

Potential Regional Sector Enhancement Projects 2020-2023

These projects aim to progress the objectives of the NPS-FW; the proposed NPS – IB; the current NZ Biodiversity Strategy, national Predator Free NZ aspirations and contribute to both climate change mitigation and adaptation.

By regulatory cascade to the regional framework, these projects also broadly align to key objectives of Regional Policy Statements and Regional Plans for Regional Councils and Unitary Authorities

Project (Simple name)	Description (Describe content and intent of project)	Owner (Asset owner and proposer)	Potential Start Date (When could this project start)
Kawau predator eradication	<p>The project aims to create a predator free Kawau. Because of its manageable size (2058ha), and relatively smaller community, Kawau Island is a high priority location for this work.</p> <p>Increase in ground-based pest suppression (rats, possums, mustelids, wallabies) and in-depth mana whenua and community engagement co-development of delivery strategy for eradication.</p> <p>Note: Also included in <i>Predator Free jobs for the post-COVID economic stimulus</i> document prepared by Predator Free 2050 Ltd, April 2020.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>Environmental Services</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	Immediately
Waiheke and Rakino Islands weed control	<p>Multi-species weed control on Waiheke and Rakino islands</p> <p>Enabling and supporting Integrated restoration with a focus on coastal and catchment improvements critical to the health of the Hauraki Gulf Marine park.</p> <p>Note: Supports Awaawaroa and Te Matuku Bay Catchment enhancement project.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>(Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	Immediately
Kaipara Peninsulas pest suppression	<p>Okahukura Peninsula</p> <p>Increase in pest mammal control (possums, stoats, rats, feral pigs, feral deer) to near zero suppression, positioning for future eradication (10,267 ha + buffer)</p> <p>Note: Also included in <i>Predator Free jobs for the post-COVID economic stimulus</i> document prepared by Predator Free 2050 Ltd, April 2020.</p>	<p>Proposers:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>(Environmental Services)</p> <p>Northland Regional Council</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	Procurement could start immediately
	<p>South Head Peninsula</p> <p>Increase in pest mammal (rats, stoats, possums) control to very low-level suppression, positioning for future eradication (26,281 ha + buffer)</p> <p>Note: Also included in <i>Predator Free jobs for the post-COVID economic stimulus</i> document prepared by Predator Free 2050 Ltd, April 2020.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>(Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	Procurement could start immediately
	<p>Atuanui</p> <p>Increase in pest mammal control to near zero suppression, positioning for future eradication (4,263 ha including buffer), through iwi-led social procurement approach.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>(Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Private land and public land</p>	Procurement could start immediately
Pest Free Awhitu Peninsula	<p>Increase in mammalian predator pest control to near zero suppression, positioning for future eradication.</p> <p>Feasibility assessment has been undertaken. Existing community and Mana whenua support.</p> <p>Note: Also included in <i>Predator Free jobs for the post-COVID economic stimulus</i> document prepared by Predator Free 2050 Ltd, April 2020.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>(Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land.</p>	Procurement could start immediately
Revegetation of Awhitu Peninsula (Te Korowai o Papatuanuku)	<p>Awhitu Peninsula Landcare and Ngāti Te Ata are seeking to expand the capacity of the Awhitu Peninsula Landcare nursery supply from 15,000 plants per annum to 60,000 plants. This will increase the number of ecosourced plants available for the peninsula and meet increasing demand.</p> <p>Note: Also included as an 8-year bid to Te Uru Rākau.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p> <p>(Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land.</p>	3 - 6 months
Towards possum-free Northland peninsula	<p>Amplify existing regional possum control to achieve suppression across all of rural Auckland north of the urban isthmus. Positioning towards a future eradication of possums</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council</p>	Immediately

