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NZ Chapter Newsletter

# EIANZ

May 2009

## FROM THE EDITOR

*Erik van Eyndhoven*

You might notice a biodiversity and conservation flavour to this issue, which is great to see from my perspective (as an ecologist). Ross Cullen explores our conservation paradigm with reference to High Country Tenure Review and there are examples of ecologists working towards best practice guidelines and certification. Sean McAuley provides a synopsis of the Auckland Governance reform ('Supercity') to balance out all of that ecology!

There are also some great events coming up so make sure you sign up and support these EIANZ initiatives.

If you'd like to see other themes addressed in the newsletter I'd encourage you to submit an article or suggest a theme.

The deadline for contributions to the next newsletter will be Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2009 – send your articles, news items, events or ideas to me at [erik.vaneyndhoven@boffamiskell.co.nz](mailto:erik.vaneyndhoven@boffamiskell.co.nz).

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Tom Burkitt ([president@eianz.org.nz](mailto:president@eianz.org.nz))*

Our Branch Coordinators (all volunteers) have been busy pulling together an 18 month events programme that will be distributed to our members shortly. The programme will be a mix of excellent topical seminars, presentations and professional development opportunities. To assist in the delivery of the programme we have teamed up with Lindis Capper-Starr, a professional events manager who has been closely involved with the Sustainable Business Network in Auckland. We are looking forward to a long term relationship with Lindis, and have already benefitted from her professional experience.

As the June CEnvP intake approaches I've been reflecting on the frustration expressed by several members who feel that the CEnvP status lacks standing at the Environment Court. However, this perception is not correct. Peter Skelton, a former Judge at the Environment Court, confirmed for our Executive recently that the Environment Court recognises and values CEnvP. The institute continues to inform the court of the development of the CEnvP programme and certified practitioners are strongly encouraged to profile their CEnvP status in their statement of qualifications.



## OBITUARY: GEOFF PARK

### Botanic detective fought for the bush

Dr Geoff Park, an influential New Zealand ecologist, was a botanical detective with an historical bent. He could take a stretch of suburbia or open farm land, analyse landforms, ferret through innocuous scrub, consult historical accounts and then, in his mind's eye, visualise what had been growing there, say, 150 years ago.

What we know about the former Hutt Valley outside Wellington, for example, is not solely the result of early surveyors' sketches or notes left by early European settlers.

Dr Park produced proof of the forests' extent in his landmark book *Nga Uruora: The Groves of Life, Ecology and History in a New Zealand Landscape* (1995). In its second chapter, he takes the role of a surveyor just off the boat at the spot that would soon become known as Britannia and later Petone. Dense forest clad the floor of the valley in 1840. Such was the thirst for space and arable land, most of it was gone within 60 years, thanks to axes, saws and fire.

Inadvertently, Dr Park once gave a demonstration of his skills at Lower Hutt. A service club organised the first of its series of outdoor sculpture exhibitions, and one of its first venues was the garden surrounding an historic home. Dr Park had gone to see man-made sculptures but was, instead, transfixed by nature's version. Around the entrance driveway was a stand of towering kahikatea. For 160 years they had been spared the axe and fire. He realised he was standing under the sole survivors of the forest that once covered much of the valley floor. "They're all that's left," he murmured. "It's a bloody miracle they've survived."

To the "who-cares?" brigade, Dr Park's findings seemed daft or peripheral at best. It was grist to the mill. To sectors of forest industries, he was a greenie who imperilled livelihoods and profits. To road makers needing a new curve, he was a meddler who couldn't see the wood for trees. To pastoralists and some local bodies, he was a busy-body who made excuses for wetlands and who stood in the way of another edition of The Great New Zealand Drain.

To brand him as an impediment to progress was fatuous. In the field of ecology, he was a careful scientist with a pedigree of scientific skills and a powerful academic appreciation of the way

Europeans rhapsodise about scenic treasures while wielding a chainsaw.

Apart from tiny urban reserves, national parks and forest parks, New Zealand bears no resemblance to the country European settlers first saw.

It is one thing to be nostalgic for it, but another to assess what we had. Significantly, Dr Park was insistent that, given half a chance, lowland forests would grow again.

