

National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

# Implementation plan

2023



Ministry for the  
**Environment**  
*Manatū Mō Te Taiao*



**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

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### Note to readers

Changes have been made to the [National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023](#) by the [Resource Management \(Freshwater and Other Matters\) Amendment Act 2024](#). This publication should be read alongside the [Significant natural areas under the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity information sheet](#) which sets out changes made by the Amendment Act.

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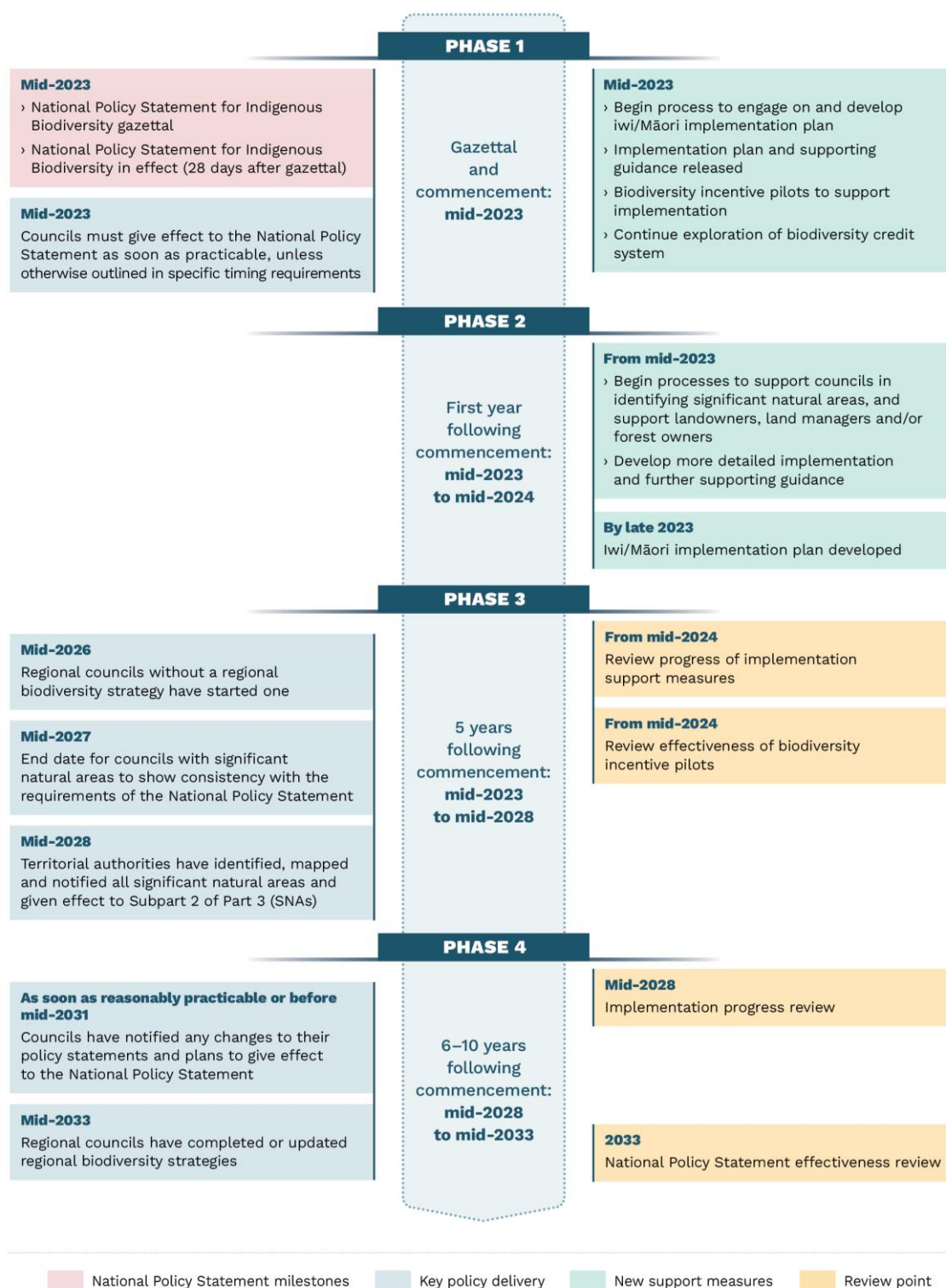
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# NPSIB Implementation timeline

Figure 1: Implementation timeline



# Introduction

## Purpose

The National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB) provides a regulatory framework to protect, maintain and restore New Zealand's unique indigenous biodiversity. Its successful implementation – spanning 10 years – will rely on strong partnerships and effective support for those implementing the policy.

