

Implementing targets from the Waimea Inlet Action Plan – progress during 2021 Progress update status: DELAYED/ ON HOLD | IN PROGRESS | ON TRACK/COMPLETE

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
1.1.1. Investigate the potential feasibility and cost of altering the causeway to Moturoa/Rabbit Island to achieve flushing and therefore reduce sea-lettuce proliferation in the non-flushed pockets of estuary.	Complete feasibility study of altering the causeway to Moturoa/Rabbit Island by 2025.	2025	Lead: Yet to be confirmed, Support: TDC		ON HOLD No action is proposed until another party decides to lead this action (TDC has a supporting role only).	
	Reduce the area of nuisance algal area (areas where macroalgae exceeds 20% cover) by 5% by 2030.	2030	Lead: Yet to be confirmed, Support: TDC		ON HOLD This is a big project requiring consents, iwi input etc and we cannot look at this presently. Salt Ecology has been approached to investigate the potential causes of the nuisance macroalgae growth north of Nelson Pine Industries Ltd.	
1.1.2. Ensure commitment to repeat broad-scale habitat monitoring and Estuary Vulnerability Assessment on a 5-yearly cycle to ensure ecological health of the estuary is sustained.	Repeat broad scale habitat monitoring and vulnerability assessments in 2018, 2023, and 2028.	2018, 2023, 2028	Lead: TDC/NCC	ON TRACK Both broad scale and fine-scale monitoring occur on a regular 5 yearly basis.	ON TRACK We delivered a broad scale mapping report to the Council in November 2020, and to the Waimea Inlet Forum in May 2021. The priority over the next 5-10 years will be impact monitoring i.e., looking more closely at the causes of the issues raised in the Broad Scale mapping report. The Council did a vulnerability assessment for the Inlet in 2010. There was/is no intention to repeat it.	
1.2.1. Manage and restore key habitats managed on public and private land	Identify key sites, plus linking corridors and transition zones, to be managed to protect estuarine habitats by 1 July 2019. Also consider options for formal protection.	2020	Lead: WIF, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS NCC have been determining planting locations and species for Whakatu Drive esplanade reserves ecological restoration, and this will continue in May-June 2022. Coastal restoration prioritisation is to start in 2022. A Whakatu Drive saltmarsh restoration pilot is due to start in 2022.	ON TRACK Most of the land TDC manages adjacent to the Inlet already has formal protection, either under the Reserves Act 1977 or Local Government Act 2002. A TDC project manager was appointed in 2020 to oversee the implementation of two Ministry for the Environment funded projects that focus on the enhancement of the Waimea Inlet. Much progress has been made over the first year, with 26,000 plants having been planted; control of weed species underway; weed mapping of the entire Inlet completed and draft plan produced; salt marsh restoration trials underway; and a concept plan developed for Waimea Delta restoration as well as on-site monitoring and sampling was undertaken.	WIF: COMPLETE WIF identification of sites was completed in 2019. WIF has used TDC and NCC Significant Native Habitat (SNH) information to manage and protect estuarine habitats.
1.2.2. Develop ecological corridors and transition zones linking habitats				IN PROGRESS NCC has been developing a bio-corridors practice note. Once completed, NCC will start the development of a bio-corridors strategy.		

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1.2.3. Increase the area of saltmarsh, naturally vegetated duneland and naturally-vegetated estuary margin in the Waimea Inlet.	Increase the area of naturally vegetated dune land on Moturoa/Rabbit and Rough Island by 10% compared with 2018 by 2026 and maintain Sand Island status of marram grass free.	2026	Lead: TDC/NCC, Support: WIF/DOC	IN PROGRESS Sand Island was reported to be free of marram in 2018. No monitoring occurred in 2021.	IN PROGRESS 6.8ha was planted in 2021 on Rough Island through the 1 Billion Trees (1BT) Phase 2 Funding. Further planting was also undertaken by volunteers . In addition to 1BT Phase 1 and 2 projects, planting has occurred on the Moturoa coastal dune area (1,500 sand grasses) and the Moturoa Māpua ferry landing (2,500 plants). Through the One Billion Trees Phase 2 project, 1.7Ha will be planted on Moturoa/Rabbit Island. The Council has planned for planting on 0.9Ha at Rough Island in 2022.	
	Increase the area of saltmarsh in the Waimea Inlet by 5% by 2030.	2030	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS A Salt Ecology report recently provided options for a saltmarsh enhancement pilot near Orchard Stream, Whakatu Drive. From this NCC produced a draft enhancement plan for that area as part of MfE funded programme.	IN PROGRESS We have been planning two areas for salt marsh restoration - Best Island (redundant road) and Borck Creek to Sandemann Reserve. The work is planned for next summer/autumn and is dependent upon the consents process.	
	Increase the area of naturally-vegetated estuary margin by 10km (to an average width of 10m) by 2026, compared with 2018.	2026	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS The above saltmarsh enhancement will include terrestrial estuary margin planting as part of the natural saltmarsh sequence. NCC has been working with MPI and TET to determine planting locations and species. Whakatu Drive esplanade reserves ecological restoration plantings will start in May-June 2022.	IN PROGRESS We have planted 26,000 plants, covering an area of 6.6Ha through the Waimea Inlet 1BT Phase 2 project in 2021; this is primarily in estuary margin areas.	WIF/TET: ON TRACK The 2021 season added approx. 41,000 plants, planted through Battle for the Banded Rail, 1BT, NCC, DOC and TDC planting programmes. This is equivalent to 2.75 km length, 10m wide at 1x1m spacing.
1.2.4. Minimise further shoreline armouring and promote use of “soft engineering” techniques wherever possible for all infrastructure including replacement armouring, roads, and cycleways.	No increase in the net extent of shoreline armouring by 2030 and increase use of “soft engineering” techniques wherever possible.	2030	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS NCC officers request that “soft engineering” is required consistent with natural character when reviewing resource management applications. The above saltmarsh enhancement pilot near Orchard Stream will see a trial of natural edge treatments.	ON TRACK There has not been any new rock armouring around the Waimea Inlet over the last year. Saltmarsh trials are still expected to happen in the near future and may be an effective soft-engineering technique to help protect sections of the Great Taste Trail. Several sections of the Great Taste Trail boardwalk were damaged in recent storm events and have been replaced like for like.	
1.2.5. Promote formal protection of natural areas (e.g. covenant, change in land tenure).	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	All	IN PROGRESS Projects NCC reported on in 2020 (significant natural areas programme and mapping, and desktop mapping of wetlands) are going to be presented to iwi, and if there are no concerns, they will be put into operation.	IN PROGRESS As part of a Jobs for Nature funded project, landowners prioritised to receive weed control assistance will be encouraged to enter formal protection of the sites using mechanisms such as QEII covenants.	WIF: IN PROGRESS WIF submitted to TDC on the classification of Reserves in the Moutere-Waimea Ward in 2021.