He was a plants expert from his boots up. Raised in Pinehaven, near Silverstream in Upper Hutt, he was inducted into the outdoors and to plants by a neighbour and acclaimed botanist, Tony Druce who was an enthusiast for fieldwork. The schoolboy became one, too, accompanying him far afield during school holidays.

Dr Park enrolled at Victoria University of Wellington, and his Masters degree studies led him into a brief sojourn as a teacher at Hutt Valley High School. He had been co-founder and the first president of the radical student group Ecology Action in 1972. That year, Ecology Action succeeded in stopping Winstone's illegal sand mining at Fitzroy Bay, but a stoush involving Hutt High pupils brought him to public notice.

Dr Park learned that State Highway 2 was being widened to improve the northbound approach on to Silverstream Bridge. The plan required a slice of scrub and bush on the eastern side of the highway. He knew the site well, and turned the issue into a school science project. His pupils found it would have a severe impact on the bush and be far more destructive than was being claimed.

The issue attracted press attention, and even more when a public meeting was called at Silverstream. The pupils argued their case with engineers. The upshot was that the bridge approach was redesigned and the bush site was saved.

After graduating from Victoria University in 1969 with a degree in botany and geology, Dr Park completed a Masters in ecology and soil science. He won a scholarship to do a doctorate at the Australian National University in Canberra in 1972. His thesis, on nutrient cycling, led him to develop ecological surveys when he returned to New Zealand in 1975.



He spent 20 years as a public servant, first with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research's botany division at Nelson, where he was involved mainly in conservation ecology in the Nelson, Marlborough and West Coast regions.

The most important was a survey of surviving forest in Nelson and Marlborough. It led to the protection of numerous lowland forests in the Upper South Island and Marlborough, including the Paparoa National Park.

From 1981 to 1986 he set up and led the New Zealand Biological Resources Centre before its incorporation in the Department of Conservation. He resigned from the department in 1996 to start the consultancy of Geoff Park Landscape, History and Ecology.

He was awarded an Anzac Fellowship, and a South Fellowship at Victoria University. From 2000 to

2003, he was a concept leader at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand.

Since 2003, he had written an ecological history of pre-1840 Bay of Islands, made a film about naturalist and writer William Herbert Guthrie-Smith of Tutira, advised on ecological restoration, and completed *Theatre Country: Essays on Landscape and Whenua*. He was awarded the Forest and Bird Society's prestigious Old Blue award, in recognition of his commitment and dedication to conservation.

He is survived by his three sons and daughter.

**Geoffrey Nicholls Park, ecologist: born July 7, 1946; died Wellington, New Zealand, March 17, 2009, aged 62.**

*Source: Adapted and abridged from Dominion Post, 2 April 2009*

## MEMBER PROFILES

### Dr Clyton Moyo

Born and bred in Zimbabwe, Clyton moved with his family to New Zealand at the beginning of 2002. Clyton graduated with an Honours degree in Crop Science from the University of Zimbabwe (1993) and worked in the Ministry of Agriculture as an Extension Agronomist / Landuse Planner for a couple of years before moving to Norway where he did his Masters in Resource Management at the then Agricultural University of Norway. From Norway, Clyton packed his bags to begin a new life in New Zealand. His first port of call was Invercargill working briefly in the dairy as well as the horticulture industries but Southland proved a bit too cold for an African boy used to the sunny skies of Africa. He then moved up north to Wanganui to work as a horticulturist before finally enrolling for a PhD in Plant Sciences at Massey University Institute of Natural Resources (Palmerston North) in 2004. His thesis focused on ways to improve the efficiency of herbicide application so as to reduce amount of pesticides in the environment.

In 2007, Clyton picked up a job at Whangarei District Council as a Policy Planner. His duties involved research, public consultation, strategy writing and structure planning, and developing formal plan changes to the Council's District Plan. He will always remember the public consultation meetings during his time at Whangarei. What was exciting was how different parties and stakeholders would interpret the RMA, and how at closer



analysis, most people/organizations interpret the RMA and Local Government Acts to suit their needs.

Clyton has now moved to Hamilton to work as a Climate Change Analyst for DairyNZ. His duties include providing advice and support on climate change adaptation and mitigation to the dairy industry. He will also be heavily involved in collecting, analyzing, synthesising and interpreting data from various sources and transform it into more useable products for farmers, trainers and rural professionals alike. In addition, the role will also involve contributing in designing an adoption strategy on climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies. These are exciting times considering all the debate on climate change.

