

Report 00.814

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Report to Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee from Wayne O'Donnell, Manager, Biosecurity

Regional Pest Management Strategy Review – Sub-Committee Appointment

1. **Purpose**

To appoint a Sub-Committee to consider the various tasks required to progress the development and implementation of the new Regional Pest Management Strategy.

2. Background

The current Regional Pest Management Strategies (RPMS) expire on 30 June 2001. A review of the RPMS is well under way. Analysis of contender pest species under Section 72 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 has been completed and a report generated. Finishing touches are currently being made to a Review Summary Document for consultation with affected Crown Departments, Local Authorities, and Iwi Authorities, as required under Section 73 of the Act.

It is proposed to notify the Proposed Regional Pest Management Strategy prior to the end of the calendar year, after taking account of preliminary consultation feedback.

3. Sub-Committee Appointment

The proposed review timetable will occur between scheduled meetings of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee. As the Committee has been delegated responsibility as the Management Agency for the Strategy, it is important that an approval process is incorporated before public notification occurs. The appointment of a Sub-Committee would provide for this input.

It is suggested that the Sub-Committee be involved until the final RPMS is approved by the full Committee. This would enable greater flexibility than seeking Committee feedback through the formal reporting process. It would also be appropriate for all or some of the Sub-Committee members to constitute the Hearings Committee. The latter Committee is likely to be required in the March-April 2001 period.

4. Communications

No particular communication initiatives are required on this matter.

5. Recommendation

- (1) That a Sub-Committee be appointed to consider the various tasks required to progress the development and implementation of the new Regional Pest Management Strategy.
- (2) That the Sub-Committee be delegated the responsibility of determining membership of the Hearings Committee.

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission by:

Might

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