		(Environmental Services) Asset owner: Public and private land.	
Pest plant buffers	Amplify existing Auckland Council community-based pest plant management in communities around high ecological value public land and increase the area of weed control on high ecological value public land.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental Services) Asset owner: Public and private land.	Procurement/ funding agreements could start immediately
Kauri dieback fencing on private land	Undertaking 17km of deer fencing on Atuanui to protect significant kauri ecosystems from stock pressures and risk of kauri dieback disease. Could be expanded to include other sites. Council has done some preliminary investigation and would fund any project management on the council side	Proposers: Shona Oliver Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Auckland Council (Environmental Services) Asset owner: Private land	November 2020
Puhinui Reserve Restoration	Large scale native planting to restore coastal wetland habitat for a number of threatened species. The project will also involve some animal and pest control. The first-year costs are based on planned works that are currently on hold. Years 2-3 are estimates to plant the remaining conservation areas in the reserve.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental Services/Healthy Waters) Asset owner: Public land	Immediately
Awaawaroa and Te Matuku Bay Catchment enhancement	Awaawaroa Fencing of catchment. Planting up the newly fenced sections of the wetland buffer Fence and plant the other major Ngati Paoa tributary feeding into the Awaawaroa mainstem to protect both catchment and Kauri ecosystems. Channel naturalisation extending giant kokopu habitat upstream 2022-2023 Te Matuku Improve fish passage for giant kokopu and other native freshwater fish. Riparian revegetation and pest control to improve habitat for kokopu and other native species.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Healthy Waters) Asset owner: Public and private land	Immediately
Totara Park Revegetation Project	Large scale native planting in the headwaters of the Puhinui Stream. This will improve water quality and create a significant forest habitat. The first-year costs are based on planned works that are currently on hold. This project could be scaled up in following years with additional funding.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental Services) Asset owner: Public land	Immediately
Increased native revegetation on parkland. Building connections with nature	Amplify the amount of native revegetation being undertaken in Local and Regional Parks with a focus on increasing indigenous cover and creating opportunities for placemaking and community participation in lower socio-economic, ecologically depleted areas. Planting will be additional to (and will provide an aligned boost to) the existing Mayor's Million Trees Programme and Council's existing Parks revegetation work and associated budgets. Strategic delivery connections to Council's Urban Ngahere Strategy.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Community Services and Community Facilities) Asset owner: Public land	3-6 months
Strategic Approach to Sediment: Kia Mārama	This project aims to proactively reduce sediment loads to waterways from large scale greenfield developments, particularly for future urban settings.	Proposer: Auckland Council (CPO)	Immediately

	<p>Engage industry and community groups to trial, and then expand regionally, the use of low-cost, open source smart infrastructure to measure trends in sediment loads in freshwater in real-time in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -pre-emptively improve environmental performance of sediment controls on bulk earthworks sites; and -improve transparency between compliance performance and iwi / community expectations of water quality. <p><i>Technical concept already tested and positively received with wide range of industry partners, but funding stream to allow deployment and mana whenua / community partnerships on hold due to Covid.</i></p>	<p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	
<p>Shellfish monitoring and restoration</p>	<p>Increase data collection and restoration efforts to support management decisions in relation to shellfish restoration goals identified in the SeaChange marine spatial plan for the Hauraki Gulf.</p> <p>Shellfish restoration is also identified as a key action in Auckland's Climate Plan to increase resilience to climate change.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council (CPO/Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset Owner:</p> <p>Public land</p>	<p>Immediately</p>
<p>Kaipara Moana Remediation project#*</p> <p>#Note business case prepared and presented by council and iwi project partners to central Government, and awaiting decisions (contact: Water Directorate MFE). Also, provided to CIP for 'shovel ready' information request by Northland Regional Council.</p>	<p>Catchment-wide green infrastructure project at pace and scale across 3,710 km² of pastoral land in the Kaipara Harbour (Kaipara Moana) catchment.</p> <p>10-year catchment-scale transformation for Kaipara Moana, to enhance mauri, adopt sustainable farming practices, enhance biodiversity and waterway health, and grow resilience to climate change.</p> <p>Delivering farm environment plans to create a material reduction in erosion from land and streams into Kaipara Moana.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Kaipara Remediation Entity (to be established)/Healthy Waters</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>1400 pastoral farms</p>	<p>1 July 2020, or whenever funding is agreed</p>
<p>Region-wide remediation of farm impacts on the environment#*</p> <p>#Not including Kaipara, which has separate remediation project proposal with mana whenua partners and other councils</p>	<p>Support rural Aucklanders to make positive contribution to water quality, biodiversity and biosecurity by creating a joint 'Rural Environment Fund' for mitigation activities. Activity would be supported by a dedicated sector team and mitigations underpinned by good quality Farm Environment Plans (FEPs) and direct mitigation works on-farm. Key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct assistance for landowners to complete FEPs Incentive funding to implement on-property changes identified in FEPs Sector engagement team within Council. 	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council (Healthy Waters)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Some work undertaken on privately owned land</p>	<p>1 June 2020 or when funding confirmed</p> <p>Note project builds on existing Waterway Protection Fund and other council programmes to build FEP capacity, linking also to biodiversity and biosecurity programmes</p>
<p>Aotea dune and coastal margin restoration</p>	<p>Aotea Great Barrier has some of the most intact dune systems and coastal fringes in the Auckland region. These dunes are home to endangered fauna and flora and outstanding amenity values. This project will protect dunes from erosion and pest plants and animals.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council (Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	<p>31 August 2020</p>
<p>Regional Whitebait Habitat Restoration Project</p>	<p>The Whitebait Habitat restoration Project is a region- wide initiative to help improve water quality and ecological awareness across Auckland, with the help of the Auckland community by partnering with the Whitebait Connection (WBC) and other community organisations.</p> <p>This is achieved by identifying potential inanga spawning habitat at project sites and involving community and schools throughout.</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council (Healthy Waters)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	
<p>Te Korowai o Waiheke</p>	<p>Stoat and Rat eradication Waiheke Island - funding request would amplify existing stoat eradication by providing for a pilot to eradicate rats over 25% of Waiheke Island</p>	<p>Proposer:</p> <p>Auckland Council (Environmental Services)</p> <p>Asset owner:</p> <p>Public and private land</p>	<p>Procurement/funding agreements could start immediately</p>
<p>Rangatahi conservation</p>	<p>Training and cadetship for up to 30 mana whenua or mataawaka rangatahi representatives in a range of conservation skills to prepare them for careers in</p>	<p>Proposer:</p>	<p>1 July 2020</p>