A member of EIANZ since 2007, Clyton now wants to take a more active role in this organization as a means to improve his network of similar minded professionals as well as work with some of them on collaborative projects in climate change.



## MORE THAN A DICHOTOMY?

Ross Cullen

If you are like me, an occasional mountaineer, you will have cheerfully noted the burgeoning number of South Island conservation parks which include Te Papanui, Hawea, Ahuriri, Ruataniwha, Oteake, Hakatere, and Te Kahui Kaupeka. Mountain and foothill recreationists have a rapidly expanding set of new parks to climb in, scramble over, photograph. The growth in number of parks is a manifestation of a New Zealand approach to conservation – assessment of areas as having conservation merit, are often followed by public purchase and management for conservation and recreation.

The recently released Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment report “Changes in the High Country: Environmental stewardship and Tenure Review” comments on the simple approach New Zealand often applies in pursuit of environmental conservation and natural resource management goals. It’s worth asking if there are alternatives to a simple dichotomisation into publicly owned conservation land and privately owned production land.

What goals are we seeking to achieve by way of public ownership of land in the High Country? Land in the High Country can provide multiple ecosystem services including agricultural and forestry production, recreation opportunities, habitat for species and ecosystems, superb vistas and landscapes, nutrient cycling, unpolluted catchments for streams, rivers and lakes. Some of these ecosystem services can be degraded by ill-considered actions and there are examples of modified landscapes, restricted recreation opportunities, rampant wilding conifers and woody weeds, and habitat losses in the High Country.

Those examples might suggest that private ownership of land in the high country would not deliver acceptable outcomes. But there are alternatives to public ownership to achieve environmental goals and it’s worth asking if New Zealand is using a wide enough array of policy mechanisms in the High Country? It’s also worth asking if New Zealand is overreaching and trying to achieve too much in the High Country?

A recent paper by David Pannell (2008) is worth reading when considering those questions. Pannell notes there are five broad types of policy mechanisms available to achieve changes in management on private land: positive incentives (financial or regulatory instruments to encourage

change); negative incentives (financial or regulatory instruments to discourage change); extension; technology development through R&D or new infrastructure to encourage change; and informed inaction.

Environmental managers can propose a range of projects to achieve changes in land management or land use on private land, and those projects will vary in the levels of public and private net benefits flowing from them. Net benefits may even be negative for some projects.

Figure 1 illustrates the range of outcomes that could arise for any project. At the centre of the diagram public and private net benefits are zero. Points to the right of the centre provide positive net benefits and points to the left of centre provide negative net benefits. Policies in the High Country might be assessed to determine if they will provide overall positive net benefits. Projects that fall in areas A, B and C meet that test, but projects in areas D, E, F fail the test. In area A, creation of a riparian buffer strip may be costly to a landholder but provide greater public benefits from improved water quality. In area B, avoidance of summer burning will provide net benefits to the landowner and the public. In area C, cultivation of an area for pasture may provide net benefits to the landowner that are larger than the net costs to the public from loss of a tussock landscape.

Can we identify where use of the five types of policy mechanisms are warranted? Pannell proposes we assume initially that landholders will adopt land management practices that provide positive private net benefits (areas B, C and D), if they learn about the practices at assumed zero cost. Positive incentives are warranted only in area A where they provide public net benefits, overall positive net benefits and would not already be adopted by landholders.



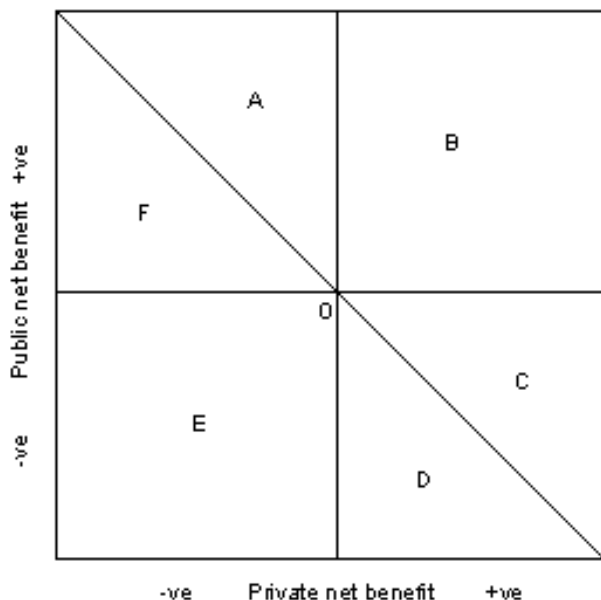


Figure 1. Sample space for potential land management change projects. Adapted from Pannell (2008).

