

# New Zealand's Protected Areas Network - List it to love it!

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### **Protected Areas Network NZ (PAN-NZ)**



#### Drivers – Te Mana o te Taiao

#### TIAKI ME TE WHAKAHAUMANU Protecting and restoring

We need to address the direct pressures causing a decline in biodiversity, ensure the sustainable use of biodiversity, and restore biodiversity in areas where it has been lost. These objectives set out what we will do to ensure biodiversity is resilient and secure.

#### What our 2050 objectives are:

- **10.** Ecosystems and species are protected, restored, resilient and connected from mountain tops to ocean depths
- **11.** Management ensures that Biological threats and pressures are reduced through management
- 12. Natural resources are managed sustainably
- **13.** Biodiversity provides nature-based solutions to climate change and is resilient to its effects



#### ΤΕ ΜΑΝΑ Ο ΤΕ ΤΑΙΑΟ

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY 2020

### Drivers - Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework's "30x30"

### <u>Target 3</u>

"Ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and wellconnected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes."



#### **Drivers – Underpins Understanding**

MANAAKI WHENUA – LANDCARE RESEARCH

"However, our data strongly suggest that the current spatial distribution of sitebased conservation, as reflected by PAN-NZ, is inadequate to protect a highly endemic carabid fauna" Assessment of protected area coverage of threatened ground beetles (Coleoptera: Carabidae): a new analysis for New Zealand

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Abstract: Gap analysis is a tool that allows conservationists to quantify the effectiveness of protected areas at representing species diversity, but the lack of distribution maps for invertebrates has precluded its application to the world's most diverse animal groups. Here, we overcome this limitation and conduct a gap analysis, using niche modelling, on the Pterostichini (Coleoptera: Carabidae) of New Zealand, one of the most diverse and most threatened tribes of ground beetles in the nation. Niche modelling uses data on abiotic parameters to model predicted species ranges based on records of their known distribution, and is a useful tool for conservation planning. This method is widely applicable where there is good taxonomical knowledge of the group in question and distribution records are available. We obtained sample localities from museum records for 67 species of Pterostichini, including 10 species listed as threatened, and modelled their spatial distributions based on climate, landforms and soil properties. Most species had small spatial distributions, with 48-75% of species having ranges of less than 100 000 ha. We found the areas with highest species richness fell largely outside of the protected area network, as did the distribution of most individual species, with just 20-25% of species having more than 30% of their range falling within a protected area. In terms of percent land area, New Zealand has one of the world's largest protected area networks, but the spatial distribution of that network affords little protection to this group of invertebrates. This analysis provides support for the creation of new reserves to increase the value and efficacy of the protected areas network.

Keywords: Carabidae; Coleoptera; gap analysis; invertebrates; New Zealand; Pterostichini

#### Introduction

Invertebrates form the functional backbone of ecosystems around the world. They play globally important roles in processes as diverse as pollination (Ghazoul 2005), herbivory (Maron & Crone 2006), bioturbation (Meysman et al. 2006), water purification (Boulton et al. 2008), and regulation of insect populations (Kromp 1999). Moreover, they are the most speciose group of animals and yet are thought to be undergoing a mass extinction event (Fonseca 2009). The importance of invertebrates and their diversity raises a difficult proposition: we need to conserve these species, but how can we best conserve such species-rich groups? Their sheer diversity precludes the widespread use of species-specific management actions, suggesting that site-based conservation approaches are the most practical route forward (McGuinness 2007). This approach is the most commonly employed conservation tactic around the world (Rodrigues et al. 2004a, b). The degree to which protected areas represent species diversity can now be quantified using gap analysis (Rodrigues et al. 2004a, b). Gap analyses require data on the spatial distribution of species, which is available for all of the birds (Orme et al. 2006), mammals (Schipper et al. 2008) and amphibians (Stuart et al. 2004) of the world. However, such information is commonly unavailable for invertebrates, making gap analysis impractical and leaving it as a tool that is not routinely employed for assessing the conservation protection afforded to the world's most diverse taxon. Data are available now for a diverse group of invertebrates in New Zealand, allowing us to conduct the first national-scale gap analysis for invertebrates in one of the world's 25 biodiversity hotspots (Myers et al. 2000).

