used for the collection of rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

0 = no benefit received, 100 = full benefit received.

Weightings used for calculation					
Grouping	**Rating Districts**				
	Blenheim Residential	Blenheim Commercial	Blenheim Vicinity	Blenheim Vicinity Commercial	Picton Residential
1	60	60	60	60	60
2	10	10	50	50	10
3	25	25	45	45	25
4	100	100	100	100	100
Grouping	**Rating Districts**				
	Picton Commercial	Picton Vicinity	Picton Vicinity Commercial	Rural Residential	Rural Commercial
1	60	60	60	100	100
2	10	10	10	100	100
3	25	45	45	100	100
4	100	100	100	100	100
Grouping	**Rating Districts**				
	Sounds Residential	Sounds Commercial			
1	80	80			
2	30	30			
3	45	45			
4	100	100			

Final weightings to be used for rate allocation (using weighted average model - see Council LTP/Annual Plan Rate Allocation summary)				
Rating Districts				
Blenheim Residential	Blenheim Commercial	Blenheim Vicinity	Blenheim Vicinity Commercial	Picton Residential
32	32	61	61	32
Rating Districts				
Picton Commercial	Picton Vicinity	Picton Vicinity Commercial	Rural Residential	Rural Commercial
32	34	34	100	100
Rating Districts				
Sounds Residential	Sounds Commercial			
48	48			

9.1.2 Explanatory notes for weightings

The assessment of beneficiaries and exacerbators under the Biosecurity Act 1993, and this RPMP is much broader than that usually undertaken under the Local Government Act 2002. It includes the benefit that is attributed to a combination of both the property and the ratepayer as a person living in Marlborough. This can be seen in the weightings for groupings that have a predominantly environmental benefit in that all ratepayers benefit from a healthy, functioning environment and as such the weighting has been attributed across all rating districts.

The basis for this spread of weightings for Council costs is as follows:

Grouping 1

Proposed programmes within this grouping include wallabies and pest conifers.

These programmes have very broad benefit across the regional community. Wallabies have the potential to severely degrade natural areas via direct browsing. The benefit is generated from preventing multiple species establishing in Marlborough. The main risks are from Bennett's wallaby establishing in the scrub and open environment of South Marlborough and Dama wallaby that would thrive through the scrub and forested environments of the Marlborough Sounds. Similarly, the impact of pest conifers spans multiple values from biodiversity values, catchment water yields and visual landscape changes.

There is no clear mechanism available to allocate cost of the programme to exacerbators.

These factors result in the maximum benefit attributed to the Rural rating districts, and near maximum for the Sounds rating district. The impact that both these programmes would have on the natural environment, and enjoyment of the natural environment, results in a relatively high and even benefit weighing across the remainder of the rating districts.

Grouping 2

Proposed programmes within this grouping include that for broom, Chilean needle grass, gorse, kangaroo grass, rabbits and white-edged nightshade.

It is this grouping that sees Rural occupiers as both the major beneficiary and also the major exacerbator. As such, due to the established natures of these species, the key cost allocation method is an obligation of occupiers with the pest to be responsible for its management.

For some programmes, such as Chilean needle grass and kangaroo grass, Council costs include more than just compliance activities. In order to achieve the programme objective, active intervention by Council is needed.

The Council cost weightings used see the Rural rating districts attributed with the maximum benefit weighting, with a much lower weighting across other rating districts.

Grouping 3

Proposed programmes within this grouping include that for African feather grass, Bathurst bur, bur daisy, Chinese pennisetum, cotton thistle, giant needle grass, reed sweet grass, rooks, saffron thistle and tall wheat grass.

The cost allocation principles with this grouping are very similar to that of Grouping 2. However, the proposed programmes for these species carry a greater degree of environmental benefit due to both the nature of the species and the potential invasion risk.

The other key difference to Grouping 2 is that it is proposed for all of the programme costs for these species to be borne by Council given the implementation will be solely through service delivery.

The Council cost weightings used see the Rural rating districts attributed with the maximum benefit weighting but an increased weighting for other rating districts in recognition of the increased environmental benefit.

