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## Executive Update

By Joh Taylor

The Christchurch Symposium in mid-March was a great success. The committee put in a huge amount of effort and the resulting day was full of inspiring speakers and lots of knowledge sharing. We had a high proportion of non-members attending which was great. Comments on the day suggest everyone found it a valuable learning and networking event. Thank you to the committee: Pene Ferguson, Judith Roper-Lindsay, Jeska McNicol, Ced Croft, Neil Gilbert, Geoff Meadows, Mark Ballard and Martin Ward.

Next year the Symposium will likely be in Wellington, and there will be no Symposium in 2017 as the NZ Chapter will host the overall Institute's annual conference. We last hosted the Conference in Wellington in 2010, and in 2017 it will be in Auckland's turn.

In the next while we have two NZ Chapter Executive members departing. Our Secretary Taryn Pearce is leaving (just for 6 months or so) to have twins! – and our Vice-President Justine Quinn is going travelling for a year, leaving mid-April. Dr Ian Boothroyd (a current member of the Exec) has kindly agreed to take on the VP role (thank you Ian), and we are looking for someone to step in to the Secretary role (from May to December). Please contact any of your Exec if you might be interested.

Following the momentum gained by submitting on the NPS Freshwater Management, we are now looking to make further submissions. We see this as a critical role the Exec plays on behalf of members. Submissions can

be on changes to primary and sub-ordinate legislation, but also on central and local government policy etc. Submissions can be comprehensive or can be simple open letters indicating high level views. The next likely submission will be on the Environmental Reporting Bill. If anyone has any thoughts they would like included, and/or some time to contribute, please get in touch with Dr Ian Boothroyd or anyone on the Exec (contact details on last page).

As always, please do get in touch with any of your Exec or Branch Co-ordinators if you have any queries, requests or suggestions. We are here to represent you, and can do that best if we hear from you.

## Editorial: A licence to operate – perception and protection

By Craig Redmond

### **Could the New Zealand dairy industry be seen in the same light internationally as Malaysia's palm oil industry?**

International groups like Greenpeace have brought to the masses the perceived environmental effects of the palm oil industry through clever advertising campaigns, including the use of social media. While the palm oil industry is not perfect, the international pressure is resulting in changes to how the industry operates. For example the industry is responding by setting land aside to establish ecological corridors to connect the natural habitats for orang-utans.

Palm oil and other Malaysian industries have resulted in the people of Malaysia being the most obese in Asia (sign of too much nutrition), children who go to school with many aspiring to go to university, cities with water that you can drink from the tap – which if you have ever travelled around South East Asia is far from the norm.

My recent visit to Malaysia reinforced just how similar the dairy industry is for New Zealand, as is the palm oil industry is to Malaysia. The dairy industry contributes significantly to the New Zealand economy, helping fund the education and health sectors some people can only dream of having access to. And yes, like palm oil, dairy comes at a cost to the environment. The size of that cost the dairy industry states is unfairly portrayed.

Perception is the key issue here. The dairy industry whether it likes it or not, is associated with poor environmental performance. To continue to have a licence to operate the industry needs to take steps like the palm oil industry in Malaysia. Such a step could be requiring all waterways to be fenced from livestock as a requirement of milk supply.

If the dairy industry in New Zealand thinks it is getting a raw deal in the eyes of kiwis, imagine what could happen to the industry and New Zealand as a whole, if such an international campaign like that against palm oil is targeted at the New Zealand dairy industry. Where would New Zealand be then?

Email with your thoughts to [nznewsletter.eianz@gmail.com](mailto:nznewsletter.eianz@gmail.com) and we will share them with members in our next Newsletter.

## Feedback: Nature on Our Doorstep

One lucky member saw this same pod of Orcas hunting in the shallows – check out this You Tube video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDs-pothfxg&authuser=1>

## In the News

So in case you missed it, here are some snippets of environmental news since the last newsletter.