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					TDC classified all existing reserves within Moutere-Waimea Ward in 2021 (i.e. those already subject to the Reserves Act 1977), including those bordering the Waimea Inlet. Activities in water body margin spaces will be considered in the Tasman Environment Plan review (2019-2024).	
2.1.1. Include consideration of the natural values of the inlet in all proposed changes to the Resource Management Plans.	Review the policies of the Nelson and Tasman Resource Management Plans to ensure that they require protection of Inlet values and meet the requirements of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM) (as set out in the progressive implementation plans).	2025	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS NCC has been furthering their work around bio-corridors and how to better protect areas of important connectivity. The result of this work will help support the Nelson Plan and other planning mechanisms.	ON TRACK Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and Tasman Resource Management Plan (RMP). The consideration of the natural values of the Waimea Inlet will be a part of this review. Community ideas are being sought, with issues and options papers due for release later in 2022 and public feedback round in Oct-Nov 2022. There will be another public feedback round on a draft plan in 2023, and an intention to publicly notify a combined Tasman Environment Plan (TEP) in Dec 2024. As part of the TEP development, a landscape study and natural character assessment has been undertaken, focusing on outstanding natural features, landscapes and characteristics, new rules, policies, and objectives. In terms of biodiversity, there will be a focus on the coastal, riparian margins, estuaries, marine and land-based environments. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) will help to identify appropriate activities in the coastal environment area.	
2.1.2. Clean up pollution sources (both point and non-point pollution) and monitor progress	Complete review of water quality in contributing waterways and document required remedial action by 2025	2025	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS NCC has developed web reporting pages for freshwater quality, ecology and recreation bathing that provide more up to date reporting of stream health with respect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM) (2020) and draft Whakatu Plans.	ON TRACK An issues and options report is being prepared that looks at the groundwater nitrate issue to identify options for an action plan to address nitrate levels over time. It is anticipated that public feedback will be sought on this report and the action plan in late 2022. The Waimea Nitrate Project has been initiated with industry groups and growers on the Waimea Plains with workshops through Nov 2021 – March 2022. The project aims to ensure all growers have Freshwater Farm Plan equivalents by the end of 2022. The project addresses nutrient and irrigation management as a first step to addressing the nitrate levels in groundwater that feeds the spring-fed streams entering the estuary. The plan is to run a face-to-face workshop as soon as possible and to show those farm plans completed and then help develop farm	