Grouping 4

All of the remaining proposed programmes are within a grouping where there are no clear beneficiaries or exacerbators other than the regional community at large. All of the proposed programme costs relate to Council service delivery and the species all threaten the integrity of natural ecosystems.

The Council cost weighting uses attributes evenly weighted across all rating districts.

9.2 Anticipated costs of implementing the RPMP

Given costs of implementing the RPMP fall in numerous areas, and by quantum, mostly outside Council, Table 10 provides a summary of the anticipated costs of implementation the RPMP.

Table 11 provides the summary of Council funding decisions made during the Long Term Plan 2018-28 process. This level of funding covers RPMP implementation along with other biosecurity programmes/initiative outside of the RPMP.

A decision by Council during the LTP 2018-2018 was to phase in increasing level of funding over 3 years. As a result, the Council costs in Table 10 are for Year 3 of the RPMP onward. From 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020, Council will be implementing the RPMP with a level of resourcing lower than that identified in Table 10.

Table 10: Anticipated costs - by group (excl GST)

	Group					
Associated proposed Plan programme	**Vessel owners that enter Marlborough waters (estimated)**	**Occupiers subject to rule obligations to control pests (estimated)**	**MPI (estimated)**	**DOC**	**Marlborough District Council**	**Total**
Mediterranean fanworm	$390,515		$28,000		$135,000	**$553,515**
Pest conifers		$200,000	$1,760,000	$250,000	$135,000	**$2,345,000**
Broom, Chilean needle grass, gorse, kangaroo grass, nassella tussock, rabbits, white-edged nightshade		$2,139,925			$762,500	**$2,902,425**
Boneseed, cathedral bells, climbing spindleberry, evergreen buckthorn, madeira vine, spartina				$64,200	$59,850	**$124,050**
All remaining programmes					$274,412	**$274,412**
Total	**$390,515**	**$2,339,925**	**$1,788,000**	**$314,200**	**$1,366,762**	**$6,199,402**
Proportion of total anticipated cost	**6%**	**38%**	**29%**	**5%**	**22%**	

Table 11: Summary of Council cost allocation across rating districts.

- **Note -** Includes non-RPMP project/programme costs (guided by Biosecurity Strategy). These non-RPMP work areas will be outlined within a combined Operational Plan.

	RATE FUNDING (excl. GST)	Residual Rate-Req General Rates	1171-Blenheim Residential Rate	1172-Blenheim Commercial Rate	1191-Blenheim-Vic Residential Rate	1192-Blenheim-Vic Commercial Rate	1211-Picton Residential Rate	1212-Picton Commercial Rate	1231-Picton-Vic Residential Rate	1232-Picton-Vic Commercial Rate	1251-Rural Residential Rate	1252-Rural Commercial Rate	1271-Sounds Residential Rate	1272-Sounds Commercial Rate
2018/19	Weighting		32.00	32.00	61.00	61.00	32.00	32.00	34.00	34.00	100.00	100.00	48.00	48.00
	Resultant cents per $ / rate per capita		$0.007455	$0.007455	$0.014210	$0.014210	$0.007455	$0.007455	$0.007921	$0.007921	$0.023296	$0.023296	$0.011182	$0.011182
	Resultant benefit allocation [%TotRates]		11.09%	2.13%	30.91%	0.74%	2.23%	0.46%	0.98%	0.03%	47.72%	0.62%	3.03%	0.07%
	Resultant allocation	$1,324,473	$146,859.37	$28,164.96	$409,335.85	$9,736.24	$29,498.39	$6,152.49	$12,933.41	$411.01	$632,013.41	$8,251.80	$40,170.00	$945.95
2019/20	Weighting		32.00	32.00	61.00	61.00	32.00	32.00	34.00	34.00	100.00	100.00	48.00	48.00
	Resultant cents per $ / rate per capita		$0.008196	$0.008196	$0.015623	$0.015623	$0.008196	$0.008196	$0.008708	$0.008708	$0.025611	$0.025611	$0.012293	$0.012293
	Resultant benefit allocation [%TotRates]		11.09%	2.13%	30.91%	0.74%	2.23%	0.46%	0.98%	0.03%	47.72%	0.62%	3.03%	0.07%
	Resultant allocation	$1,456,098	$161,454.18	$30,963.98	$450,015.47	$10,703.83	$32,429.92	$6,763.92	$14,218.72	$451.85	$694,822.62	$9,071.86	$44,162.08	$1,039.96
2020/21 onward	Weighting		32.00	32.00	61.00	61.00	32.00	32.00	34.00	34.00	100.00	100.00	48.00	48.00
	Resultant cents per $ / rate per capita		$0.008984	$0.008984	$0.017125	$0.017125	$0.008984	$0.008984	$0.009545	$0.009545	$0.028074	$0.028074	$0.013475	$0.013475
	Resultant benefit allocation [%TotRates]		11.09%	2.13%	30.91%	0.74%	2.23%	0.46%	0.98%	0.03%	47.72%	0.62%	3.03%	0.07%
	Resultant allocation	$1,596,103	$176,978.08	$33,941.18	$493,284.66	$11,733.00	$35,548.07	$7,414.28	$15,585.86	$495.30	$761,630.13	$9,944.13	$48,408.28	$1,139.95