### Legislation

[Minister blasts 'ridiculous' tree felling charge](#)

[Boulder Bank shack looks ship-shape](#)

[Act wants Resource Management Act dumped](#)

[Public to get accurate environment info](#)

[Kaikoura marine protections unveiled](#)

### Natural Environment

[Scientists seek better predictions of volcanic behaviour](#)

[Denniston mining delayed indefinitely](#)

[1080 to rain down on native forests](#)

[Kiwi ingenuity saves rare kakapo chick](#)

[Curious sea lions on Campbell Island](#)

[Sea lion plan launched](#)

[CO2-powered pest trap impresses officials](#)

[Engineering a Flood](#)

[DoC accord will fund new projects](#)

[Coastal Asia most at risk, says UN](#)

### Human Health

[Auckland eatery wins High Court odour battle](#)

[Pollution prompts Paris car ban](#)



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[Website gives updates on water cleanliness](#) (see the LAWA article below for more information)

## Culture and Heritage

[Iwi consent rule costly, dangerous, says Shane Jones](#)

[Maori veto on water](#)

## Social

[Is New Zealand really GE-free?](#)

[What's good for the farmer also proves good for the environment](#)

[Survey shows Kiwis dirty on dairying](#)

[Climate change to change life as we know it, says UN report](#)

[Next Foundation fuelling the next generations](#)

[Big climate report: Warming is big risk for people](#)

## Professional Development Opportunities

The following Professional Development Opportunities are available and as always, all EIANZ events are available on the calendar of our home page <http://www.eianz.org/>

### EIANZ Annual Conference 2014

The EIANZ Conference in 2014 will be held in beautiful Hobart.

Start thinking about coming along and building a holiday before or after. It's the perfect opportunity to explore the amazing nature in this beautiful landscape. Call for papers will open in early 2014 and more information on this event will be coming shortly... so stay tuned!

Where: **Hobart, Australia**

When: **30 and 31 October 2014**

Venue: **Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, Tasmania**

## 3rd Annual Australian Environmental Assessments and Approvals Forum

The EIANZ is pleased to advise that it is again partnering with Akolade to bring environmental practitioners in Australia and New Zealand the opportunity to attend the 3rd Annual Australian Environmental Assessments & Approvals Forum in **Sydney** from the **28 – 30 May 2014**.

EIANZ members are entitled to a discount of 25% on their registration fee for this event.

Certified Environmental Practitioners are entitled to use participation in this event for the purposes of satisfying their obligation for professional development.

Information and registration brochure can be downloaded here. To receive the 25% discount please enter the VIP code of E FXA 1 on the top of the registration page.

## The Natural Step



### The Natural Step New Zealand's Sustainability for Leader 2-day Masterclass Kaikoura 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of April

If you're looking for a unique professional development opportunity, The Natural Step New Zealand and Kaikoura District Council are hosting a [2-day Masterclass](#)<sup>1</sup> in April for anybody interested in leading change in sustainability. Good leadership is about getting some simple principles right, and applying them consistently. The trick is to have the right principles in play.

By attending this practical Masterclass, you will learn:

- How four simple principles can guide you towards an integrated approach to sustainable practices
- How to navigate through fads and misinformation to identify the right strategy for your organisation
- How to maximised the opportunities for value creation with a strong vision of future success
- How to benefit from those invisible 'drivers of change' that impact your organisation, and
- How to choose between the many sustainability measurement and certification tools, to identify the right ones for you.

At \$550 plus gst this is an excellent opportunity for those wishing to learn how to use the framework and it is also the first step to becoming a TNSNZ Associate. For more information and registration details have a look at the [brochure here](#)<sup>2</sup> or email the team at Natural Step NZ on [tnsnz@thenaturalstep.org](mailto:tnsnz@thenaturalstep.org).

1. <http://www.thenaturalstep.org/en/new-zealand/sustainability-leaders-masterclass-kaikoura>
2. <http://www.thenaturalstep.org/sites/all/files/2014%20TNSNZ%20Kaikoura%20event%20outline.pdf>

## Coasts and Ports 2015



The next Australasian Coasts and Ports conference will be in **Auckland, 15 to 18 September 2015**.

See the website for more information: <http://www.coastsandports2015.com/>

NZ Chapter Symposium, Christchurch, Friday March 14, 2014

Life on the Edge – Managing our urban/rural fringe environments



By Pene Ferguson, Christchurch branch coordinator

The NZ Chapter Symposium challenged members and non-members to think about Life on the Edge – and the issues of urban growth and sprawl, intensification of rural activities, and the conflicts of land use on the fringe. We had 50 people join us in Christchurch for the day, and listened to former Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment and Chair of WWF NZ, Dr. Morgan Williams, talk personally about the encroachment of the urban into the rural. We heard from deputy mayor of Christchurch Vicki Buck who explained that after the earthquakes we have many edges in Christchurch (social, urban, coastal, natural hazards), and the edge of opportunity and possibility, as Cantabrians have come up with innovative ways to approach the rebuild. The Chancellor of Lincoln University and Commissioner for Environment Canterbury, Tom Lambie, discussed the challenges of resource management faced by the regional council in the rural environments, and raised many

questions about the balance between economic and agricultural growth, and sustainable, healthy environments. Martin Ward joined Tom Lambie and Morgan Williams in a panel discussion on managing issues at the rural / urban edge.