What about use of extension as a main tool to improve land use decision-making? Pannell argues extension should only be used if the change being advocated would be adoptable – provide positive net private benefits, and generate net public benefits. Only area B meets those rules. If private net benefits are larger than public net costs (area C) either no action is justified, or a negative incentive such as a pollution charge could be used. If public net costs outweigh private net benefits (area D) negative incentives should be used. If both public and private net benefits are negative, adverse environmental practices are unlikely to be adopted if the negative net benefits are perceived and no action or negative incentives are appropriate. If private net costs are greater than public net benefits (area F), R&D to create improved land management practices that can be adopted by landholders is appropriate.

This initial assessment of where use of the various policy types is warranted is built on several assumptions both explicit and implicit. Selection of policies to tackle land management issues needs to recognise several complexities including: landowners are unlikely to adopt a new land management practice unless it has an attractive benefit : cost ratio; there are learning costs before new practices are understood; there are lags before practices are adopted; there are monitoring and enforcement costs for negative incentive policies; and there are transactions costs involved in implementing extension programmes. The impact of recognising those complexities is a significant shrinkage in the space where positive incentives and extension are warranted and a much larger space where no action (or possibly negative incentives or extension) is warranted.

State ownership and management of land is one way environmental goals can be pursued in the high country. Recent purchases indicate the transactions and fiscal costs of a state land ownership policy are large. Careful assessment is needed to determine if that policy has a better benefit cost ratio than would other policies to achieve environmental goals. Careful assessment might also reveal areas where positive incentives, negative incentives and extension are appropriate alternative ways to achieve environmental goals without resorting to state purchase and management.

## References

Pannell, D. 2008. Public benefits, private benefits, and policy mechanism choice for land use change for environmental benefits. *Land Economics*, 84(2), 225-240.

Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, 2009. Environmental stewardship and tenure review. Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Wellington.

## BIODIVERSITY OFFSETTING WORKSHOP

*Judith Roper- Lindsay*

Biodiversity offsetting is in the early stages of development in New Zealand and there are no agreed frameworks, methods, or standards for evaluating sites, habitats, ecosystems and offset areas. This creates problems for developers, ecologists, consent authorities and commissioners or Judges in planning hearings.

This workshop was organized by Associate Professor David Norton (University of Canterbury) assisted by Mark Pizey (Environmental Manager, Solid Energy NZ), Mark Christensen (lawyer, Anderson Lloyd Caudwell) and Dr Judith Roper-Lindsay (ecologist, Boffa Miskell Ltd and EIANZ Chapter member). David is involved in developing a



framework and principles for offsetting in New Zealand, while providing offset advice for specific projects; Solid Energy is engaged in one of the Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme (BBOP - <http://www.forest-trends.org/biodiversityoffsetprogram/>) pilot projects, while Mark Christensen has acted in a number of planning cases on projects where offsets are proposed.

We were able to time the workshop to coincide with the visit of Kerry ten Kate (Director of BBOP). She provided a valuable overview of offsetting and the BBOP in particular – especially highlighting the uncertainty around it. A range of invited speakers covered industry, ecological, legal/social/market perspectives and there was about 90 minutes of strong discussion at the end of the day.

Key points to come from the talks and discussion:

- Biodiversity offsetting is beset with uncertainty – ecological, legal, and financial
- Accepted principles are being developed both globally (through BBOP) and locally (through case law)
- Ecological uncertainty relates to: finding comparable habitats and places; long term ecological outcomes of proposed offsets;

thresholds for determining losses that are not offsettable; establishing an agreed system for measuring habitat quality and quantity (in New Zealand); lack of certainty about current trends in NZ ecosystems

- Industry concerns relate to: clarity around offsetting requirements under the Resource Management Act (1991); possible need to gain control over proposed offset land; long term nature of ecological aspects of offsetting proposals.
- Policy/ legal uncertainty relates to: systems to protect and ensure that offsetting proposals are seen through to completion or achievement of objectives; long-term funding of proposals; lack of a nationally agreed system, framework, or set of principles; new market opportunities.