This document provides a plan for implementation, from gazettal to the completion of the first wave of policy implementation. It provides information on implementation timeframes, roles and the support measures that will be available.

A separate NPSIB iwi/Māori implementation plan is being developed in partnership with iwi and hapū. It will outline specific implementation support for Māori and is expected to be delivered by late 2023.

## The wider context

Our work in ensuring that New Zealand has a thriving natural environment, rich in indigenous flora and fauna, relies on a wide array of interventions across the biodiversity system. The NPSIB is one of many initiatives that are already under way; working alongside them, it provides clarity to local government on its requirements for managing indigenous biodiversity under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

It is important that all parts of the biodiversity system are effective and that people are supported to protect, maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity. Fundamental to this is the need to provide a sound information base, incentives that support action and reporting that highlights the progress being made.

The implementation plan includes support measures that address the above activities. Alongside implementation, we are exploring options for a biodiversity credit system that may support and incentivise positive action. This was strongly recommended by the Biodiversity Collaborative Group in its 2018 report to the Government and by submitters during public consultation on the NPSIB. Further measures to support the NPSIB's implementation are outlined later in the plan.

## Related initiatives

Some of the key policy initiatives related to the NPSIB are discussed below. [Appendix 1](#) provides a more comprehensive overview of the interactions between the NPSIB and other instruments and initiatives.

## **Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy implementation**

[Te Mana o te Taiao – the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy](#) and the NPSIB are mutually supportive. The NPSIB, its implementation and broader supporting measures, fall

under the canopy of Te Mana o te Taiao and are important to the achievement of some of its goals. The NPSIB implementation measures outlined in this plan align with the ongoing Te Mana o te Taiao implementation programme.

## **Resource management system reform**

The Government is undertaking a comprehensive reform of the resource management system, with a focus on the broader and deeper changes that are needed to support the transition to a more productive, sustainable and inclusive economy.

Through the Natural and Built Environment Bill, a National Planning Framework will provide integrated direction on matters of national significance, including areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna. The NPSIB will be transitioned into the National Planning Framework to provide this direction. In practice, this means that work done to implement the NPSIB will be applicable to future plan-making processes under the National Planning Framework.

## **Other national direction**

There are other key pieces of national direction that directly interact with the NPSIB. Throughout development of the NPSIB there has been substantive effort to assess interactions with other national direction to ensure alignment. MfE will continue to work with other agencies to address this in terms of policy integration and implementation.

The Essential Freshwater package and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) provide direction on indigenous biodiversity protection across freshwater and coastal marine domains. Given the terrestrial focus of the NPSIB, there has been specific focus on integration with coastal marine and freshwater related national direction and work programmes. Implementation support material will provide further guidance where there may be overlap between instruments.

# NPSIB implementation

The NPSIB primarily directs council action, but they cannot do it alone. Implementation will be undertaken in partnership with tangata whenua, and require engagement with landowners, industry, local and central government and many other groups and organisations.

While some councils have advanced biodiversity work programmes, others will take longer to ramp up. For most, the NPSIB's implementation will require additional investments in budgets and resources. Complimentary supporting measures for tangata whenua and landowners will be a critical part of implementation.

Funding has been secured from Budget 22 to support implementation.

## Objectives

We have the following implementation objectives for the NPSIB:

- **achieve the NPSIB outcome** – effective implementation contributes to improvements in the condition and extent of species, habitats and ecosystems throughout New Zealand
- **partner with tangata whenua** – working together with our Treaty partners to develop implementation measures that support the aspirations of iwi, hapū and whānau and empower tangata whenua in managing and making decisions for indigenous biodiversity
- **grow existing relationships with stakeholders and councils** – we strengthen our existing relationships and support stakeholders and councils to design and deliver effective biodiversity management
- **support and incentivise biodiversity protection** – we acknowledge the good work of landowners and support their efforts to protect and maintain biodiversity on their land
- **integrate biodiversity actions with other national directions and initiatives** – we align with other national direction and initiatives to optimise our efficiency, prevent duplication and encourage practical implementation pathways.

