

Draft Report of Progress against “Key Steps Forward” SBP : Restoring the Dawn Chorus

30 August 2000

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>1. Better Information Putting in place better programmes for monitoring and reporting on the ecosystems, species, sites and facilities we manage and measuring our effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Development of basic components for natural heritage asset management systems (check with IMU)● Progress on decision support systems:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) design of an outcome-focused approach for local and national decision making2) pilot testing of system for assessing the conservation value of diverse projects (Theo)

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>2. Better Integration Having policies and plans that integrate species protection and ecosystem conservation work. This would include applying similar criteria in deciding on priorities for such activities as species protection, controlling animal pests or weeds, or seeking protection for areas not currently protected and better integrating the management of these activities at priority sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Strategy completed and funding package approved. Department leading interdepartmental CEs and officials group that developed funding package and is responsible for strategy implementation. • Development and application of standard operating procedures for ecosystem management is leading to more consistent decisionmaking on priorities. • Review of mainland islands provides lessons with applications across all ecosystem management work.

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>3. Expanded Restoration and Recovery Efforts</p> <p>Continuing and expanding the restoration of high priority offshore and mainland island ecosystems and advancing recovery programmes for threatened species in accordance with an integrated approach to management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Island eradication planned for • Mainland island progress at... ..

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>5. More Marine Conservation Putting greater emphasis on protecting marine resources by establishing a clear strategic framework for this effort, working more closely with other government agencies and reviewing the scope and purposes of the Marine Reserves Act.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion document prepared for Marine Reserves Act review

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>6. A Network of Protected Natural Areas</p> <p>Establishing a network of naturally functioning protected natural areas by developing a landholding strategy, achieving protection for the highest priority unprotected sites, upgrading other sites to park status, and doing more to survey ecological districts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources secured for NHF, NWR and QEII • Proposal for Rakiura/Stewart Island national park agreed by NZCA. • Priority schedule for land status changes agreed by NZCA.

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>7. Closer Co-operation with Landowners and Local Authorities</p> <p>Promoting natural heritage values for all parts of New Zealand by working more closely with private landowners and local authorities and taking a more focused and consistent approach to work off the conservation estate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenure review process advanced with (details) • Department extensively involved in Ministerial Advisory committee's investigation into biodiversity impacts of private landowners – Bio What? Report • Joint approach agreed between Department and LGNZ on Reserves Act improvements.

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p data-bbox="131 268 963 393">8. Closer Integration of Historic Conservation</p> <p data-bbox="131 401 1054 801">Ensuring the historical values of places are integrated into their management and a clear commitment is made to managing historical sites, and clarifying the Department's wider role in historic heritage protection.</p>	<ul data-bbox="1077 409 1837 471" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1077 409 1837 471">• (check Aidan's text for details)

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>9. Recreational Promotion Continuing to promote and manage recreational opportunities and to provide a broad spectrum of appropriate opportunities for all who visit the public conservation estate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visitor information and visitor centre reviews completed.

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p data-bbox="147 255 818 377">10. Upgraded Recreational Facilities</p> <p data-bbox="147 388 1056 969">Ensuring all recreational facilities are safe and meet legal requirements and establishing general community acceptance about how much we can afford to upgrade recreational facilities to new standards, where any new facilities should be provided and how we might manage low priority sites and facilities.</p>	<ul data-bbox="1090 396 2195 722" style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of scope of Visitor Asset Management programme to all recreational facilities continued with upgrading of structures, inspection of huts, lifecycle models developed for huts and tracks (other?)

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>11. Greater Respect of Key Groups in the Community</p> <p>Earning the respect and support of key groups in the community through taking an open and informing approach to relations with these groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 20 and relationship plans have led to more focussed improvements in key relationships in conservancies. This improvement is reflected in survey results (details)

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>13. Completed Change Process Completing the change process begun in 1996, to enable the Department to achieve its goals of improved conservation quality and accountability by improving systems, changing the style of the Department and recruiting, developing and retaining skilled staff. In assessing progress against the McKinsey 7S framework the next areas for focused attention are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To concentrate efforts of changing the style of the Department; and • Acquiring or developing the skill-base required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change process recognised as a continuous improvement process. • Connect 2000 programme and Y2K successfully managed. • Leadership programme developed and implemented • Extensive develop of SOPs • Science function's regionalised • Regional "improving" function strengthened through work of "3x3" group.

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1. Better Information Putting in place better programmes for monitoring and reporting on the ecosystems, species, sites and facilities we manage and measuring our effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring guidelines produced• VAMs introduced• Data bases under development• Some preliminary performance measures available	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce natural and historic heritage asset management systems• Develop effective performance measurement

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<p>2. Better Integration Having policies and plans that integrate species protection and ecosystem conservation work. This would include applying similar criteria in deciding on priorities for such activities as species protection, controlling animal pests or weeds, or seeking protection for areas not currently protected and better integrating the management of these activities at priority sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft New Zealand biodiversity strategy (NZBS) completed ● Development of decision making framework and ranking systems underway (including Twizel pilot) ● Business planning strategic directions ● Mainland island programmes developing techniques for integrated management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalise NZBS ● Continue to develop pilot and roll out decision (making) (support?) framework ● Further develop and gradually incorporate more ranking systems ● Extend experience of integrated management techniques from mainland islands and elsewhere to more extensively managed sites.

