

## 25. Management Planning

### Explanation

The Conservation Act 1987, sections 17D to 17I, establishes the management planning framework for the Department, requiring the preparation of a Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) for each conservancy and providing for Conservation Management Plans (CMPs) for specific functions or areas as required.

Before 1990 the Department was required to prepare management plans for each area managed. The Conservation Law Reform Act 1990 introduced CMSs for all the functions and areas managed by the Department and removed the requirement for a multitude of individual plans.

The Department has prepared Management Planning Guidelines (1990) for the preparation of CMSs and CMPs and consultation with the public.

The CMS is now the primary management planning document for the Conservancy, and any CMPs prepared must conform with its objectives.

Existing management plans listed in Table 12, p 212 are overridden by the CMS, and will not be replaced when they require review. The need for additional CMPs will be assessed in the 3-yearly evaluation of the CMS.

Management Plans prepared by local authorities under the Reserves Act 1977 are not affected by the CMS.

Part 4: Implementation, Review and Monitoring explains how CMS will be monitored and reviewed during its 10 year operation [*refer p 271*].

### Wellington Conservancy

The most recently approved management plan in the Conservancy is the Tararua Forest Park Management Plan, valid for the period 1990-2000. All others [*listed in Table 12, p 212*] are at least eight years old and were written before the Conservation Act 1987 and before the Department was formed.

The Department has been involved in the preparation of management planning guidelines for the Lake Wairarapa Wetlands in conjunction with other interested parties. It is discussing joint management planning approaches to future management of the Wellington South Coast, the eastern side of Wellington Harbour and the mountain lands and forested catchments managed by the Wellington Regional Council. Other joint planning exercises for areas of conservation significance managed by the Department and other organisations and individuals are anticipated.

### Management Issues

#### *Consultation*

The Department seeks to involve tangata whenua and the public in the preparation of the CMS and the CMP, as the land managed by the Department is public land. To be effective in its management, the Department needs to know the communities' views and have their support.

The challenge for the Department is to refine its management objectives with public input, explain the objectives adopted and provide opportunities for the public to respond in appropriate ways.

#### *Conservation Management Plans*

The management planning regime for the Department, introduced by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, removed the requirement for conservation management plans for each area managed by the Department. The only mandatory planning documents are the CMSs prepared by each conservancy.

The Department considered whether separate conservation management plans would be needed for areas managed by the Department in the Conservancy once CMS was approved.

It was concluded that the CMS can provide sufficient direction and detail for management and that separate CMPs, with one exception, would not be needed. The exception is the Kapiti Marine Reserve, where preparation of a CMP under the Marine Reserves Act 1977, was needed to establish management direction for the Conservancy's first marine reserve.

The decision not to proceed with CMPs for the 3 forest parks has resulted in detail being provided in CMS on recreation facility planning, especially the hut and track network, to replace detail provided in the 1990 Tararua Forest Park CMP.

The provisions of the existing conservation management plans, listed in Table 12, p 212 will be replaced by the CMS.

New CMPs may be needed in future to establish detailed management objectives and implementation for areas, and this will be determined at the three-yearly evaluations of the CMS.

#### *Planning Guidelines*

Natural areas can seldom be managed in isolation from their surroundings; thus the Department needs to consult, and work co-operatively with its neighbours. Regional and local government undertake planning exercises to direct management of their lands and reserves. The Department will continue to promote and participate in joint management planning exercises for areas of conservation significance where appropriate.

An example is the Lake Wairarapa Wetlands, where a more detailed consideration was needed in consultation with iwi, local government, and other organisations and individuals, than would be possible in this CMS. A management document (a site plan) will be prepared for the wetlands following a public process that mirrors the CMP process.

#### *Other Planning Documents*

The CMS provides directions for management with its objectives and implementations, some of which are detailed. In some areas and for some functions, non-statutory plans have been identified as necessary. There are five different categories of plans identified in the CMS:

- 1 *Operations Plans:* These provide detail for annual operations in the protection of natural and historic resources and management of recreation facilities on the areas managed by the Department. They will be in accordance with the direction set by the CMS.