Glossary

Act	means the Biosecurity Act 1993 (including any amendments).
Appropriate	means as determined to be appropriate by the Council or their officers acting under delegated authority.
Authorised Person	means a person appointed as an authorised person under section 103 of the Act.
Beneficiary	means the receiver of benefits accruing from the implementation of the RPMP.
Chief Technical Officer	means a person appointed a Chief Technical Officer under section 101 of the Act.
Council	means the Marlborough District Council.
Craft	(a) means an aircraft, ship, boat, or other machine or vessel used or able to be used for the transport of people or goods, or both, by air or sea; and (b) includes— (i) an oil rig; and (ii) a structure or installation that is imported by being towed through the sea
Department	the same meaning as in the State Sector Act 1988.
Destroy	means pull, breakdown, demolish, make useless, kill, cause to cease to exist.
Domestic animal	means an animal that has been tamed and kept as a pet, work animal or for leisure/competition.
Ecosystem	means a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment, interacting as a functional unit.
Effect	unless the context otherwise requires, the term 'effect' includes: • any positive or adverse effects; and • any temporary or permanent effect; and • any past, present or future effect; and • any cumulative effect which arises over time or in combination with other effects regardless of the scale, intensity, duration or frequency of the effect, and also includes: • any potential effect of high probability; and • any potential effect of low probability which has a high potential impact.
Endemic	means where a pest is commonly found within a defined geographic area.
Enforce	means to compel, observance with the law.
Exacerbator	means a person, who by their actions or inaction, contributes to the creation, continuance, or exacerbation of a particular pest management problem.
Farmed livestock	means livestock farmed for the intention to sell or trade or to harvest commodities such as meat, milk, fibre or velvet.