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<p>3. Expanded Restoration and Recovery Efforts Continuing and expanding the restoration of high priority offshore and mainland island ecosystems and advancing recovery programmes for threatened species in accordance with an integrated approach to management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources obtained for island eradication programmes • Seven recovery plans completed • Mainland island review completed • Rat eradication from Whenua Hou 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement priority actions in NZBS (depending on available resources) • Advance recovery planning implementation • Implement findings of mainland island review

Key Steps Forward	Progress Since January 1998	Next Steps
<p data-bbox="129 258 689 386">4. Increased Pest and Weed Control</p> <p data-bbox="129 397 752 856">Increasing efforts to sustainably control animal pests and weeds at the highest priority sites in accordance with an integrated approach to management.</p> <p data-bbox="147 1121 533 1182">4a Biosecurity</p>	<ul data-bbox="813 401 1429 902" style="list-style-type: none"> • Weed strategy • Additional resources for stoat research • Initial review of possum control costs • Progression pest and weed SOPs 	<ul data-bbox="1480 401 2123 1356" style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement priority actions in NZBS (depending on available resources) • Complete comprehensive review of possum (and other?) cost effectiveness • Strengthen DOC's biosecurity capacity and awareness and linkages with other agencies

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<p>5. More Marine Conservation</p> <p>Putting greater emphasis on protecting marine resources by establishing a clear strategic framework for this effort, working more closely with other government agencies and reviewing the scope and purposes of the Marine Reserves Act.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft marine reserves strategy ● Initial pan-government review of marine management ● Pohatu marine reserve ● C.S.L stabilised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of Marine Reserves Act ● Implement Marine Reserves strategy ● Advance marine conservation through government marine management review

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<p>6. A Network of Protected Natural Areas</p> <p>Establishing a network of naturally functioning protected natural areas by developing a landholding strategy, achieving protection for the highest priority unprotected sites, upgrading other sites to park status, and doing more to survey ecological districts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Still ticking over ● Landholding strategy on hold ● Criteria established for upgrades of land status ● Rethinking approaches to survey work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Secure resources for “forest” funds ● Enhance resources for survey ● Finalise landholding strategy

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<p>7. Closer Co-operation with Landowners and Local Authorities</p> <p>Promoting natural heritage values for all parts of New Zealand by working more closely with private landowners and local authorities and taking a more focused and consistent approach to work off the conservation estate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Resource Management Act strategy • More focussed and disciplined approach • Joint promotional leaflet (DOC/LGNZ/Fed Farmers and QEII) • Tenure review progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Policy Statement for biodiversity on private land • Finalise Resource Management Act strategy and implement • Continue tenure review progress

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<p>8. Closer Integration of Historic Conservation Ensuring the historical values of places are integrated into their management and a clear commitment is made to managing historical sites, and clarifying the Department's wider role in historic heritage protection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Heritage Review completed • Conservancy strategies underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plans for greater historic heritage integration in DOC's work • Decision making framework provides mechanism for integration • Improve culture within DOC for historic <u>interpretation</u>

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<p>9. Recreational Promotion</p> <p>Continuing to promote and manage recreational opportunities and to provide a broad spectrum of appropriate opportunities for all who visit the public conservation estate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor information review underway • Web site developed and upgraded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor information review and visitor centre reviews completed and implemented • Expand and improve visitor interpretation on-site and off-site

Key Steps Forward	Progress Since January 1998	Next Steps
<p>10. Upgraded Recreational Facilities</p> <p>Ensuring all recreational facilities are safe and meet legal requirements and establishing general community acceptance about how much we can afford to upgrade recreational facilities to new standards, where any new facilities should be provided and how we might manage low priority sites and facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Visitor Asset Management System for structures implemented ● Public process for rationalising facilities underway ● VAMs being extended to huts and tracks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VAMs fully implemented ● Sustainable recreational facilities programme achieved

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<p>11. Greater Respect of Key Groups in the Community</p> <p>Earning the respect and support of key groups in the community through taking an open and informing approach to relations with these groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 20 provides more focused approach to key groups (variable application) • Improvements in polling satisfaction ratings from public and groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve relationship focus and skills in conservancies • Revise public awareness (community relations) strategy • Development of a co-operative conservation management framework

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<p>13. Completed Change Process Completing the change process begun in 1996, to enable the Department to achieve its goals of improved conservation quality and accountability by improving systems, changing the style of the Department and recruiting, developing and retaining skilled staff. In assessing progress against the McKinsey 7S framework the next areas for focused attention are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To concentrate efforts of changing the style of the Department; and • Acquiring or developing the skill-base required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer focus/Quality Management introduced • Organisational Health check • Science Review completed and implemented • SOP development now regionally based • Information Management Plan • Connect 2000 roll out • Changes to business planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise this as a continuous improvement process • Further development and implementation of leadership programmes • Development of 3x3 and regional “improving” function

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<p>12. More Effective Working Relationships with Iwi Maori</p> <p>Establishing and maintaining effective relationships with Iwi Maori to achieve mutually agreed conservation aims as part of the Department of Conservation's responsibilities to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Ngai Tahu and Tainui settlements. • Development of Pukenga Atawhai training programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Pukenga Atawhai programme • Development of co-operative conservation management framework • Revision of Kaupapa Atawhai strategy

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<p>11. Greater Respect of Key Groups in the Community Earning the respect and support of key groups in the community through taking an open and informing approach to relations with these groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Target 20 and relationship plans have led to more focussed improvements in key relationships in conservancies. This improvement is reflected in survey results (details)

Key Steps Forward	Progress in 1999/2000 Year
<p>12. More Effective Working Relationships with Iwi Maori Establishing and maintaining effective relationships with Iwi Maori to achieve mutually agreed conservation aims as part of the Department of Conservation's responsibilities to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pukenga Atawhai training widely implemented • Kaupapa Atawhai Strategic Policy group established and draft material prepared on principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and application to DOC. • Responses to TPK review monitored.