The Fire Control Plan is a requirement of the Forest and Rural Fires Act

1977 [refer Section 19, Implementation 3, p 182]. Other operational plans are for Animal Pest Control [refer Section 20, p 183], Plant Pest Control [refer Section 21, p 191], Huts, Tracks and Recreation Facilities [refer Section 27, p 231], and Captive Breeding and species recovery [refer Section 14.1, p 142].

- 2 *Contingency Plans:* These plans are prepared to establish the procedures for preventing or responding to an emergency such as an oil spill or rodent invasion of a pest-free island. Examples are mammal contingency plans for islands and the oil spill contingency plan.
- 3 *Site Plans:* These plans guide the development of areas, especially recreation and/or interpretation for an area, or guide indigenous species introductions. [refer Table 13, p 213]
- 4 *Rehabilitation/Restoration Plans:* These plans guide re-vegetation programmes or guide indigenous species introductions. [refer Table 13, p 213]
- 5 *Functional Plans:* These involve assessment of a function such as threatened species management, historic resource conservation, animal and plant pest control or research across the conservancy to assist in determining priorities for action to meet the objectives of the CMS. These plans once completed may lead to reviews and subsequent amendments to the CMS [refer Table 13, p 213].

These internal plans will not be publicly notified, but will be discussed with the Conservation Board, tangata whenua and other interested organisations. Some (e.g., species recovery plans) are prepared at a national level by Head Office and conservancy staff.

## Objectives

- 1 Ensure integrated management of all areas managed by the Department.
- 2 Consult with the Conservation Board in the preparation of any amendments to the CMS and any CMPs.
- 3 Provide opportunities for tangata whenua and the public to be involved in the preparation of any amendments to the CMS and any CMPs.
- 4 Ensure the CMS remains an effective planning document by monitoring and subsequent reviews and amendments  
[Refer Part 4: Implementation, Review and Monitoring, p 271].

## Implementation

- 1 The CMS will be the basic planning document for the Conservancy. Any existing management plans and any subsequent plans must conform with the objectives and implementation provisions in the CMS.
- 2 The need for further CMPs will be assessed at each three-yearly evaluation of the CMS, taking into account whether any of the following factors are relevant:
  - The area has a high public profile or has particular significance to the community or sectors of the community, *and/or*
  - There are competing demands on the area, *and/or*
  - There are special issues which cannot be covered by the CMS in sufficient detail, or cannot be resolved by consultation or other processes.
- 3 The Conservation Board will be offered opportunities to assist in the development of management approaches in strategies and plans and in any pre-notification consultation with iwi or other groups.

- 4 Public input will be sought when preparing a CMP. Input from iwi, conservation and user groups and adjoining landowners will be specifically sought.
- 5 A CMP will be prepared for Kapiti Marine Reserve.
- 6 Advocate for joint management planning exercises for areas with significant natural and historic resources.

Table 12:  
Existing CMPs  
Prepared for Areas  
Managed by the  
Department in  
the Conservancy