## Timeframes and phasing

This implementation plan covers the NPSIB initial policy and implementation cycle, from gazettal to 10 years after its commencement, when all core policies will have been implemented.

In the short term, each council will need to understand the NPSIB requirements regarding Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), taonga and highly mobile fauna identification in partnership with iwi, hapū and whānau and landowners. In the medium and long term, councils should apply the NPSIB requirements consistently through plan provisions and work programmes, in partnership with iwi, hapū and whānau, landowners, communities, industry and government agencies.

To simplify the timeline, implementation has been split into four phases:

- Phase 1 – Gazettal and commencement (mid 2023)
- Phase 2 – First year following commencement (mid 2023–mid 2024)

- Phase 3 – SNA provisions delivered by year 5 (2023–28)
- Phase 4 – Ongoing implementation years 6–10 (2028–32)

Table 1 provides a summary of the activities in each phase. It reflects the timing of both policy implementation and the delivery of support measures. Local authorities and other organisations will likely develop their own additional implementation support measures that are not captured in this implementation plan.

**Table 1: NPSIB implementation phases and descriptions**

Phase and timeframe	Policy implementation	Implementation support and review
1. NPSIB launch <b>Gazettal and commencement, mid-2023</b>	Gazettal of the NPSIB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPSIB takes effect 28 days after gazettal</li> <li>• Councils must give effect to the NPSIB as soon as practicable, unless otherwise outlined in specific timing requirements</li> </ul>	Implementation plan Continue process to engage on and develop iwi/Māori Implementation Plan
2. The first year <b>First year following commencement, mid 2023 – mid 2024</b>	Councils give effect to the NPSIB	Iwi/Māori implementation plan developed by late 2023. Priority guidance delivered at commencement. Roll out of implementation support measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop detailed implementation guidance</li> <li>• provide assistance to councils for SNA identification</li> <li>• provide funding to support landowners</li> <li>• Regional coordinator, data platform and innovation pilots as part of implementation support.</li> </ul>
3. SNA provisions delivered <b>5 years following commencement, 2023–28</b>	Completion of Part 3 requirements (councils): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• councils with existing SNAs assess their existing SNA compatibility with NPSIB criteria within 4 years of commencement</li> <li>• SNA identification and mapping completed within 5 years of commencement</li> <li>• all councils have SNAs notified in district plans or policy statements within 5 years of commencement.</li> </ul>	Conclude and review pilots. Ministry review of the first year of implementation support rollout (years 2–3).
4. Ongoing implementation <b>6–10 years following commencement, 2028–33</b>	Councils notify changes to policy statements and plans that give effect to the NPSIB within eight years of commencement, including provision for Māori land, Treaty settlement land and taonga species. Regional councils have developed monitoring plans in collaboration with others. Regional councils have developed biodiversity strategies within 10 years of commencement.	The Ministry undertakes a review of policy implementation and implementation support (year 6). The Ministry undertakes an effectiveness review of the NPSIB (year 10).

# Roles during implementation

Table 2 outlines the roles that relevant organisations, groups and individuals will have during the NPSIB's implementation.

**Table 2: Roles during NPSIB implementation**

Organisation	Role
<b>Ministry for the Environment</b>	Responsible for administering and reviewing the NPSIB, monitoring and reporting on implementation progress and providing key support measures, including guidance. The Ministry may provide other implementation support to assist iwi/Māori, landowners, councils and others.
<b>Territorial authorities</b>	Responsible for implementing relevant NPSIB policies by partnering with iwi/Māori and engaging with landowners and others. Territorial authorities may assist landowners and others with implementation.
<b>Unitary authorities</b>	Responsible for implementing NPSIB policies relevant to territorial authorities and regional councils by partnering with iwi/Māori and engaging with landowners and others. Unitary authorities may assist landowners and others with implementation by providing additional support measures.
<b>Regional councils</b>	Responsible for implementing relevant NPSIB policies by partnering with iwi/Māori and engaging with landowners and others. Regional councils may assist territorial authorities, landowners and others with implementation by providing additional support measures.
<b>Iwi and hapū</b>	Work in partnership with councils to implement decision-making principles; SNAs on Māori land; and taonga identification and mapping. As kaitiaki (guardians), iwi and hapū may take a strengthened role in resource management processes for indigenous biodiversity.
<b>Landowners, land managers and forest owners</b>	Work with councils to map SNAs and implement other relevant requirements where necessary. Landowners need to be enabled in their roles as stewards of the natural environment.
<b>Environmental non-government organisations</b>	May assist landowners, councils and others with advice, expertise and implementation support.
<b>Industry associations</b>	May provide advice, guidance and general implementation support for members.
<b>Crown agencies</b>	Responsible for ensuring Crown land and public conservation land are managed according to regional and local requirements. Agencies may assist iwi and hapū, landowners and others with implementation through associated government programmes and projects. Agencies need to take part, as required, in shared data and monitoring frameworks.  All agencies will work together to align with government work programmes.