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					<p>plans with other growers. In the meanwhile, Fruiton has been contracted to gather data to re-run modeling. This data has now been collected and modelling will be done over the next month with a final report due in June.</p> <p>The resource consent for discharges from Council-controlled urban stormwater systems (RM191019) was granted in May 2021. This consent requires a monitoring plan to be developed by May 2022 and comprehensive monitoring to occur. The consent also requires actions in relation to Catchment Management Plans (CMP) (only Richmond has a CMP at this stage).</p>	
2.1.3. Restore freshwater ecosystems.	Establish a list of priority sites for restoration work on freshwater ecosystems by 2022.	2022	Lead: TDC/NCC	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>NCC is continuing its work from 2020: restoration work to enhance inanga spawning habitat across streams around Stoke, ecological restoration for Poorman Valley Stream.</p> <p>NCC carried out additional freshwater fish and MCI (macroinvertebrate community index) monitoring using eDNA (Environmental DNA) in all five FMUs (Freshwater Management Unit). More eDNA work is planned this summer in collaboration with DOC to target sites with threatened shortjaw kokopu and lamprey.</p>	<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>TDC staff have developed a list of priority sites.</p> <p>The main progress with this has been the gravel replenishment in Reservoir Creek from Hill Street to the sea. More meander needs to be provided to slow gravel movement downstream, as well as improve freshwater ecology values.</p> <p>A Restoration Concept Plan has been developed for the Waimea Delta and a field trip held with iwi.</p>	
	Catchment nutrient, sediment, faecal and other contaminants concentrations to the tributaries going into the Inlet are reduced by 10% by 2026.	2026	Lead: TDC/NCC	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The Council is working to reduce the discharge of contaminants to the Inlet through development of a Stormwater and Wastewater Quality Improvement programmes, the Whakatu Nelson Plan and appropriate resource management. The Stormwater Quality Improvement Programme has identified urban catchment contaminants from monitoring and risk assessment undertaken by Cawthron. The programme is testing a range of monitoring methods to describe in-pipe contaminant loads and ongoing monitoring, integrating state of the environment monitoring in waterways and the Inlet. The Erosion and Sediment Control guidelines and Land Development Manual (2020) are minimum standards to reduce sediment and other contaminant discharges. Recent resource consents to upgrade Saxton Creek and Stoke industry have included improvements stormwater management, with specific discharge monitoring over the next two years to meet water quality standards. The freshwater,</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The Council's focus is on meeting requirements set in the NPSFM.</p> <p>The Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) project is ongoing. The Council is seeking funding in conjunction with industry for flocculation (separation of solids from liquids to produce soft flakes) research and a project to establish national guidance for ESC.</p> <p>An issues and options report is being prepared that looks at the groundwater nitrate issue to identify options for an action plan to address nitrate levels over time. It is anticipated that public feedback will be sought on this report and the action plan in late 2022.</p> <p>The Waimea Nitrate Project has been initiated with industry groups and growers on the Waimea Plains (detailed earlier).</p> <p>Increasing (degrading) <i>E.coli</i> concentrations in Reservoir Creek will hopefully be addressed through the new resource consent</p>	

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				estuarine and hydrology web reporting is under development to provide more timely reporting for regional reporting and activity management plans. Recent web reporting pages include: https://ncc-environmental-reporting.gitlab.io/surface-freshwater-quality-2020/ ; https://ncc-environmental-reporting.gitlab.io/freshwater-ecology-2020/ due to be updated for 2021.	for discharges to streams from urban stormwater networks. <i>E.coli</i> concentrations in the Waimea River are also increasing (degrading the environment), but more resources under the Catchment Enhancement Fund will be needed to address that issue. High <i>E.coli</i> concentrations in Neimann Creek are thought to be from Pukeko – however, no genetic markers are available for Pukeko.	
2.1.4. Promote riparian fencing and planting programs.	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC/NCC		ON TRACK For the next three years with the Waimea Inlet One Billion Trees Phase 2 Projects, we are proposing to plant on a number of sites on public and private land. One of the aims of the 1BT Project is to install 1km of fencing by 2021 to protect new plantings from damage by stock or vehicles. We have been liaising with private landowners, and from 2022, they will be installing their own fences to protect plantings from stock, as well as installing further fencing on the estuary edge at Best Island. 220m of fencing is to be installed in 2022.	
2.1.5. Monitor toxin levels, identify problems, establish clean-up programmes and monitor progress.	All urban and industrial storm water and effluent discharges to streams in the catchment meet ANZECC (2000) ISQG low sediment toxicity criteria within 50m of the discharge outfall by 2030.	2030	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS Coastal and Marine monitoring programme design completed and operational. Water quality sampling commenced at 7 x coastal sites, and 6 x marine sites.	IN PROGRESS Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan. The resource consent for discharges from Council-controlled urban stormwater systems (RM191019) was granted in May 2021. This consent requires a monitoring plan to be developed by May 2022 and sediment and toxic chemical monitoring will be included.	
	Commence remediation of old dumps on the estuary margins as they are discovered.	All years	Lead: Not yet assigned, Support: TDC/NCC		ON TRACK No new sites have been discovered since the last report.	
2.2.1. Undertake biosecurity surveillance and response.	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC/NCC	ON TRACK The Council works with TDC to monitor and eradicate pest plants as part of its work in implementing the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan. NCC staff also assist DOC with their successful <i>Gambusia</i> eradication trial in the Maire Stream. There were no active <i>Spartina</i> infestations detected within Nelson region area of Waimea Estuary during 2020-2021 surveillance.	ON TRACK The Council continue to monitor and work to eradicate pest plants as part of its work implementing the Nelson-Tasman Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP). This also includes species outside of the RPMP such as <i>Juncus gerardii</i> and the jellybean ice-plant. This work helped inform development of the new weed management strategy. Pest plant control in the Waimea Inlet has received a considerable boost in funding through the Waimea Inlet Enhancement	