A representative of the Ministry for the Environment said that while Minister recognizes that the topic is important, it is not in their immediate work programme. However, it might be taken up as part of any work on a National Policy Statement on Biodiversity.

## IN THE SHADOW OF THE SUPER-CITY

*Shaun McAuley (Senior Solicitor), Minter Ellison Rudd Watts*

The Government has enacted the first bill to reform local government in Auckland, introduced a second bill, and promised a third bill for later in the year. Suddenly, Auckland councils find themselves with effectively reduced powers and in subservience to the newly created Transitional Agency - until the new Auckland Council comes into being on 1 November 2010.

What Auckland is now experiencing may come to pass in other cities, and people there are watching the developments in Auckland with interest.

The Transitional Agency must review decisions that may significantly prejudice the reorganisation; significantly constrain the Auckland Council or any of its subsidiaries; or cause a significant negative impact of the assets or liabilities of the Auckland Council. In addition, the Agency must review a number of specific decisions, mainly where they affect the assets and liabilities of Auckland Council. These include contracts for over \$30,000 that will extend beyond June 2011 and controls affecting the running of Council Controlled Organisations.

Decisions to adopt or amend certain policies, a Long Term Council Community Plan or an Annual Plan are also included. All decisions falling within these categories must be first approved by the Transitional Agency, or they will be of no effect.

On 1 November 2010, the Auckland Council will be established following the local government general election in October. It will be the sole administrator of local government in Auckland, exercising the functions of a district/city council and a regional council. For the public, this means that the Auckland Council will be processing all building and resource management functions in Auckland although it will probably have a number of regional offices.

The Auckland Council itself will operate at two levels, as outlined below, although both levels will be legally the same entity.

### Level One

The first level is the Auckland Council proper, which will comprise the Mayor of Auckland, eight



councillors elected at large, and 12 councillors elected from wards. The Mayor will stand apart from his or her counterparts in other cities across New Zealand because the Mayor will be supported by the Office of the Mayor – a department of the Council designed to support the Mayor and ensure he or she receives independent advice where appropriate. The Mayor will have the power to appoint the Deputy Mayor and the chairpersons of each council committee, as well as the power to introduce long term council community plans and annual plans to Council. However, the ultimate power of decision still rests with the full Council.

In contrast to its previous indications, the Government is now indicating that it will listen to Maori concerns about the lack of Maori seats on the Auckland Council. However, as this matter is unlikely to be addressed before legislation is introduced into Parliament, a further legislative amendment will be required if the Government changes its mind on this issue.

## Level Two

The second level of the Auckland Council is the 20 to 30 Local Boards, which will exercise as yet undefined statutory roles in addition to any powers, functions or responsibilities delegated to them by

the Auckland Council. The extent of the powers ultimately vested in the Local Boards will depend on the balance between a desire for local democracy and concerns about dealing with multiple decision-making agencies throughout the Auckland region. As each Local Board is likely to have its own views on issues as they arise, the Auckland Council will need to ensure that its policy directives to the Local Boards are robust, transparent and based on reasonable community expectations.

A third Bill is expected to provide for the ongoing governance structure, functions, roles and powers of Council and Local Boards, and detailed legislative framework for governance arrangements. A particular focus of this Bill will be to set out the functions and responsibilities of the Local Boards relative to the functions and responsibilities of the Auckland Council.

The next 18 months are going to involve a period of unique change. Beyond that the planning, regulatory and financial landscape will also be the subject of significant change, which will affect all those who deal with local authorities.

We invite you to contact Daniel Clay or Shaun McAuley on +64 9 353 9700 for more information.

## CERTIFICATION FOR ECOLOGISTS

### The need for an input from New Zealand

*Ian Spellerberg*

I believe the following issue is of utmost importance to ecology practitioners and the ecology profession. In my opinion and as an ecologist I believe that it is urgent that some ecologists from New Zealand contribute to this discussion.