# Implementation support measures

Implementation support will be essential in rolling out the NPSIB across New Zealand.

## Existing support measures

A lot of great work is already happening in New Zealand, including by people and organisations who protect, maintain and restore biodiversity.

Biodiversity management is already a requirement for local government. Landowners can generally access support measures, although they vary between districts depending on local offerings. They include, but are not limited to:

- ecological advice and expertise
- information and guidance on the protection, maintenance and restoration of biodiversity
- rates remissions for protected land
- funding for the protection, maintenance and restoration of indigenous biodiversity, such as through fencing, planting and pest control
- central government support through funds and initiatives (see Established central support measures, appendix 2)
- legal protection, including Queen Elizabeth II National Trust open space covenants, Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust covenants and Ngā Whenua Rāhui kawenata
- Ngā Whenua Rāhui funding
- support for community/biodiversity hubs
- additional development right provisions in city/district plans.

## New support measures

Central government provides support through several contestable and targeted funds that promote biodiversity protection, maintenance and restoration. Additional support for indigenous biodiversity and specifically to implement the NPSIB has been secured from Budget 22.

New support measures will be deployed by central government as part of the NPSIB package. They include:

- guidance developed with stakeholders as needed, which may include technical guidance and case studies
- support to assist councils with SNA identification and mapping
- funding to support indigenous biodiversity protection, maintenance and restoration on private land
- support for tangata whenua to partner in the implementation of the NPSIB
- pilots of new biodiversity incentives/support measures and the exploration of further measures
- further work to explore biodiversity credits.

Further detail on these measures is provided in Table 3. A separate iwi/Māori implementation plan will consider direct support to assist iwi/Māori to engage with NPSIB processes, and this is also detailed in Table 3.

Councils and other organisations are likely to develop additional measures to support the NPSIB's implementation. We also expect the Te Mana o Te Taiao work programme to result in broader biodiversity support measures in the medium to long term (e.g. a national monitoring framework).

**Table 3: Summary of NPSIB support measures and timing**

Support measure	May include	Delivered by	Funded by	Timing	
Existing support measures					
Support provided by councils	Biodiversity management is already a requirement for local government. Landowners can access support measures where available. These vary from district to district.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provision of ecological advice and expertise</li><li>• Information and guidance</li><li>• Rates remissions for land protected for biodiversity purposes</li><li>• Funding for projects that protect, maintain or restore biodiversity</li><li>• Support for community groups/biodiversity hubs.</li></ul>	Councils	Councils	Existing (varies by district)
Support provided by third parties	There are many other organisations and groups in New Zealand providing support to those protecting, maintaining and restoring indigenous biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Queen Elizabeth II National Trust open space covenants and Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust covenants</li><li>• Provision of funding, advice and other support from <a href="#">various trusts, organisations and funders</a>.</li></ul>	Various third-party providers	Various third-party providers	Existing
Industry support	Industry associations often provide specific local guidance and support for their members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Industry-specific guidance on local requirements</li><li>• Industry accreditation and incentive programmes</li><li>• Industry-initiated projects.</li></ul>	Industry	Industry	Existing
Central government support	Existing central government funds, such as Ngā Whenua Rāhui, already provide considerable support to private and Māori landowners to protect, maintain and restore biodiversity on their land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ngā Whenua Rāhui funding</li><li>• Various targeted and contestable funds (see Table 6 – Summary of existing central government funds, appendix 2)</li></ul>	Central government (various agencies)	See Table in appendix 2	Existing