Over half of the participants took the lunchtime tour around the inner city, to learn how contaminated site investigations had been undertaken as part of the earthquake demolition and rebuild processes.

We have had some good feedback on the topics and speakers and the opportunity to network. We were pleased to host a large number of non-members from Christchurch and Canterbury, and we hope to see many of them join the Institute.



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Photo: Tom Lambie , Chancellor of Lincoln University and Commissioner for Environment Canterbury discussing his perspective

## New Publications

### Land Air Water Aotearoa



Land, Air, Water Aotearoa (LAWA) has been established by like-minded organisations with a view to helping local communities find the balance between using natural resources and maintaining their quality and availability.

Initially a collaboration between New Zealand's 16 regional and unitary councils, LAWA is now a partnership between the councils, Cawthron Institute, Ministry for the Environment and Massey University and has been supported by the Tindall Foundation.

So check out the website here <http://www.lawa.org.nz/>

## The Infrastructure Evidence Base

The National Infrastructure Advisory Board and the Minister for Finance announced publication of the Infrastructure Evidence Base. The evidence base is the first step in a sector wide conversation on the needs of New Zealand infrastructure. Developing the evidence base has been a fully collaborative undertaking, and while the views represented are NIU's, they are reflective of the key issues facing infrastructure sectors at the moment. The evidence base comprises:

- performance metrics showing the current state of infrastructure;
- scenario and trend analysis showing potential future pressures;
- a resilience assessment; and
- the first central government ten year capital intentions plan.

This evidence base marks not only delivery of several commitments made in the 2011 National Infrastructure Plan, but also the first step towards the next plan. This evidence base will be used as the basis for sector conversations throughout 2014, to investigate what this means for NZ infrastructure, and what we can do to respond to it.

Link to Minister's media statement: <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/nz-infrastructure-networks-performing-well>

Link to National Infrastructure Advisory Board statement:  
<http://www.infrastructure.govt.nz/mediastatements/2014-02-18>

Link to evidence base on NIU website:  
<http://www.infrastructure.govt.nz/plan/2011implementation/evidencebase>

## Environmental Reporting Bill

Environment Minister Amy Adams introduced a Bill that will for the first time provide for legally-mandated independent environmental reporting that will enhance New Zealanders' understanding about the state of our environment.

The Environmental Reporting Bill will set in law the provision of comprehensive environmental information for New Zealanders that is easy to understand, independent and relevant.

"The Environmental Reporting Bill represents the Government's commitment to a step change in the way we monitor and report to New Zealanders on the condition of our natural environment," Ms Adams says.



“This Bill will mandate credible environmental information that paints an accurate picture, so the debate can be about the environmental issues themselves, not about whether the reporting is accurate, comparable or representative,” Ms Adams says.

New Zealand is one of only a few OECD countries that does not currently require independent reporting on the state of our environment.

The Ministry for the Environment has worked closely with a number of agencies during the development of the Bill, including the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment.

The Bill sets out what information must be reported and when, and ensures the reports are independent and have scientific integrity.

The scope of the reports will be comprehensive, going beyond the current programme of environmental indicator updates. The reports will cover not just the state of the environment, but will also describe the pressures driving environmental trends and the impacts of these trends.

The environmental reporting system will provide New Zealanders with comprehensive information on five key environmental domains - air, climate and atmosphere, freshwater, marine and land, with biodiversity as a theme across all the domains.

One environmental domain report will be released every six months. In addition, a comprehensive synthesis report covering all environmental domains will be released every three years.