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					<p>Project and the Landscape-scale weed control project.</p> <p>TDC staff also assist DOC with their <i>Spartina</i> control programme, and the successful <i>Gambusia</i> eradication trial in the Riwaka drains. This work is now in the feasibility stage to expand to catchment level eradication.</p>	
2.2.2. Manage and reduce weed populations and exclude new weeds	Develop a unified strategic weed management control plan with appropriate agencies/stakeholders that identifies species and sites, establishes the most appropriate management approach by 2021.	2021	Lead: TDC/NCC, Support: DOC	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The Council has supported the development of the Waimea Inlet Pest Plant Strategy and will continue to support the weed control work to implement the strategy.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The weed mapping exercise started in 2020 was completed and used to inform development of a Waimea Inlet Pest Plant Strategy. This Strategy will guide future action in parallel with ongoing work to control known pest plants in the Inlet. The Plan was presented to the WICG by the authors (Kaitiaki o Ngahere) at the November 2021 WICG hui and feedback invited. This Strategy will be used inform further weed control in the Waimea Inlet for the next 4 years.</p> <p>Approximately 5ha of weed control was undertaken in 2021.</p>	<p>DOC - IN PROGRESS.</p> <p>Strategic Weed Management draft report was received October and is currently under review.</p>
	Secure funding for control of Jellybean ice-plant by 2020.	2020	Lead: DOC, Support: TDC/NCC		<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>MfE funding for plant pest control has been acquired through the Waimea Inlet Enhancement Project and the Landscape Scale Weed Control Project.</p> <p>Work to control plant pest species commenced in late 2020 and continued during 2021.</p>	<p>DOC – COMPLETE</p> <p>This is ongoing. TDC has taken the lead and DOC support this work by recording sightings of Jellybean ice-plant (during <i>Spartina</i> surveillance) and sharing this information.</p>
	Management plan for <i>Gambusia</i> written by March December 2019, and implementation of the fully funded plan commenced by 2021.	2021	Lead: DOC, Support: TDC/NCC			<p>DOC – IN PROGRESS</p> <p><i>Gambusia</i> eradication from the Waimea Inlet is likely unfeasible. In the meantime, the best management option is being assessed and field surveillance is being carried out in priority areas to monitor <i>Gambusia</i> dispersal. Containment within the Nelson/Tasman area is likely to be the best management option going forward, therefore the development of a containment plan should be the next action for this pestfish.</p>
	<i>Spartina</i> eradication programme fully funded and implementation commenced (5-year control and 5-year monitoring) by 2022.	2022	Lead: DOC, Support: TDC		<p>ON TRACK</p> <p>Additional resources are being put into <i>Spartina</i> eradication through the Jobs for Nature funded landscape-scale weed control project.</p>	<p>DOC – ON TRACK.</p> <p>DOC received funding through MfE’s Jobs for Nature programme. This means additional surveillance and removal resources will be available for the next three years.</p>

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3.1.1. Plan for managed retreat of natural ecosystems as sea level rises and climate effects intensify.	Integrate consideration of the likely impact of sea level rise and other climate change effects on the viability of estuary margins and on threatened species and wildlife, into Council-led climate change planning, by April 2026.	2026	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS The Nelson City Climate Action Plan was released in 2021 and gives specific guidance around considering the impact of sea-level rise on estuary margins and wildlife.	IN PROGRESS This target has been included in TDC's 'Tasman Climate Action Plan' and is also a consideration for the development of the TEP, our second-generation resource management plan. Staff have been drafting issues and options for the TEP.	
	Identify key opportunities to enhance ecological sequences and support landowners/stakeholders to implement to enable managed retreat by 1 July 2020.	2020	Lead: TDC/NCC, Support: WIF		IN PROGRESS We have used some of the funding received from the Ministry for the Environment for restoration trials around the Waimea Inlet, including the Waimea River Delta/Pearl Creek area. We have developed a concept plan for Waimea Delta restoration, as well as on-site monitoring and undertaken sampling. One of the objectives of this specific restoration project is to provide adequate space for estuarine margin habitats to naturally respond to climate change by migrating further inland.	WIF: ON TRACK The Battle for the Banded Rail project is working with participating landowners to ensure habitat will respond to sea-level rise.
	Create a managed retreat and climate change response action plan by 1 July 2026.	2026	Lead: TDC/NCC	ON TRACK Work is to occur in 2022 to prioritise allocation of resources across coastal sites in Nelson. This will factor climate change, current ecological values and feasibility of restoration	ON TRACK The TDC Coastal Management Project (CMP) looks at the effects of sea level rise and coastal hazards and how we might address them. This information will inform the development of the TEP as well as wider Council work programmes (e.g. infrastructure and asset management, reserves, civil defence). The Council undertook community engagement over September-October 2021 on high-level options for coastal management (being accommodate, protect, avoid, and retreat). This engagement promoted discussion and information on coastal management options as part of work towards developing our long-term adaptive plan for sea level rise and coastal hazards. The outcome of the Resource Management Act reform and release of the National Adaptation Plan in 2022 are likely to significantly influence next steps in this project.	
	Create a priority list of sites to be managed, including key habitats/seed source by 2024.	2024	Lead: WIF, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC		ON TRACK The Waimea Inlet Management Strategy and Action Plan is currently being reviewed and updated.	

