

Attachment C: Howick Local Board feedback on the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan – August 2017

Issue	Proposed Approach	Supports Y/N	Comment
Cats	<p>To continue management of cats in areas of high biodiversity value as part of integrated pest control but potentially for an increased number of sites.</p> <p>To provide greater certainty cats will be defined as pests in these circumstances if they are not able to be identified by microchip or other means as being owned.</p> <p>Cats will continue to be controlled on areas of public land where threatened species are being protected (regardless of whether they are owned or unowned). Example sites: the open sanctuaries and kōkako/kiwi management area in the Hunua Ranges.</p>	YES	<p>The Howick Local Board agree that feral cats are an issue in Howick particularly in Half Moon Bay and also in and around shopping centers at night.</p> <p>The board is aware of the issue with cat lovers and the role of cats as a pet; however, the board recognizes the difference between owned cats and unowned cats.</p> <p>The board supports that all bird predators must be managed at the same time.</p>
Possums	<p>Landscape scale progressive containment programme to manage possums. Rural management would be integrated with management in high value biodiversity areas. This could be achieved using a targeted rate across rural Auckland.</p>	YES	<p>Community based back yard possum control should be supported by local boards, particularly where private residents' properties border rural catchments or public parks and reserves.</p>
Widespread pest plants	<p>Site-led programme for parks with significant ecological areas (including coastal parks in the Howick local board area such as Mangemangeroa Reserve) to manage a suite of up to 30 pest plants per site to an extent that protects the values of the parkland.</p>	YES	<p>Howick Local Board supports this approach and endorses the need for more education on pest plants.</p>

	Includes use of rules in buffer areas around parkland.		
New ban of sale	Phasing out the sale of approximately 50 new plant pests and 13 new animal pests in addition to those currently identified.	YES	Howick Local Board supports this approach.
Rodents and Mustelids	Site-led programmes for parks with significant ecological areas (including coastal parks in the Howick local board area such as Mangemangeroa Reserve) and the Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area, to manage rodents and mustelids to an extent that protects the values of these places. Enhanced pathway management to protect islands. Sustained control programme for the remainder of the region focusing on support for community pest control initiatives.	YES	Howick Local Board supports this approach and continues to actively support the community in combating rats. The board would like to see a “rat free” Howick and more funding for rat traps and other control methods coordinated across the Howick ward.
More education around pests	Provision of information and advice on pest identification, impacts and control, and increased communications around pathway management for a suite of species.	YES	Howick Local Board supports this approach. Various communication channels need to be used to maximize this message.
The importance of community pest control	Provision of advice and support to community groups undertaking pest control, with priority given to activity in or around biodiversity focus areas and taking advantage of defensible landscape features such as islands and peninsulas. The plan will support the Pest Free Auckland initiative, which focuses on community empowerment.	YES	Howick Local Board supports this approach.