Click here to read the bill for yourself

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2014/0189/latest/DLM5941105.html?src=qs>

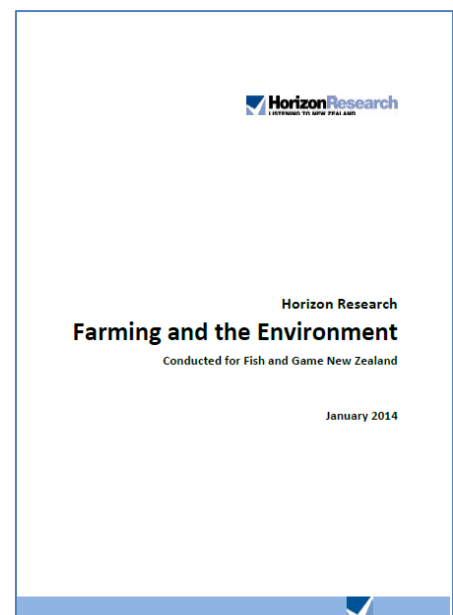
## **Kiwis say dairying has gone too far-survey**

A new independent survey shows New Zealanders believe the economy is either too heavily dependent on dairy farming (37%) or the growth of intensive dairying has gone too far (31%).

Only 19% believe the country should continue to grow dairy farming, with more cows per hectare if necessary, the survey finds.

The ‘Farming and the Environment Survey’ of 3134 respondents aged 18+ was commissioned by Fish & Game NZ and conducted independently by Horizon Research Limited, with a margin of error of just  $\pm 1.8\%$ .

Fish & Game NZ chief executive Bryce Johnson says while the organisation’s primary interest relates to the habitat of trout and salmon and the pursuits of freshwater angling and game bird hunting which are enjoyed by many thousands of New Zealanders, this research proves that Fish & Game and the wider public are united when it comes to freshwater issues.



“The sole focus on ramping up primary sector growth – notably intensive dairying – whatever the costs, has put the economy on a collision course with the environment and public opinion,” he says.

“What this research shows is that nine out of 10 New Zealanders fundamentally link their Kiwi identity and lifestyle to their natural environment. It also exposes that a very clear risk of losing support exists for political parties which introduce policies promoting economic growth without guaranteed safeguards to protect the environment.”

“Kiwis are clearly very concerned about both the economic direction we’re heading in, as well as the impact it is having on the environment and lifestyle, particularly our waterways and the ability to recreate and gather food from them.”

Asked about New Zealand’s rivers and streams, over 92% said either all waterways (56.8%) or the majority (35.8%) ‘should be safe for swimming, fishing and food gathering’.

However, 70% of Kiwis say the expansion of dairy farming has made the quality of our fresh water worse than it was 20 years. Only 6% believe it is better. Even among farm managers and owners, there was agreement (65%) that water quality has worsened after two decades of unconstrained dairy growth.

“Contrary to the current situation in which the general public is picking up the bill, there is overwhelming agreement that those who pollute our waterways should be made accountable for their restoration,” Mr Johnson points out.

Some 89% support this view while only 1.6% disagree. Agreement for this polluter-pays principle sweeps across all occupations, including farm owners and managers (76%) and supporters of all political parties in Parliament.

Of particular interest was the strong overall support (73%) for requiring dairy companies to take formal responsibility for the environmental performance of their contracted suppliers – currently not the case, with the struggling role falling to regional councils funded by ordinary ratepayers.

“Surprisingly, this support rises to 82% among farm owners and managers, so there’s very little political risk in addressing this oversight,” says Mr Johnson. “This could probably be handled in part via a simple amendment to the Dairy Industry Restructuring Act 2001, and would have the effect of internalising the accountability and cost where it belongs.

Actions farmers are expected to take under the voluntary new Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord were presented to respondents – such actions are to take place in the next six to 16 years, with no obvious sanctions for not meeting the targets.

Almost eight of every 10 New Zealanders want livestock fenced out of waterways – including small streams currently not part of the accord – as a mandatory requirement; there is 70% agreement for farmers implementing the accord within five years or less; 60% want compliance with the accord to be regulated, with a further 30% wanting regulation if the voluntary moves fail to improve water quality.

Mr Johnson expects that the survey results will come as a shock to many in the agriculture sector where the long-held presumption has been that farming enjoys the popular support of the wider public.

“That has clearly all changed as a consequence of the bullish attitude of the dairy industry, and while many farmers are doing their best environmentally the sector has simply gone too far with the industry leadership and regional councils failing to deal with the poor performers.

“The survey results speak for themselves, and the dairy companies now have to assume the pivotal role of dealing to the poor performers in their industry in defence of those good farmers.