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3.1.2. Prevent new infrastructure on sites where managed retreat for biodiversity is required and analyse the social and economic effects on the community.	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC/NCC		IN PROGRESS Work on the CMP and associated community engagement is ongoing (see 3.1.1.c)	
4.1.1. Restore fish habitat and remove targeted fish passage barriers in contributing waterways.	Complete programmes to restore fish habitat, including spawning sites, and identify and remove targeted fish passage barriers in contributing waterways by 1 July 2026	2026	Lead: TDC/NCC		IN PROGRESS Funding for a \$2.1M region-wide project for assessment and remediation of in-stream structures for fish passage was confirmed in May 2021, a part-time project manager employed in July 2021 and contracts for the work were signed in October 2021. A portion of this fund is being used in the Waimea Gravel replenishment in Reservoir Creek was undertaken in Jan-Feb 2021 from Hill Street to the sea. More meander needs to be provided in order to slow gravel movement downstream, as well as improve freshwater ecology values. Enhancement of the inanga spawning site on Reservoir Creek is due to start in summer 2021-22. Gravel from the Easby Park gravel trap is being stockpiled in the Borck Creek corridor for use on saltmarsh restoration projects (it has too greater fines content for use in streams).	
4.1.2. Identify and protect areas of native vegetation within the Waimea Inlet and surrounds.	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC/NCC		ON TRACK Ongoing work as part of the Tasman BioStrategy project, the review of the Waimea Inlet Management Strategy and activity under the Waimea Inlet Enhancement project will help identify and protect areas of native vegetation in the Waimea Inlet. The Moturoa/Rabbit Island Reserve Management Plan includes policies that provide protection to significant native habitat remnants on these islands and the draft Moutere-Waimea Ward RMP includes policies to protect and restore reserves bordering the Waimea Inlet.	

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4.1.3. Identify areas subject to tidal influence and work with landowner to exclude stock.	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC		IN PROGRESS Some landowners with watercourses (brooks, streams etc), that are not currently fenced around the Waimea, are interested in fencing. The original site proposed to the Ministry for the Environment for the Waimea Inlet Enhancement Project is already entirely fenced. We are approaching more landowners. It is unlikely to achieve the 3Ha area target identified with MfE – this requires a large set back to achieve.	
4.1.4. Enhance ecological sequences and support landowners/stakeholders to implement (e.g. embayment margins).	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC/NCC Support: TET	ON TRACK Council is currently working towards restoration of the Waimea Inlet edge through restoration plantings on esplanade reserve. This work is currently being guided by a recently developed Ecological Restoration Plan that will guide Councils restoration actions.	ON TRACK Consultation between TDC and landowners is ongoing, as planting areas expand out from key sites (generally embayment). Community interest is high due to the success of older plantings, capturing landowners' imaginations, but there is also increased public interest. Through community plantings, a number of embayment areas have been planted also.	TET: ON TRACK Battle for the Banded rail is a key organisation for engaging with neighbours and landowners, it has an ongoing maintenance programme, and working bees to assist landowners.
5.1.1 Protect the Back Beach Beetle from extinction.	Develop a strategic approach to the current and future management of the Back Beach Beetle by 31 December 2020.	2020	Lead: DOC Support: NCC	COMPLETE NCC assisted by preparing a management plan in 2019 to protect the Back Beach Beetle for DOC to implement.		DOC – IN PROGRESS Last year DOC undertook surveys as per the recommendations in the management plan that NCC prepared. This year DOC has started reviewing the approach to the surveys to identify further sites. Two new sites were identified at Airport Peninsula. A further survey is planned for summer 22/23 in suitable habitat to determine distribution. DOC's ongoing work to suppress intertidal weeds (esp. <i>Spartina</i>) will enhance the habitat for this species. The Waimea Inlet Management Strategy is currently being reviewed and updated. This process will assist with the setting of priorities.
5.1.2. Actively manage all threatened species in the Inlet and its surrounds.	Pursue a full programme of recovery actions for <i>Lepidium banksii</i> - coastal peppergrass including with community and botanic gardens for ex-situ populations and seed banking including annual weed and pest control, monitoring in situ and ex-situ of peppergrass and its threats and identifying, and if required, restoring sites suitable for the introduction of <i>Lepidium banksii</i> by 2025.	2025	Lead: DOC, Support: All			DOC – IN PROGRESS Plant and Food Research is undertaking genome sequencing to look at genetic diversity of the population. DOC's planter box trial for <i>lepidium banksii</i> (which was considered to be locally extinct from the Inlet) is ongoing and is part of DOC's management plan.
	Update the DOC Ecological Management Unit (EMU) assessment including comprehensive listing of threatened species and locally	Ongoing	Lead: DOC, Support: TDC/NCC		IN PROGRESS There will now be links with this work and requirements under the NPS-FM for the	DOC – IN PROGRESS DOC continue to keep the list of bird species within the EMU assessment updated locally.

Implementing targets from the Waimea Inlet Action Plan – progress during 2021 Progress update status: DELAYED/ ON HOLD | IN PROGRESS | ON TRACK/COMPLETE