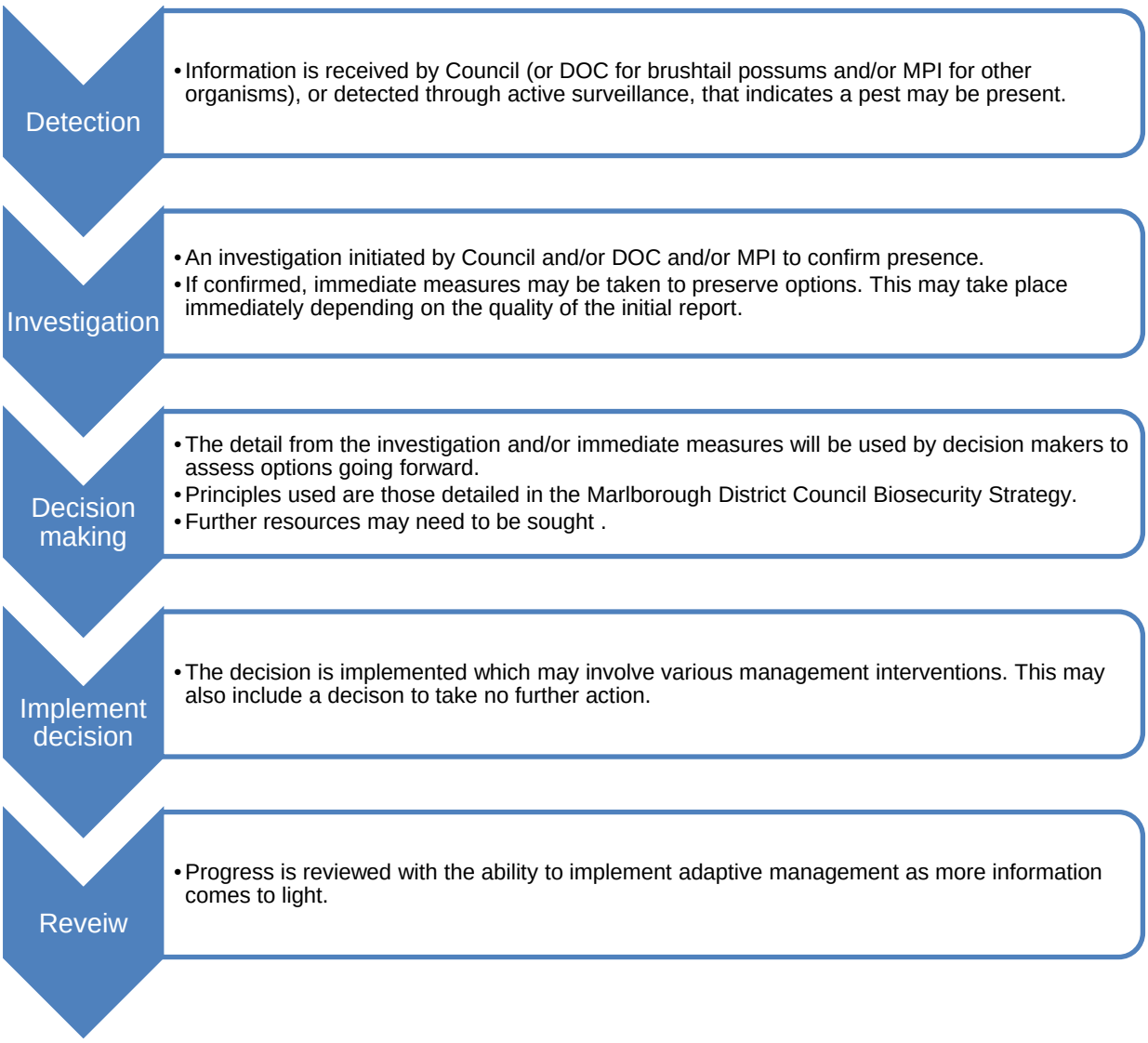
Local Authority	means a regional council or territorial authority.
Legal road	has the same meaning of the term 'road' as defined in the Biosecurity Act 1993 and has been formed and being maintained by the NZ Transport Agency or local authority.
Light fouling	means small patches (up to 100 millimetres in diameter) of visible fouling, totalling less than 5% of the hull and niche areas. A slime layer and/or goose barnacles are included in this definition.
Machinery	means machinery that is used to undertake soil disturbance or activities tending to pasture and/or arable crops.
Management Agency	means the department, authority or body corporate specified in a pest management plan as the management agency who is tasked with implementing the RPMP.
Management Plan	means an agreed plan between an occupier and Council that outlines how a pest will be managed on the place they occupy. Can be used in conjunction with pest management plan rules.
Ministry	means the Department of State that, with the authority of the Prime Minister, is for the time being responsible for the administration of the Act.
Monitor	means to observe and/or measure the occurrence of a pest where it is known to occur.
Objective	means a statement that outlines a specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound outcome, in accordance with the National Policy Direction for Pest Management.
Occupier	has the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Operational Plan	plan prepared by the management agency under section 100B of the Act.
Organism	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Person	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Pest	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Pest Agent Conifer	means any introduced conifer species that is capable of helping the spread of wilding conifers and is not otherwise specified as a pest within the RPMP and is not located within a plantation forest.
Pest Management Plan	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Place	includes any building, conveyance, craft, land, or structure, and the bed and waters of the sea and any canal, lake, pond, river, or stream.
Plantation forest	means a forest deliberately established for commercial purposes, being at least 1 hectare of continuous forest cover of forest species that has been planted and has or will be harvested or replanted.
Principal Officer	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Property	the area of land as that is defined by Council used for the collection of rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. In Marlborough, defined by the term Property Number. In the absence of a Property Number, means the underlying computer register title.
Region	in relation to a unitary authority, means the region in respect of which it has the functions, duties and powers of a regional council.
Regional Council	has the same meaning as in the Local Government Act 2002 and includes the Chatham Islands Council and unitary authorities.

