



**Date:** Wednesday 2 December 2015  
**Time:** 3:00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Room 1  
**Venue:** Level 26  
135 Albert Street  
Auckland

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## **Environment, Climate Change and Natural Heritage Committee**

### **OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**

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# Regional Environment and Natural Heritage Grant Allocation

Environment Climate Change and  
Natural Heritage Committee

2 December 2015



## Overview

- Background
- Outcomes & regional eligibility criteria
- Assessment process & criteria
- Project examples
- Summary of recommendations
- Questions / discussion

## RENH Background

- A new grant programme established through the Community Grants Policy; annual funding round with \$488,702 available for allocation.
- Purpose:
  - support protection, restoration or enhancement of Auckland's environment with a focus on our most significant natural heritage areas
  - encourage and support Aucklanders to adopt environmentally sustainable lifestyles



## RENH Outcomes & Eligibility

- Supports 9 outcomes linked to council plans & strategies (Auckland Plan, Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy, Low Carbon Action Plan)
- Projects need to contribute to at least one of the outcomes and meet one of the criteria for regional significance.



# RENH Regional Significance Criteria

1. The effective management and protection of threatened species and their habitat, and Auckland's threatened ecosystems.
2. Council's efforts to connect communities of interest and encourage integrated biodiversity management at a landscape scale.
3. Protection of regionally significant sites of indigenous biodiversity.



# RENH Regional Significance Criteria

4. Strategic management of plant and animal pests in the Auckland region.
5. Protection, improvement and/or the restoration of streams, waterways and riparian margins within priority catchments.
6. Regionally focussed initiatives that promote sustainable living



## Assessment Process

1. Eligibility screening by grants staff
2. Ground disturbing projects reviewed by a Heritage Advisor
3. Subject Matter Experts (SME) council staff assess application
4. Assessor scores application against weighted criteria and makes initial funding recommendation
5. Senior staff meet & agree funding recommendations
6. Recommendations made for final decision-maker

# Assessment criteria

Assessment criteria	Weighting
Strategic alignment	40%
Project analysis	40%
Applicant capacity	20%



## Project Example 1: Te Henga

**Applicant:** Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society Inc.,  
Waitakere Branch

**Project:** Monitoring newly translocated Pateke at the Te Henga wetland:

**Funding request:** \$11,016 for monitoring equipment and contractor.

**Assessment score:** 86. This is a great project that contributes to a number of fund outcomes and is focussed on a threatened species. Monitoring is considered best practice and will help grow community knowledge for future translocations.

**Recommended funding:** \$11,000. Full funding recommended as high scoring application requesting modest amount of funding from Council



## Example 2: Rakino Island

**Applicant:** Stephen Thomas (working with neighbours in West Bay Rakino Island)

**Project:** To establish a native plant nursery on Rakino Island supplying plants for the island's restoration projects

**Funding requested:** \$30,774 for nursery materials

**Assessment score:** 85. A sound project that supports island self sufficiency and is being developed co-operatively with neighbours. In time, nursery will be able to supply native plants for widespread revegetation across Rakino and remove need to transport plants to the island.

**Recommended funding:** \$20,000. Staff have worked with the applicant and are confident project can proceed with the level of funding recommended.

## Example 3: LiteClub

**Applicant:** Project Litefoot

**Project:** To implement the LiteClub programme to 25 Auckland sports clubs

**Funding requested:** \$35,632 for staff costs, operating costs and retrofit materials

**Assessment score:** 66. A national organisation with established track record working with sports clubs to implement sustainability measures. High cost of intervention for each sport club and project could be delivered at reduced budget.

**Recommended funding:** \$7,000 towards retrofitting materials. Project can proceed on a smaller scale with the level of funding recommended.



## Recommendations Summary

- \$488,702 be granted to 42 applicants
- 13 applications be declined
- Average grant recommended is \$11,636
- Top grant of \$40,000 recommended for 1 applicant
- Multi-year grants recommended for two applications



# Questions?