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
	significant species and their requirements.				<p>compulsory value of threatened species which will be considered as part of the review of the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan (2019-2024).</p> <p>The Waimea Inlet Management Strategy is currently being reviewed and updated. A process which will assist with setting of priorities.</p>	DOC's 50-year 'prescription', (which describes the work required to maintain the ecosystem(s) in good condition, and the additional work required for managing its threatened species) focuses on back beech beetle and lepidium banksia.
5.1.3. Manage the effects of domestic and feral animals on native animals and plants including effects of cats and dogs.	Complete a unified strategic animal pest control plan to "control" all predators and herbivores where these are a threat to threatened species and habitats by 30 June 2022.	2022	Lead: TET, Support: All		<p>ON TRACK</p> <p>TDC continues to support the TET's trapping work.</p> <p>Feral cats are a declared pest in the Waimea Inlet Site Lead Programme under the Regional Pest Management Plan.</p> <p>A Draft Cat Bylaw under the Local Government Act 2002 was considered by the Tasman District Council's Regulatory Committee in December 2021 but was rejected.</p> <p>The Waimea Inlet Management Strategy is currently being reviewed and updated.</p> <p>The TDC Dog Bylaw will go under a full review in 2024. TDC has not found or received any evidence (visual or anecdotal) of dogs having any impact on native animals or plants around the Waimea Inlet. Currently, the Bylaw allows dogs to be off leash (but under control) on Rough Island, but are prohibited from Sand, Rabbit, and parts of Bell Island.</p>	<p>TET: IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Predator control is in place and further development is planned.</p> <p>Approx. 1,000 traps around Waimea Inlet are managed by Battle for the Banded Rail and 50 volunteers.</p> <p>Feral cat control continues to take place at Pearl Creek.</p> <p>Dog control and their impacts on birdlife remains an issue of key concern for TET and WIF.</p>
5.1.4. Develop and implement baseline distribution surveys and/or monitoring programmes for banded rail, fern bird, marsh crake, spotless crake, and Australasian bittern	Prepare a unified plan for bird surveys, including site conditions (roosting, nesting, feeding), conducted by different groups by 31 December 2022. Note, also applies to Action 5.	2022	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The coastal bird survey that NCC commissioned last year will commence in 2022.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>In Feb 2020, Nikki McArthur was commissioned to undertake a comprehensive review of threats to all coastal birds, and opportunities for restoring populations. This report is likely to be completed May-June 2022.</p>	<p>TET: IN PROGRESS</p> <p>A survey for Banded Rail was completed in 2020 and next survey in 2022.</p> <p>Fern bird survey takes place every 5 years. The next is scheduled for 2024.</p>
5.2.1. Manage human disturbance of wildlife.	Identify activities that disturb wildlife and develop actions to reduce them by 1 July 2022	2022	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC		<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The coastal bird survey on distribution along the Tasman and Nelson coast was completed. A report is likely to be completed May-June 2022.</p> <p>Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan. Consideration of the natural values of the Waimea Inlet will be a part of this review.</p>	<p>WIF: IN PROGRESS</p> <p>WIF submitted to TDC on the classification of Reserves in the Moutere-Waimea Ward in 2021 on this topic.</p>

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
					As part of the TEP development, in terms of biodiversity, there will be a focus on the coastal, riparian margins, estuaries, marine and land-based environments. The NZCPS will help to identify appropriate activities in the coastal environment area.	
5.2.2. Reduce the impacts of cats and dogs around the estuary as populations pressures increase.	Identify important wildlife areas (including related areas outside Waimea) and actions required to manage human activities that disturb wildlife by 1 July 2022	2022	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC		ON TRACK Feral cats are declared pests in the Waimea Inlet Site Lead Programme under the Regional Pest Management Plan. A Draft Cat Bylaw under the Local Government Act 2002 related to domestic cats was considered by the Tasman District Council's Regulatory Committee in December 2021 but was rejected. TDC continues to implement and enforce the dog control by-law, which provides some protection to wildlife at key sites (e.g., dogs are prohibited on Moturoa/Rabbit Island).	WIF: IN PROGRESS WIF submitted to TDC on the classification of Reserves in the Moutere-Waimea Ward in 2021 on this topic.
5.2.3. Give formal protection to, and manage human activities in, important wildlife areas	Identify important wildlife areas (including related areas outside Waimea) and actions required to manage human activities that disturb wildlife by 1 July 2022	2022	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS The coastal bird survey is complete – a report is available on the Nelson City Council website.	IN PROGRESS The coastal bird survey on distribution along the Tasman and Nelson coast was completed. A report is due at the end of 2022. Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan. As part of the TEP development, there will be a focus on coastal, riparian margins, estuaries, marine and land-based biodiversity. The NZCPS will help to identify appropriate activities in the coastal environment area. TDC continues to implement and enforce the dog control by-law, which provides some protection to wildlife at key sites (e.g., dogs are prohibited on Moturoa/Rabbit Island, Sand Island, and parts of Bell Island). The draft Moutere-Waimea Ward RMP includes a policy advocating that.	WIF: ON TRACK The Draft Waimea-Moutere Ward Reserves Management Plan review includes protection of relevant areas in TDC ownership.
5.2.4 Follow recommended actions from 'Effects of selected activities on shorebirds in Tasman District - Management issues and options for site of International Importance' David S. Melville and Rob Schuckard November 2013.				IN PROGRESS The coastal bird survey is complete – a report is available on the Nelson City Council website.	IN PROGRESS The report reviewing threats to all coastal birds, and opportunities for restoring these populations is likely to be completed May-June 2022.	