Restricted Place	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Risk Goods	the same meaning as that within the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Rule	means a rule included in a pest management plan or a pathway management plan.
Unitary Authority	means territorial authority that, by virtue of section 37N (1) of the Local Government Act 1974, has the functions, duties and powers of a regional council in respect of a region under its control.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Process for regional biosecurity responses

The following process outlines the key steps in such a response.



Appendix 2 List of brushtail possum-free islands

Island Name	Location
Allports Island (Motuapa Island)	Inner Queen Charlotte
Amerikiwhati	Outer Queen Charlotte
Arapaoa Island	Outer Queen Charlotte
Awaiti Island	Tennyson Inlet
Bird Island	Forsyth Bay
Blumine Island	Outer Queen Charlotte
Clark Island	Waitaria Bay
Duffers Reef	Orchard Bay
Duffers Reef (West)	Orchard Bay
Forsyth Island	Forsyth Bay
Horahora Kakahu Island	Port Underwood
Karaka (Hamilton Island)	Admiralty Bay
Kokomohua Island	Outer Queen Charlotte
Long Island	Outer Queen Charlotte
Mabel Island	Inner Queen Charlotte
Maud Island	Tawhitinui Reach
Middle Trio	Trio Islands
Moioio Island	Tory Channel
Motuanauru Island	Okiwi Bay
Motuara Island	Ship Cove
Motungarara Island	Outer Queen Charlotte
Moukirikiri Island	Okiwi Bay
North Trio	Trio Islands
Nukuwaiata Island (Inner Chetwode)	Chetwode Islands
Otuhaereroa Island	Okiwi Bay
Pickersgill Island	East Bay
Puangiangi Island	Rangitoto Islands
Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island	Cook Strait
Sentinel Rock	Chetwode Islands
South Trio	Trio Islands
Stephens Island	Cook Strait
Tarakaipa Island	Tennyson Inlet
Tawhitinui Island	Tennyson Inlet
Te Kakaho (Outer Chetwode)	Chetwode Islands
The Brothers (North and South only)	Cook Strait
The Twins	Outer Queen Charlotte
Tinui Island	Rangitoto Islands
Tinui Island (South)	Rangitoto Islands
Titi Island	Guards Bay
Victory Island	Port Hardy
Wakaterepapanui Island	Rangitoto Islands
White Rocks	Cape Koamaru

Appendix 3 Modified McLean Scale for assessing rabbit populations

Scale	Feral Rabbit Infestation
1	No sign seen. No feral rabbits seen.
2	Very infrequent sign seen. Unlikely to see feral rabbits.
3	Sign infrequent with faecal heaps more than 10 metres apart. Odd feral rabbit may be seen.
4	Sign frequent with some faecal heaps more than 5 metres apart, but less than 10 metres apart. Groups of feral rabbits may be seen.
5	Sign very frequent with faecal heaps less than 5 metres apart in pockets. Feral rabbits spreading.
6	Sign very frequent with faecal heaps less than 5 metres apart over the whole area. Feral rabbits may be seen over whole area.
7	Sign very frequent with 2-3 faecal heaps often less than 5 metres apart over the whole area. Feral rabbits may be seen in large numbers over the whole area.
8	Sign very frequent with 3 or more faecal heaps less than 5 metres apart over the whole area. Feral rabbits likely to be seen in large numbers over the whole area.

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Regional Pest Management Plan

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Only Marlborough