Support measure	May include		Delivered by	Funded by	Timing
New support measures					
NPSIB guidance	Further guidance will provide more detail on NPSIB policies and specific methods to implement them. Guidance will need to be accessible to multiple audiences in appropriate formats and provide both general and technical information to support implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information sheets/quick reference guides (various media) on NPSIB policies and implementation</li><li>Development of policy interpretation guidance.</li></ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Departmental baselines	Phase 1, at commencement
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Further implementation guidance developed as needed, which may include technical guidance and case studies.</li></ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Departmental baselines	Phase 2, mid 2023
Support for iwi/Māori	Working in partnership with iwi/Māori will be a key part of implementing the NPSIB. The NPSIB requires iwi/Māori to be involved in NPSIB processes, to the extent they wish to be involved. However, many iwi, hapū and whānau have limited capacity or capability to engage in RMA processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A separate iwi/Māori implementation plan is in development. This will help to address the support needed to assist iwi/Māori to engage with local councils and NPSIB processes.</li></ul>	Partnership between iwi/Māori and central government	Departmental baselines for development of plan  Funding for identified support measures to be confirmed when plan is approved.	Phase 2 end-2023
Support for councils	Promote clear messaging through communications support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provide councils with basic communications support to ensure consistent messaging for all who are affected by the NPSIB.</li></ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Departmental baselines	Phase 2, first year after gazettal
	Support for SNA identification, which may include financial assistance to councils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support SNA identification, specifically those councils that have not undertaken SNA assessments already</li><li>Explore measures to build capability and capacity in this area and to make best use of the limited resources currently available.</li></ul>	Ministry for the Environment in partnership with councils	Budget 22	Phase 2, first year after gazettal

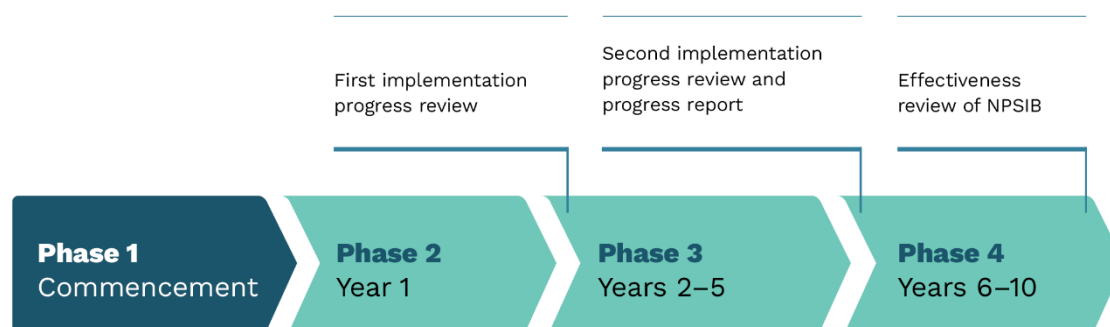
Support measure		May include	Delivered by	Funded by	Timing
Support for landowners, land managers and forest owners	Council funding and grants for biodiversity have been successful at a local government level. Additional central government support will increase the resources available for landowner support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide additional support to landowners</li> <li>Explore and develop measures that support a broad range of protection, maintenance and restoration activities, (e.g., the provision of expertise and species-management plans).</li> </ul>	Ministry for the Environment in partnership with the Ministry for Primary Industries and councils	Budget 22	Phase 2, first year after gazettal
Other measures to support landowners and community groups	Develop measures to support and incentivise landowners to protect, maintain and restore biodiversity beyond the traditional non-repayment grant schemes.  Three initiatives will be piloted in several regions for an initial one-year period and reviewed on completion. If successful, the pilots could be extended to, and implemented in, other regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fund a Regional Biodiversity Coordinator position to support communities in improving biodiversity.</li> </ul>	Ministry for the Environment in partnership with councils and community hubs	Prime Minister's Emerging Priorities Fund Budget 22 for expansion	One-year pilot completed in Phase 2
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a digital platform that connects resources and users for better biodiversity outcomes. This will test if a centralised digital platform can support increased biodiversity action and if such a platform would help improve access to support for landowners with SNAs.</li> </ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Prime Minister's Emerging Priorities Fund Budget 22 for expansion	One-year pilot completed in Phase 2
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support to test innovative approaches to biodiversity management.</li> </ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Prime Minister's Emerging Priorities Fund Budget 22 for expansion	One-year pilot completed in Phase 2
	Further develop initiatives and partnerships to support and incentivise biodiversity protection, maintenance and restoration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further work to explore market-based incentives that measure/value indigenous biodiversity, potentially linked to carbon markets.</li> </ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Prime Minister's Emerging Priorities Fund Budget 22 for continuation	Phases 2 and 3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore other support measures and incentives through research and partnerships. Other initiatives may be developed based on findings.</li> </ul>	Ministry for the Environment	Budget 22	Phases 2 and 3