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
5.2.5. Continue monitoring of populations and site conditions (roosting, nesting, feeding) as part of State of the Environment monitoring to determine the effectiveness of coastal management actions and RMA compliance.	Prepare a unified plan for bird surveys, including site conditions (roosting, nesting, feeding), conducted by different groups by 31 December 2022.	2022	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS The coastal bird survey is complete – a report is available on the Nelson City Council website.	IN PROGRESS The coastal bird survey on distribution along the Tasman and Nelson coast was completed. A report is likely to be completed May-June 2022.	TET: IN PROGRESS
6.1.1. Review plans and actions with tangata whenua to ensure rangatiratanga and take tupūna are recognised in the management of nga taonga tuku iho.	Dialogue established with all iwi with statutory acknowledgements	Ongoing	Lead: Chair of WIC Group, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC		IN PROGRESS The work for the Tasman Biostrategy included early conversations with iwi to ensure principles of te ao Māori were embedded in the Biostrategy. The review of the Waimea Inlet Management Strategy and Action Plan will continue with this progress with tangata whenua. TDC has worked together with iwi to review the Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan, taking these principles into consideration. TDC continues to have dialogue with iwi as part of Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance (the Alliance includes TDC and iwi). TDC Environmental Policy staff are working with Te Tau Ihu Iwi on development of a freshwater planning framework that gives effect to Te Mana O Te Wai (2021-2024+).	WIF: IN PROGRESS Iwi are participating in the Co-ordination Group. Te Atiawa is sponsoring an application to Kotahitanga Alliance for coastal predator control.
6.1.1. Review plans and actions with tangata whenua to ensure rangatiratanga and take tupūna are recognised in the management of nga taonga tuku iho.	Waimea Inlet Management Strategy updated by mid-2022 and Action Plan updated by mid-2023 .	mid-2023	Lead: WIF/TET, Support: TDC/NCC/DOC		ON TRACK Peter Lawless of Phoenix Facilitation has been contracted to lead and facilitate the review of the Waimea Inlet Management Strategy and Action Plan. He is working with Leigh Stevens of Salt Ecology, and a TDC staff member. To date, there have been three hui, including with the WICG and iwi. This is important to ensure all viewpoints are considered in drafting up any material before consultation with the public in 2022. TDC Environmental Policy staff are working with Te Tau Ihu Iwi on the development of a freshwater planning framework that gives effect to Te Mana O Te Wai (2021-2024+).	TET: ON TRACK The contractor engaged to do the updates held a hui with iwi on 10 November 2021.
6.1.2. Support the Moturoa Wananga pilot project.	No target	2019	Lead: TDC		COMPLETE The pilot was successful with all students completing the course in 2020. TDC assisted with implementing planting and weed control projects.	

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
6.2.1. Identify what is negatively impacting the wairua and mauri of the Inlet 6.2.2. Identify barriers to capacity to exercise customary practices, tikanga, and mātauranga processes including association with waahi tapu.	Baseline assessments of issues, barriers and remedial actions completed by 1 July 2023.	2023	Lead: Iwi Support: TDC/NCC/DOC		ON HOLD Iwi identified to lead, TDC will provide support as required. These matters can be considered as part of the review of the Waimea Inlet Management Strategy and Action Plan. Some of these barriers are identified in the Moturoa/Rabbit Island RMP (2016) and draft Moutere-Waimea Ward RMP (2021). TDC Environmental Policy staff are working with Te Tau Ihu Iwi on development of a freshwater planning framework that gives effect to Te Mana O Te Wai (2021-2024+) which will feed into this work.	
7.1.1. Sustain the Waimea Inlet Forum as the primary approach to whole of community collaboration.	Reporting by all participating organisations every three years at Waimea Inlet Forums with progress reports annually.	Annual	All		ON TRACK Third annual report completed. Next due 2023.	ON TRACK This is our third annual progress report.
7.1.2. Coordinate with Waimea FLAG group and Kotahitanga mō te Taiao group on planning for the future of the Inlet.	Invite representatives from Waimea FLAG group and Kotahitanga mō te Taiao group to provide regular updates to the Waimea Inlet Coordination Group (WICG) (e.g. twice yearly).	Six monthly	Lead: TDC/NCC, Support: All		IN PROGRESS The Waimea Nitrate Project has been initiated with industry groups and growers on the Waimea Plains.	
7.2.1. Create, and keep current, an evidence-based information and research strategy that identifies the information required, how that can best be organised and maintained, and gaps that need to be filled by further research.	Complete information and research and education and social marketing strategies in an integrated process by 1 July 2022.	2022	Lead: TET, Support: All		ON HOLD TDC was included in discussions on a communications strategy. A high-level communications plan has been created, but mainly focuses on the Waimea Inlet Enhancement Project.	TET: DELAYED Documentary film/video not progressed due to resource constraints.
7.2.2. Inform people and help them value the Inlet.	Include reporting of selected themes for the Inlet in state of the environment reporting by 1 July 2024.	2024	Lead: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS Where opportunities arise Council will continue to provide media coverage of ecological issues relating to Waimea Inlet. In 2021 local schools supported the planting of 2900 native plants in the Nelsons Waimea Inlet esplanade reserves as part of Tasman Environment Trust and Ministry of Primary Industry supported restoration planting.	ON TRACK A StoryMap report on broad scale habitat mapping of the Waimea Inlet was produced and is available on the TDC website.	
7.2.3. Increase citizen involvement in caring for the Inlet including managing threats and restoring natural ecosystems	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	All	ON TRACK Saltmarsh enhancement project will include citizen science community planting and is planned for early 2022. NCC has a blue carbon decomposition experiment planned that will also include citizen science community planting and retrieval.	ON TRACK Community plantings this year remain popular; some schools did drop out due to covid restrictions but generally, the overall numbers, interest, and enquiries have increased this planting season. One notable change for weekend plantings is the number of young adults and teenagers getting involved.	WIF/TET: ON TRACK The Battle for the Banded Rail and Billion Trees community weeding and trapping programmes are underway. 41,000 plants were added to the estuary edge in 2021 (this is 30,000 more than 2020). 57 planters attended the Rabbit Island planting event in August. The TET website has detailed info about Waimea Inlet projects.