development programme	conservation. Could include training on conservation leadership roles for more experienced Māori reps. Council has piloted this approach in the past and has some seed funding, but the full amount listed is requested.	Auckland Council (Environmental Services and Community Services) Asset owner: Public land	
Innovate Environment Auckland	Lifting an Environmental Tech hub that innovates on and rolls out technology opportunities to support conservation. Mentors and trains tech and conservation interested people - either currently in env, ICT or wanting to move to this area, offering training in mobile apps, sensor tech etc, offering apprenticeship/ grad roles and innovating to connect our conservation efforts across the region and the country. Would leverage off our early work here at AC and grow capacity in this sector.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental with AC ICT). (Vivienne Cole)	1 July 2020
Marine conservation boost	Boosting a marine conservation programme for Auckland, delivering on commitments made through the Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan (Sea Change) and aspirations for protecting the west coast and its harbours. Would fund marine conservation advisors/rangers/contractors to reduce the spread of marine pests and to support marine protection and restoration projects. Project would be delivered across Waitemata, Manukau and Kaipara Harbours.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Chief Planning Office/Environmental Services)	1 July 2020
Live Lightly Community Ambassadors	Provision of 'Live Lightly' community Ambassadors providing sustainable living advice to Aucklanders. Live Lightly Ambassadors would provide customised sustainable living advice to Aucklanders in their homes and at community locations by talking with people, linking them to resources, sharing successes and enabling climate action.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental Services) Asset owner: Public facilities, land and private households	Immediately
Expand Teaching and Community Gardens	Create a taskforce to grow skills, enhance productivity and increase the supply of local food utilising public (council) land. The taskforce of people would help establish new or improve existing gardens/urban farms, run the operation of these, manage volunteers and distribute food.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental Services) Asset owner: Public land	3-6 months
Farms and Food for the Future Programme	Open up 40ha of Council land for community-based horticulture. This is to empirically test the value of sustainable (e.g. permaculture) and traditional farming practices (e.g. crofting) from an env, soc, and eco perspective. The problem we are solving is that there is a shortage of peer reviewed literature that shows the value of converting land for farming use in this way. This would collect evidence and write peer reviewed papers to inform our wide Farming Business Strategy and that of other farmers.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Community Facilities)	June 2020
"2 in a Ute" Expansion	Healthy Waters is currently conducting a trial on 2 in a Ute, an initiative designed to enhance the maintenance of the water sensitive infrastructure that is critical to our climate change resilience and community amenity. 2 in a Ute creates employment and upskilling opportunities while addressing the current market gap in water sensitive infrastructure maintenance capacity. The intent of this project is to create an additional 50 "2 in a Ute" units including the opportunity for an owner operator model.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Healthy Waters)	Immediately
Local Parks Kauri Dieback Track Programme*	Kauri Protection in Local Parks. Upgrade of closed tracks to Kauri Dieback Disease standards. Thirteen Local Board areas supported including: Waitakere, Kaipatiki, Waiheke, Upper Harbour, Rodney, Albert-Eden, Henderson-Massey, Franklin, Hibiscus and Bays, Howick, Manurewa, Orakei and Papakura	Proposer: Auckland Council (Community Facilities) Asset Owner: Public land	Immediately
Regional Parks Kauri Dieback Track Programme*	Kauri Dieback Track upgrades, renewals and supporting infrastructure for the Waitakere Ranges, Hunua Ranges and Northern Regional Parks	Proposer: Auckland Council (Community Services) Asset Owner: Public land	Immediately
Mahurangi East land restoration	Expand and connect current pest suppression and restoration activities by Auckland Council, Department of Conservation and community groups from Matakana to Warkworth, South to Hatfield's Beach, Sandspit Peninsula, Mahurangi catchment and several regional parks.	Proposer: Auckland Council (Environmental Services) Asset owner: Public and private land	Immediately

*Also submitted to shovel ready infrastructure projects request.