Support measure		May include	Delivered by	Funded by	Timing
Develop information management systems	<p>A foundational system of nationwide information is critical. Robust systems need to be in place to enable the distribution and collection of high-quality information and data on which to base decisions.</p> <p>Work with others to explore, adapt and develop appropriate systems to support implementation and measure progress.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with iwi/Māori, central government agencies and local government to develop system improvements to meet data needs and support monitoring and reporting, including provision for mātauranga (education), where agreed</li> </ul>	Central government in partnership with councils	Departmental baselines	Phases 2 and 3
Align NPSIB implementation with other central government initiatives	Link with other workstreams, frameworks and institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to explore and use relevant links with other workstreams, frameworks and institutions that align with the NPSIB, (e.g. integrated farm management and Resource Management reform). This will occur in all government work, particularly work related to climate change, conservation, primary industries and biosecurity.</li> </ul>	Central government	Departmental baselines	Ongoing in the life of the NPSIB

# Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring is a key aspect of this plan. It will be important to check progress regularly and ensure reporting is frequent enough to allow adaptation if required. The Ministry will review and report on progress against specific parts of the plan at the end of Phases 2 and 3, and an effectiveness review will be undertaken at the end of Phase 4. Table 4 summarises the timing for, and components of, each review.

**Figure 2: Review timeframes**



**Table 4: Review timeline**

Review stage	Purpose
<b>First implementation progress review</b>  Start of Phase 3 (year 2)	Review of implementation support rollout, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• progress on the implementation of the support measures specified in the plan</li> <li>• review effectiveness of the biodiversity incentive pilot projects</li> </ul>
<b>Second implementation progress review and progress report</b>  Start of Phase 4 (year 6)	Review of NPSIB implementation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• councils' progress in implementing NPSIB provisions</li> <li>• progress in the development and deployment of support measures outlined in this plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Effectiveness review of the NPSIB</b>  End of Phase 4 (year 10)	NPSIB effectiveness review, covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• councils' progress in implementing NPSIB provisions</li> <li>• progress in the development and deployment of support measures outlined in this plan</li> <li>• the effectiveness of the NPSIB in maintaining indigenous biodiversity.</li> </ul>

Any requirements for modifications to the implementation actions will be addressed after the review – and additional reviews may be needed, for example, to improve how the actions align with other significant work programmes, such as Te Mana o Te Taiao.

An NPSIB effectiveness review will be undertaken in Phase 4. This will be different from the implementation progress reviews in that it seeks a greater understanding of the NPSIB's impacts and determines whether it is on track to meet its objectives.

This central oversight of the NPSIB's implementation will ensure that it is progressing according to plan.