“It’s clear Kiwis aren’t buying into the industry or Government spin about their commitment to improved water quality.

“What is desperately needed is a new strategy to farm smarter – Tomorrow’s Farming Today! It is helpful that there is a growing body of evidence and independent experts promoting a shift away from dairy companies’ push for volume towards individual farmer profit – fewer cows, on the same amount of land, requiring less fertiliser, labour and animal health inputs.

“The need to require the dairy industry to be on an environmentally sustainable footing is a no-brainer in the minds of the vast majority of Kiwis. The sector might believe it enjoys a ‘licence to operate’ but that is quite clearly in the process of being withdrawn by the public.”

## 2013 Census of Population and Dwellings

The 2013 Census of Population & Dwellings report has been released – 4 key trends of interest are;

- New Zealand’s population continues to steadily growing. Between 2006 (the year of the last Census) and 2013 it grew 5.3%. The population is now approximately 4.42 million.
- The median age of the New Zealand population is increasing. The median age is now 38.0 years, compared with 33.0 years in 2006.
- New Zealand’s population is becoming diverse in terms of its ethnicity. This is reflected in New Zealanders’ place of birth. While 21.5% of New Zealanders’ were born in England, of the 10 most common overseas birthplaces, about 50 percent are non-English speaking countries.
- New Zealand’s population is also becoming increasingly regionalised. Over 75% of the population now lives in the North Island and the Auckland Region now accounts for almost one-third of the population.

## Easter Treat

With The Easter Bunny hopping up on us, one lucky reader will win an Easter treat. All you have to do is click on the bunny and email your details. The winner will be drawn on 16<sup>th</sup> April and published in the next newsletter.



## Certified Environmental Practitioner – Next Intake in October

Good luck to all those who have prepared their CEnvP applications for the March intake. A reminder if you are preparing for the October intake; now is the time to start preparing all your documentation and start talking to your referees.

For more information about the CEnvP scheme, check out the website here [www.cenvp.org](http://www.cenvp.org).

For those of you looking for a bit of extra advice about what's involved and the benefits of becoming certified, get in touch with us to find out [more](#). If there is enough interest, there may be locally run, branch workshops in the lead up to the next intake in October 2014.

## Call for Articles and Ideas

We will be putting out this newsletter quarterly and need interesting and informative articles every time!

Have you...

- Finished an interesting project?
- Attended a training course you found valuable?
- Have some photos that you just have to share?
- Got some ideas for other things you would like to see in this newsletter?

***If so, we would love to add your two cents to the newsletter.***

If you would like to share, please do send any suggestions, articles, photos to [Craig Redmond](mailto:Craig.Redmond).

The next newsletter will be out in September, so please send any submissions through by **20 April**. We will send out reminder emails each time, but there's no harm in getting things in early!

## Have your details changed?

It is important for us to keep your details up to date. If you have recently moved house or job, changed your phone number or email address please let us know by sending an email to [newzealand@eianz.org](mailto:newzealand@eianz.org) to ensure that your details are up to date.

## Key Institute and Chapter Information

### NZ Chapter Executive Committee

### NZ Chapter Executive Committee

President: [Joh Taylor](#)

Vice President: [Justine Quinn](#)

Councillor: [Di Buchan](#)

Secretary: [Taryn Pearce](#)

Treasurer: [Chris Bailey](#)

### Regional Branch Coordinators

Auckland: [Kathryn McDonald](#)

Bay of Plenty: [Sharon De Luca](#)

Wellington / Central: acting Leonie Waayer

Canterbury: [Pene Ferguson](#)

### Committee Members:

[Stacey Swanson](#) (Students and Early Careers Portfolio)

[Steph Brown](#) (CEnvP) Coordinator

[Ian Boothroyd](#)

[Geoff Meadows](#)

### Other Key Roles

Membership Secretary: [Eric Scott](#)

Newsletter Editor: [Craig Redmond](#)

Contact for general enquiries: [newzealand@eianz.org](mailto:newzealand@eianz.org)

EIANZ Website: [www.eianz.org](http://www.eianz.org)

Find out about events at: [www.eianz.org/eventsplus/category/new-zealand](http://www.eianz.org/eventsplus/category/new-zealand)

Join us at: [www.eianz.org/membership/category/new-zealand](http://www.eianz.org/membership/category/new-zealand)

Watch us at: [www.youtube.com/nzeianz](http://www.youtube.com/nzeianz)

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