PLACE	YEAR
<b>Forest Parks</b>	
Aorangi (Haurangi) Forest Park	1979
Rimutaka Forest Park	1982
Tararua Forest Park	1990
<b>Wairarapa</b>	
Carnival Park Scenic Reserve	1986
Carter Scenic Reserve	1978
E C Holmes Memorial Scenic Reserve	1981
Haukopua Scenic Reserve	1985
Kahutara Scenic Reserve	1981
Kupe's Sail Rock Recreation Reserve	1986
Makuri Conservation Scenic Reserve	1985
Makuri Gorge Scenic Reserve	1985
Makuri Township Scenic Reserve	1985
Ohinereiaata Scenic Reserve	1985
Oporua Scenic Reserve	1982
Pahiatua Hill Scenic Reserve	1985
Pipinui Waterfall Scenic Reserve	1985
R W Tate Scenic Reserve	1982
Tiraumea River Scenic Reserve	1985
Waewaepa Scenic Reserve	1985
W A Miller Scenic Reserve	1985
<b>Wellington</b>	
Duck Creek Scenic Reserve	1986
Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve	1984
Red Rocks Scientific Reserve	1986
Trentham Scenic Reserve	1986
Turakirae Head Scientific Reserve	1986
Wainuiomata Scenic Reserve	1986
Whakatikei Scenic Reserve	1986
<b>Kapiti/Horowhenua</b>	
Hemi Matenga Memorial Park Scenic Reserve	1982
Kaitawa Scenic Reserve	1986
Lake Papaitonga Scenic Reserve	1986
Maungakotukutuku Scenic Reserve	1986
<b>Islands</b>	
Kapiti Island Nature Reserve	1981
Mana Island Scientific Reserve	1986

Table 13:  
Non-statutory Planning Documents in this CMS

SECTION	PLANS	IMPLEMENTATION
<b>Site Plans:</b>		
5.2	Lake Wairarapa Wetlands	Implementation 2, page 35
5.4	Castlepoint Senic Reserve	Implementation 5, page 40
5.5	National Wildlife Centre	Implementation 6, page 44
7.4	Waikanae Estuary Scientific Reserve	Implementation 1, page 88
8.0	Orongorongo Valley, Rimutaka Forest Park	Implementation 9, page 104
8.0	Holdsworth, Tararua Forest Park	Implementation 10, page 104
8.0	Otaki Forks, Tararua Forest Park	Implementation 10, page 104
8.0	Catchpool Valley, Rimutaka Forest Park	Implementation 10, page 104
<b>Rehabilitation/Restoration Plans:</b>		
6.4	Pauatahanui Wildlife Management Reserve	Implementation 1, page 63
6.10	Pukerua Bay Scientific Reserve	Implementation 1, page 77
9.2	Kapiti Island Nature Reserve	Implementation 1, page 113
9.3	Mana Island Scientific Reserve	Implementation 1, page 118
9.4	Somes Island	Implementation 3, page 122
<b>Functional Plans:</b>		
14.1	Threatened (Indigenous) Plant Management Strategy	Implementation 8, page 145
14.1	Threatened (Indigenous) Invertebrate Management Strategy	Implementation 8, page 145
15	Historic Resources Strategy	Implementation 2, page 157
15	Archaeological Resource Statement	Implementation 3, page 157
20	Wellington Conservancy Pest Management Plan	Implementation 2, page 188
21	Conservancy Plant Pest Control Plan	Implementation 3, page 193
24	Survey and Monitoring Strategy	Implementation 8, page 207
24	Conservancy Research Agenda	Implementation 2, page 206
27	Public Risk and Safety Management Plan	Implementation 1, page 253
28	Public Awareness Strategy	28.2 Implementation 3, page 261 28.3 Implementation 1, page 263 28.4 Implementation 1, page 265
<b>Operations Plans:</b>		
14.1	Species Recovery Plans (National)	Implementation 5, page 145 Implementation 13, page 145
5.5, 14.1	Captive Breeding Management Plans	Implementation 2, page 44 Implementation 20, page 146
19	Fire Control Plan	Implementation 2, page 182
20	Wild Animal Control Plan	Implementation 1, page 188
27	Hut Maintenance Plan	Implementation 2, page 241
27	Track and Public Access Maintenance Plan	Implementation 2, page 241
27	Recreation Facilities Management Plan	Implementation 2, page 241
<b>Contingency Plans:</b>		
9, 20	Mammal Contingency Plans for islands	Implementation 4, 5, page 113 Implementation 6, page 113 Implementation 10, page 113 Implementation 18, page 189
17	Oil Spill Contingency Plans	Implementation 12, page 172