

NEW ZEALAND



- BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

- STATE OF BIODIVERSITY

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The state of New Zealand's biodiversity

2000

- ◆ Declining; NZ's worst natural resource problem -1997 State of Environment Report
- ◆ historical land clearance resulting in 70% lost vegetation cover
- ◆ land use practices, weeds and pests, and adverse impacts on freshwater and marine areas

2010

- ◆ Declining but vegetation clearance almost ceased
- ◆ Intensively managed areas and species showing recovery
- ◆ Less intensively managed areas declining in biodiversity condition
- ◆ Land use and other human pressures intensifying
- ◆ Biosecurity incursions continuing
- ◆ Climate change – new biosecurity issues, sea level rise, adaptation
- ◆ New projects will help: e.g. Fresh Start to Fresh Water
- ◆ Innovations in policy and partnerships emerging

NZ Biodiversity Strategy (NZBS)

HALT THE DECLINE IN BIODIVERSITY

- ◆ Launched in February 2000
- ◆ \$187m additional funding over 5 years
- ◆ 5th year amount \$55m, base-lined
- ◆ 20 year lifespan
- ◆ Vision, goals, objectives, actions, few targets
- ◆ 10 themes reflecting CBD concerns, developed in NZ context
- ◆ Whole-of-Government initiative
- ◆ Department of Conservation-led
- ◆ Science bodies, local government, community and iwi interests involved in development and delivery

Implementing NZBS

- ◆ **Actions allocated to specific government agencies for implementation within timeframes**
- ◆ **\$\$ to agencies tagged to specific actions and deliverables**
- ◆ **Allocation decisions by Chief Executives group**
- ◆ **Biodiversity Strategy annual reports to Parliament**
- ◆ **5 year independent review**

Lessons learned from NZ experience

- ◆ **Coordinated action essential**
- ◆ **Accountabilities need to be core to all agencies, not secondary**
- ◆ **Not enough mainstreaming**
- ◆ **Accounting systems still struggle with biodiversity and ecosystem services**
- ◆ **Not enough engagement/involvement of business**
- ◆ **Sustained Government leadership**

Revision of NZBS

- ◆ **Whole of government review process**
- ◆ **Update actions and objectives under existing themes**
- ◆ **Consider/develop new themes along COP 10 lines:**
 - **mainstreaming;**
 - **ecosystem services and valuation;**
 - **business involvement**

stages of NZBS revision process.

- ◆ **Sector then Government agreement to Terms of Reference, Scope, Governance and resourcing**
- ◆ **Consideration of:**
 - New CBD goals/targets
 - Progress against NZBS targets and actions
 - New information on status and trends and technical review of this
- ◆ **Development of options by govt/collaborative forum**
- ◆ **Consultative process to develop draft**
- ◆ **Draft consulted on**
- ◆ **Final prepared and reviewed by Governance group**
- ◆ **Final presented to Government for approval**

Benefits of a new NBSAP

◆ A chance to:

- review progress on NZBS goals and publicise this
- Refresh interest and update against progress so far
- Expand number and range of partners
- Bring in new CBD goals which are very much in line with NZ thinking
- Enable re-engagement at political level

Constraints/Uncertainties

- ◆ Current economic climate
- ◆ Apathy
- ◆ Lack of incentives to encourage engagement and investment

Conclusions

- ◆ **Biodiversity is core business**
 - NBSAPs need to be mainstreamed into core business of government
- ◆ **Biodiversity is everyone's business**
 - Agreements and partnerships with business, communities and customary interests are essential
- ◆ **Biodiversity needs high level leadership**
 - A societal and multi faceted issue, needing clear and sustained leadership on at the highest level to achieve results