# Appendix 1 – Related initiatives and instruments

**Table 5: Links with other national direction and initiatives**

Initiative or instrument	Link with the NPSIB
<b>Biosecurity Act 1993 and Biosecurity 2025</b>	<p>New Zealand’s biosecurity system helps protect the economy, environment and people from unwanted pests and diseases. The biosecurity system is underpinned by the Biosecurity Act 1993, which provides the legal framework for the Ministry for Primary Industries and other organisations to help keep harmful organisms out of New Zealand and respond to organisms if they make it into the country.</p> <p>Biosecurity 2025 provides an overarching strategic direction for the biosecurity system. There are five work plans to inform the development of an implementation plan, which provides guidance and specific actions to 2025 and beyond.</p> <p>The NPSIB interacts with the biosecurity system. Enabling indigenous biodiversity to adapt to a changing climate includes managing and reducing biosecurity risks. Regional biodiversity strategies will provide a single and comprehensive record of all areas targeted for protection, enhancement and restoration, including actions taken under other legislation, such as the Biosecurity Act 1993.</p>
<b>Mahi mō te Taiao Jobs for Nature</b>	<p>Jobs for Nature is a NZ\$1.219 billion programme that manages funding for multiple central government agencies to benefit the environment, people and the regions. It is part of the COVID-19 recovery package. The programme is intended to run for four years.</p> <p>The funding is being used to create nature-based work activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vegetation planting for freshwater and biodiversity restoration</li> <li>• waterway fencing on both public and private land</li> <li>• pest and plant control (including wilding pines and wallabies)</li> <li>• fish passage remediation</li> <li>• skills training to support career development in environmental management.</li> </ul> <p>Funding recipients include local government, iwi, charitable trusts, community catchment groups, community groups and private companies.</p> <p>Jobs for Nature contributes to the overall objective of the NPSIB and the complementary measures recommended by the Biodiversity Collaborative Group.</p>
<b>National Planning Standards</b>	<p>National Planning Standards encourage national consistency in resource management plans and support the implementation of national policy statements, national environmental standards and other regulations made under the RMA. The first set of National Planning Standards, gazetted in April 2019, focused on the structure and format of plans and policy statements, including biodiversity provisions.</p> <p>A planning standard may usefully support components of the NPSIB but this will be considered as part of the transition to the national planning framework.</p>
<b>National Policy Statement for Electricity Transmission (NPSET)</b>	<p>The NPSET requires councils to recognise and provide for electricity transmission networks. Electricity transmission activities can have adverse effects on biodiversity. The NPSIB manages these effects and allows a consenting pathway for nationally and regionally significant infrastructure (including the national grid) in SNAs, while protecting the most significant habitats and ecosystems.</p>
<b>National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities (NESETA)</b>	<p>The NESETA are regulations that support the NPSET and include a framework of permissions and consent requirements for the operation, maintenance and upgrading of existing electricity transmission lines. The regulations set out which activities are permitted, subject to conditions to control environmental effects and</p>

Initiative or instrument	Link with the NPSIB
	provide for more stringent management in natural areas. The NESETA prevails over the NPSIB; it requires consent for activities that affect vegetation in SNAs.
<b>National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)</b>  <b>National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F)</b>	Under the NPS-FM, a loss of the extent of natural wetlands is to be avoided and their values protected. The NES-F has tight controls on certain activities that damage wetlands. The NPSIB promotes the restoration of degraded wetlands as a priority.  The NPS-FM also has policies for maintaining and improving ecosystem health, which include the protection of habitat and aquatic species. This complements the NPSIB's purpose, which focuses on protecting and maintaining terrestrial indigenous biodiversity. If there is a conflict, the NPS-FM and NES-F will prevail.
<b>National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL)</b>	The NPS-HPL requires the identification and management of land for primary production so that local authorities consider the value of this resource in their regions/districts, both now and in the future.  The key area of interaction with the NPSIB is where SNAs occur on LUC (land-use capability) 1–3 land. This is managed by the NPS-HPL stating that the protection of SNAs and the protection, maintenance and restoration of indigenous biodiversity is an appropriate use of highly productive land.
<b>National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF)</b>	The NES-PF are regulations under the RMA that aim to maintain or improve the environmental outcomes associated with plantation forestry and to increase the efficiency and certainty of managing plantation forestry activities. This is achieved through a single set of regulations under the RMA that applies to foresters throughout New Zealand. The NES-PF applies to any forest of at least 1 hectare that has been planted specifically for commercial purposes and will be harvested.  The NES-PF regulations cover eight core plantation forestry activities that have potential environmental effects. Two relate to indigenous biodiversity: indigenous bird nesting for specific species; and the clearance of indigenous vegetation.  The NPSIB provisions manage indigenous biodiversity in SNAs located in plantation forests. The NPSIB provisions prevail because the NES-PF allows councils to be more stringent than the NES-PF in their plans to protect SNAs.
<b>National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation</b>	Renewable electricity development is important for addressing national climate change but it can have adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity. The NPSIB manages these effects and allows a consenting pathway for specified infrastructure (including renewable electricity generation) in SNAs, while protecting the most significant habitats and ecosystems.
<b>National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD)</b>	The NPS-UD recognises open space as one of the features of a quality urban environment. Urban vegetation also contributes to a quality environment. The NPSIB includes policies to restore indigenous vegetation in depleted areas, including urban areas. Areas of land identified as SNAs under the NPSIB can be considered 'no-go areas' for urban development, as described in the NPS-UD.
<b>New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS)</b>	The NZCPS' scope is the coastal environment, of which the 'dry' part overlaps with the NPSIB. The NZCPS list of protected indigenous biodiversity largely aligns with the NPSIB and it is anticipated that councils will apply both policies in the terrestrial component of the coastal environment. If there is a conflict, the NZCPS takes priority.
<b>Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy</b>	Te Mana o te Taiao and the NPSIB are mutually supportive. The NPSIB, its implementation and broader supporting measures, fall under the canopy of Te Mana o te Taiao and are important to achieving some of its goals. The NPSIB implementation measures outlined in this plan align with the ongoing Te Mana o te Taiao implementation programme.