The EIANZ has a well established Certification Programme for environmental practitioners. Both practitioners and employers are showing considerable interest in this Programme - and the number of people applying is increasing year by year.

The Criteria for the CEnvP (Certified Environmental Practitioner) are fairly generic and do not refer to any specific discipline within environmental practice. That was a deliberate decision by the Certification Board. However, there was always the intent that, at some stage, the criteria for the CEnvP could be modified and/or extended for specific areas of practice (such as environmental impact assessment and ecology).

The EIANZ has recently established a Special Interest Section (SIS) in ecology. Amongst other topics, the Ecology SIS (in liaison with the Certification Board) is currently discussing how to modify the CEnvP to meet the needs of the ecology profession. The discussion has commenced and almost certainly there will be a CEnvP with specific criteria for ecology practitioners. I believe that this will happen sooner rather than later!

Meanwhile and for clarification, it is already possible for ecologists (as environmental practitioners) to apply for certification. A growing number of ecologists (from New Zealand and Australia) have achieved certification by way of the CEnvP.

This is a very important development that has implications for the ecology profession, ecology practitioners and standards of practice. I strongly believe that ecologists from New Zealand must contribute to the discussion. It is for this reason that



I have been liaising with the Council of the New Zealand Ecological Society with the aim of encouraging members to take part in this discussion. Through this Newsletter I invite anyone to let me know if you would like to contribute to the discussion and help shape the Certification for ecologists. Surely it is better that we in New Zealand help in the process rather than a model for certification being introduced without our input.

This is an urgent matter. I suspect that much progress will take place at the next EIANZ Conference to be held this year in Canberra in October (20th-21st).

I urge you to respond and I look forward very much to hearing from you ([Ian.Spellerberg@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:Ian.Spellerberg@lincoln.ac.nz)).

## LINDSAY GOW RETIRES



Deputy Secretary of the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) is retiring from public service at the end of June 2009. With over twenty years service at MfE and more than forty years total public service, Lindsay has had considerable experience in managing policy advice and leading major resource management and environmental planning policy and programme initiatives. This work has included:

- Urban design and development, policy and practice
- Energy efficiency and conservation policy and practice
- Household and consumer sustainability policy and behaviour change
- Strategic environmental and sustainability policy

- Natural and urban resource management
- Water quality and land use management
- Hazardous substances policy, legislation and practice.

His training was undertaken at Victoria University of Wellington and Auckland University.

Lindsay is known around Wellington circles as a senior leader who will always take time to explain things and provide guidance to others. His easy manner and depth of experience have been invaluable in the development and delivery of resource management and environmental policy - and the people who work in this area.

## WHATS ON AND WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

### The Financial Crisis ... What's in it for the Environment?

**Speakers include:**  
**Ralph Chapman**  
Victoria University of Wellington  
**Di Buchan**  
Corydon Consultants  
**Al Morrison**  
Department of Conservation  
**Suzi Kerr**  
Motu

**ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**  
Wellington Branch

**Join us for a panel discussion chaired by Dr Morgan Williams, Honorary Fellow of the EIANZ.**

**High profile speakers will share their views on:**  
**The financial crisis...what's in it for the environment?**  
**How does the global financial crisis impact on the achievement of environmental objectives?**

**Tuesday 2 June 2009**  
**5 - 7 pm**  
**Conservation House**  
 18-32 Manners Street  
 Wellington  
 A tour of Conservation House is available at 4 pm - please RSVP

**\$15 EIANZ members**  
**\$20 non EIANZ-members**  
 Refreshments provided  
 Numbers are limited

Please RSVP by 23 May 2009 to Debbie Seymour [debbie\\_seymour@urscorp.com](mailto:debbie_seymour@urscorp.com)  
 04 496 3750

At the same time that the collapse of international financial markets is still reverberating around the global economy, we are faced with environmental problems of a global scale.

On Tuesday 2 June 2009, Dr Morgan Williams will chair a panel discussion in Wellington where five high profile speakers will look at how the global financial crisis will impact on the achievement of environmental objectives, across the natural, built and social/cultural aspects of the economy.

Speakers include Dr Suzi Kerr (Motu), Dr Ralph Chapman (Victoria University of Wellington), Dianne Buchan (Corydon Consultants) and Al Morrison (Department of Conservation). A fifth speaker will be confirmed shortly.