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
					<p>Some community plantings now include children as young as four years old. This provides inspiration to new volunteers and justification to the hard-working regular teams, that they are making a difference for future generations.</p> <p>This 2020 annual report on progress will be uploaded to our website.</p>	
8.1.1. Include natural and cultural values of the inlet in all strategic and infrastructure planning	Ongoing action – reported annually	No target date	Lead: TDC/NCC		<p>ON TRACK</p> <p>TDC publicly notified the Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan for consultation in mid-October 2021 and submissions closed on 17 December 2021. The final Plan is due to be adopted by Council in May 2022.</p> <p>The Tasman Regional Policy Statement and Resource Management Plan identify natural and cultural values.</p> <p>TDC adopted their LTP 2021-2031 and Activity Management Plans for key infrastructure such as stormwater and wastewater at the end of June 2021. Our long-term strategies address natural and cultural values of the Waimea Inlet.</p> <p>TDC's application for a Districtwide Stormwater Discharge Consent is currently being processed.</p>	
8.1.2. Protect and restore fisheries habitat within the Inlet.	Survey quality of fisheries habitat and fish stocks by 31 December 2021.	2021	Lead: TDC/NCC/NMFG	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>A draft Waimea fine scale habitat report has been received by TDC/NCC. This will be finalised soon.</p> <p>NCC is also awaiting results from a subtidal fish survey.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>An estuarine fish survey was undertaken in the Waimea Inlet in Feb-Mar 2021 by NIWA. A report was due by Dec 2021 but is still being completed. This is likely to be completed around May-June 2022.</p> <p>Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>The Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) workstream is ongoing.</p>	
8.1.3. Improve opportunities for recreation and public access where these are in harmony with caring for other values of the Inlet.	Identify at risk areas to vehicle access and create a remediation plan by 1 July 2023.	2023	Lead: TDC/NCC, Support: WIF	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>NCC Science and Environment has submitted on the proposal for a raised boardwalk along Whakatu Drive. It raised concerns around the impact on native plantings, disturbance of saltmarsh and birdlife, and also lack of information on alternative options such as enhancement of existing barriers.</p>	<p>NOT YET STARTED</p> <p>Work on this target by TDC has not yet started; it is awaiting completion of the Moutere-Waimea RMP review project.</p> <p>Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan.</p>	<p>WIF: IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The WIF has sent in a submission to NCC/TDC regarding the Whakatu Drive cycleway proposal</p>

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Action	Target	Target Date	Lead & Support	NCC Progress Update	TDC Progress Update	DOC/TET/Iwi/NMFG/WIF Progress Update
8.1.4. Implement the Moturoa/Rabbit Island Reserve Management Plan to ensure no adverse environmental effects on the Inlet, restoration of natural values of inlet margins.	Ongoing action – reported annually	All years	Lead: TDC		ON TRACK Planting has occurred on Bird Island (300 plants), Bullivant Island (50 plants), Moturoa coastal dune area (1,500 sand grasses), Moturoa Māpua ferry landing (2,500 plants).	
8.1.5. Promote ecologically sustainable uses of the Inlet and its environs	Support major infrastructure owners and operators to review the impacts of their activities on the inlet and develop plans to remediate past damage and avoid or mitigate future impacts by 1 July 2022.	2022	Lead: WIF, Support: TDC/NCC	IN PROGRESS The NRSBU continue to work with the Tasman Environmental Trust, as well as partake in an annual hui with iwi. This year the NRSBU have completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consultation on a draft planting plan for their area around the Inlet. - plantings around the NW of Bell Island. This was replacement plantings after they had died last year due to saltwater inundation. The NRSBU have the following underway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new signs are being installed around ecologically significant areas around Bell Island as some signs have faded or lichen has covered the text. - A plan has been prepared for a buffer zone around the 64ha of Best Island that the NRSBU purchased for treated wastewater. Over the next year 5,000 plants will be planted in the foreshore area on the north coast – from the golf course to the east along the foreshore. - The NRSBU have a zero-overflow target. Installation of a duplicate wastewater rising main on the landward side of the highway where the existing pipe runs along the edge of the estuary is in progress. It is expected this will be complete by June 2023. The purpose of these works is forward planning for sea level rise. The following works will increase capacity, improve resilience against storm events, and reduce opportunities for failure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A tender was completed and the NRSBU has engaged a contractor to inspect and refurbish the Monaco to Saxton Island to Bell Island pipeline. - There are 11 sections in the Richmond to Saxton pipeline. Section nine has been refurbished. Contracts are signed for sections 10 and 11 and are expected to be complete by April 2022. Initial designs are complete for sections five to eight, and design investigations are being undertaken for sections one to four. 	IN PROGRESS Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan which will give effect to the NZ Coastal Policy Statement.	WIF: IN PROGRESS NZTA: WIF has submitted against NZTA plans for a Whakatu Drive path upgrade.
	Develop plans to avoid or mitigate future impacts from major infrastructure on the inlet by 1 July 2022		Lead: TDC/NCC		IN PROGRESS Work is underway to review the Regional Policy Statement and Tasman Resource Management Plan which will give effect to the NZ Coastal Policy Statement.	