# Appendix 2 – Established central government support measures

**Table 6: Summary of existing central government funds**

Existing funding	Funding purpose and activities it supports	Annual funding	Total funding
DOC (Department of Conservation) Community Fund	<p>The DOC Community Fund supports practical projects aimed at conserving New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity. Projects focus on protecting and restoring our natural habitats and halting the decline of, and restoring healthy, sustainable populations of our native species.</p> <p>The fund supports a range of conservation activities and provides relatively small grants (NZ\$40,000 average) to leverage community involvement for biodiversity projects, (eg, predator control, weed control and species protection projects) on public and private land. The fund is oversubscribed each year (it usually receives applications worth NZ\$20–\$30 million annually).</p> <p>See <a href="#">DOC Community Fund: Apply for funding</a> for information on how to apply to the DOC Community Fund.</p>	NZ\$4.6 million	NZ\$4.6 million
Nature Heritage Fund	<p>The Nature Heritage Fund protects indigenous ecosystems through a sustainable and interactive system of protected areas. It does this by purchasing land or through covenanting, leasing, accords or management agreements if the land is left in private ownership. The fund typically protects two to five areas annually.</p> <p>See <a href="#">Nature Heritage Fund: Apply for funding</a> for information on how to apply to the Nature Heritage Fund.</p>	NZ\$1.8 million	NZ\$1.8 million
Ngā Whenua Rāhui	<p>This fund aims to protect the remaining indigenous biodiversity on land owned by Māori. It provides protection for Māori landowners through 25-year renewable kawenata (covenant) and aims to give long-term benefits by protect papatūānuku (mother earth), indigenous biodiversity and historical, spiritual and cultural values on Māori-owned land.</p> <p>See <a href="#">Ngā Whenua Rāhui: Funding</a> for information on how to apply to the Ngā Whenua Rāhui programme.</p>	NZ\$6 million	NZ\$6 million per year
Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures	<p>This fund supports initiatives that make a difference to New Zealand's food and fibre sectors. Projects that bring biodiversity into farm systems may be eligible for funding.</p>	NZ\$40 million	NZ\$40 million

Existing funding	Funding purpose and activities it supports	Annual funding	Total funding
	<p>There are four funding categories, from small grants (up to NZ\$100,000) to partnerships (over NZ\$5 million).</p> <p>See <a href="#">Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures   Funding and rural support   NZ Government</a> for information on how to apply to Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures.</p>		
Mahi mō te Taiao Jobs for Nature	<p>The Jobs for Nature programme allocated additional one-off funding in 2021 to support iwi/Māori, landowners, community groups and councils to deliver positive outcomes for indigenous biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jobs for Nature Community Conservation Fund – supporting community-led biodiversity projects on public and private land.</li> <li>Jobs for Nature Private Land Biodiversity Fund – supporting groups of private landowners to restore and enhance indigenous ecosystems on private land, while providing employment.</li> <li>Freshwater Improvement Fund – supports the management of lakes, rivers, streams, groundwater and wetlands. Projects related to freshwater biodiversity restoration include those targeting reductions in sediment erosion from the land and wetland and estuary restoration.</li> <li>Funding has been provided to the National Wilding Conifer Control programme and a programme to address wallaby control.</li> <li>Funding has also been allocated to Predator Free 2050 and pest and weed control on Crown land.</li> </ul>	<p>Not an annual fund</p> <p>Not an annual fund</p> <p>Not an annual fund</p> <p>Not an annual fund</p> <p>Not an annual fund</p>	<p>NZ\$16 million (over 4 years)</p> <p>NZ\$18 million (over 4 years)</p> <p>NZ\$156.2 million</p> <p>NZ\$100 million for wilding conifer control NZ\$27.4 million for wallaby control</p> <p>NZ\$76 million to Predator Free 2050 (over 4 years) NZ\$8.7 million to pest control on Crown land (over 4 years)</p>
	<b>Total funding</b>	<b>NZ\$52.4 million</b>	<b>NZ\$454.7 million</b>