Dr Williams was recently made an Honorary Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ). This is EIANZ's highest award and is in recognition of his leadership on matters of national and international significance relating to



sustainability, environmental best practice, and resource management. Amongst his many achievements and ongoing interests, he served as the second New Zealand Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment for 10 years before his retirement in March 2007.

Never before has there been such an urgent need for skilled and trusted environmental practitioners and this is the driving force behind the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ).

The EIANZ advocates for the best available environmental practices to be delivered by competent and ethical environmental practitioners and offers an independent Certified Environmental Practitioner scheme. Membership of the EIANZ complements that of specialist professional

organisations and its members are also involved with the New Zealand Planning Institute, the Resource Management Law Association and other respected environmental and professional associations.

The panel discussion will be held at Conservation House, 18-32 Manners Street, Wellington, on Tuesday 2 June from 5.00 – 7.00pm. A tour of Conservation House is available prior.

**For more information about this event, please contact Vanessa Browne, Wellington Branch Representative, on (04) 496 3750 or [Vanessa.browne@urscorp.com](mailto:Vanessa.browne@urscorp.com)**

## Regional branches

Video from the upcoming Wellington event, "The Financial Crisis: What's in it for the Environment?", will be screened at regional meetings - times and venues to be confirmed.

## CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

### 2009 Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand Conference: Policy to Practice

**Date:** 20-21 October 2009

**Venue:** Hotel Realm, Canberra

**Website:** <http://www.conlog.com.au/eianz/>

This conference is for all environmental professionals across Australia and New Zealand who are interested in policy development and the practice of implementing policy to achieve better environment outcomes. This Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) conference represents an opportunity for practitioners to discuss which environmental policies work and why. It is expected that the conference will cover a broad range of traditional policy issues from soil conservation, environmental impact assessment and endangered species protection through contemporary policy issues such as water security, climate change risk assessment and carbon pollution reduction.

#### CONFERENCE THEME

One of the most challenging tasks for environmental professionals today is being able to thoroughly understand and practically implement the environmental policies of a national government. Over the last few years, the national environmental policy framework in Australia and New Zealand has changed significantly. The policy issues that are expected to be covered at the conference are likely to include, but are not limited to the following:

- Biodiversity conservation
- Biosecurity
- Carbon pollution
- Compliance and enforcement
- Indigenous land management
- Marine park planning
- Natural resource management
- Protected area management



- Community consultation
- Climate change
- Energy and emissions auditing
- Environmental assessment
- Environmental information
- Environmental offsets
- Green buildings
- Groundwater management
- Heritage conservation
- Research and development
- Recycling
- Renewable Energy
- Site contamination
- State of the environment reporting
- Sustainability
- Threatened species
- Waste management
- Water quality
- Water resource planning
- Wetlands

## KEY DATES

- Closing date for submission of abstracts: 12 June 2009
- Notification of acceptance of abstracts: 2 July 2009
- Last day for Early Registration: 31 July 2009

## Green wash – How to avoid being tarred with the “eco farce” brush.

Green businesses face significant risks when communicating their environmental sustainability credentials. Misdirected enthusiasm can undermine the authenticity of your work and, worse, could land you in hot water with the Commerce Commission. This seminar will assist you to safely negotiate the legal and marketing green wash hazards, while ensuring customers come to associate your brand with sound environmental management.

### Presenters:

Greg Allan – Commerce Commission  
 Peter Taylor – Claude Marketing  
 Carlin Archer – Ecobob and Green List

RSVP's are essential for this informative and interactive workshop as spaces are limited.

**When:** June 3rd 1pm – 4pm

**Where:** Boffa Miskell Ltd, Conference Room, Level 6, 86 Gloucester Street, (cnr Oxford tce) Christchurch. Parking instructions given upon registration.

**Cost:** \$35 SBN Members - \$65 Non Members

RSVP to Carolyn Brown – e-mail [southern@sustainable.org.nz](mailto:southern@sustainable.org.nz) ph 03 9432022 by the **28th May**

This workshop is brought to you by the Sustainable Business Network with thanks to the Commerce Commission, Claude Marketing, Ecobob and Boffa Miskell Ltd



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*Vacant*

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*Vacant*

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External relations SC:

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