

Submission from Trelissick Park Group on Regional Pest Management Strategy review

Via email to Tim.Gale@gw.govt.nz of Greater Wellington Regional Council – 14 June 2017

Dear Tim,

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the Regional Pest Management Strategy review. Our comments are:

Since 1991, the Trelissick Park Group has been working in collaboration with the City and Regional Councils restoring Trelissick Park to a native bush wilderness. The park was designated as a Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) and accordingly our Group was greatly assisted by pest weed and animal control by GWRC.

However, recently GWRC decided to remove Trelissick Park from the KNE list. Wellington City Council (WCC) is hard-pressed keeping up with the work previously carried out by GWRC.

Restoration to KNE Status

We would like to see the park restored to a KNE status for the following reasons:

- The park contains valuable original forest remnants below Ngaio Gorge Road and Trelissick Crescent (about 8 hectares)
- It is part of the ecological corridor between the harbour to the outer green belt, via Otari Wilton's Bush and Zealandia
- In conjunction with pest weed control by both Councils and our Group, around 90,000 eco-sourced plants have gone into the ground since 1991. The strategy has been to ensure a mix of ground cover, intermediate level and canopy species. The canopy species include large numbers of totara and kahikatea, many matai, also tawa, pukatea, miro, rewarewa, hinau and rimu (we have just planted 30 rimu, to increase the total to 48). Many nikau have also been planted.
- A KNE status would help to ensure that weeds controlled in the past do not take over again and stifle natural seedling emergence.

Old Man's Beard

The spread of old man's beard in the Wellington region has become a serious problem since GWRC relaxed control measures some years ago. We have difficulty controlling outbreaks in the park and feel it essential to tighten up control throughout the region - the seeds easily spread in the windy environment.

Animal Pest Control

We appreciate the animal pest control help by GWRC, in collaboration with WCC and look forward to this continuing.

Kind regards,

Peter Reimann

Trelissick Park Group

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