New Zealand is notable for its highly endemic biota, which has evolved in isolation from any other landmass for at least the last 25 million years. There is considerable discussion now as to whether isolation was longer due to the claims and rebuttals for the 'Oligocene inundation' (Goldberg et al. 2008; Giribet & Boyer 2010 and references therein). Following very extensive land extension and mountain building during the Pliocene and Pleistocene, the warmer climates of the interelacials and last 10 000 years in the South Island have led to a diversity of habitats and vegetation associations. On the lowlands dense wet forests dominated the west and dry forests and shrublands the east (Craig et al. 2000). However, the landscape suffered much modification from its natural state with the arrival of humans. New Zealand was one of the last countries in the world to be colonised by people and European settlers arrived less than 200 years ago (MfE 1997) with grazing animals and tillage practices. Since this time, forest-burning, agricultural land modification, hunting and the introduction of exotic species, both productive and pest, have had a significant impact on the natural habitats of New Zealand (McGlone 1989), causing the extinction of unique species and threatening many more (Fonseca 2009).

The family Carabidae is one of the New Zealand invertebrate taxa that are listed high on the priorities of conservationists (Larochelle & Lariviere 2001; Johns 2003, 2005). However, information on relative abundance and distribution of rare species is incomplete and, as such, an

### **PAN-NZ Phase 1**

Objectives

Identify the various types of protected areas

Identify protected area data sources

Planzer S, Harris L, van Noppen F, Price R, Law R, Belliss S. 2023. Protected Areas Network New Zealand methodology review and report. Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research Report LC 4299 prepared for Ministry for Environment.55p.

Record data gaps



Assess the data sharing maturity of each source.

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Assess the suitability of Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) for inclusion within PAN-NZ Develop a survey to understand the nature of data entities hold about protected areas

### **Protected Area Type**

Standardised terrestrial biodiversity indicators for use by regional councils (Bellingham et al. 2016)



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#### Table 15-7 Classification of areas legally protected for biodiversity purposes

E	National Park	National Parks Act 1990
Class	Designation	Legal Mechanism

Purpose: s 4 Preserving areas in perpetuity as national parks, for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of the public, areas that contain scenery of such distinctive quality, ecological systems, ornate natural features so beautiful, unique, or scientifically important that their preservation is in the national interest; including that they shall be preserved as far as possible in their natural state and native plants and animals shall as far as possible be exterminated

#### 5 Nature Reserve Reserves Act 1977

Purpose: s 20 (1) Protect and preserve in perpetuity indigenous flora or fauna or natural features that are of such rarity, scientific interest or importance, or so unique that their protection and preservation are in the public interest.

#### 5 Sanctuary Area Conservation Act 1987

Purpose: s 22 Preserve areas in their natural state indigenous plants and animals in it, and for scientific and other similar purposes shall be preserved as far as possible in its natural state.

#### 5 Scientific Reserve Reserves Act 1977

Purpose: s 21 (1) Protect and preserve in perpetuity for scientific study, research, education, and the benefit of the country, ecological associations, plant or animal communities, types of soil, geomorphological phenomena, and like matters of special interest; (2) (a) indigenous flora and fauna shall as far as possible be preserved and the exotic flora and fauna shall as far as possible be exterminated; (c) where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, or natural features are present those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve; (d) to the extent possible compatible with the principal or primary purpose, maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area; (e) with consent, manipulate for experimental purposes or to gain further scientific knowledge.

#### 5 Water Conservation Order Resource Management Act 1991

Purpose: s 199 (1) The purpose of a water conservation order is to recognise and sustain – (a) outstanding amenity or intrinsic values which are afforded by waters in their natural state: (b) where

### **Protect Area Classifications**

Standardised terrestrial biodiversity indicators for use by regional councils (Bellingham et al. 2016)

#### Appendix 15 – IUCN Protected Area management categories

Code	Name	Description	New Zealand Protected Areas*		
la	Strict Nature Preserve	Category la protected areas are strictly protected areas set aside	National Parks Act of 1980	Specially protected areas	
		to protect biodiversity and also possibly geological/geomorphological features, where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values. Such protected areas can serve as indispensable reference areas for scientific research and monitoring	Conservation Act 1987	Ecological areas Sanctuary areas	
			Reserves Act 1977	Nature reserves Scientific reserves	
			Wildlife Act 1987	Wildlife sanctuaries	
			Marine Reserves Act 1971	Marine reserves	
			Marine Mammal Protection Act 1978	Marine mammal sanctuaries	
			Fisheries Act 1983 & Harbours Act 1950	Marine parks	
			Sugar Loaf Islands Marine Protected Area Act 1991	Marine protected areas	
Ib	Wilderness Area	Category lb protected areas are usually large, unmodified or	National Parks Act of 1980	Wilderness areas	
		slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence without permanent or significant human habitation, which are protected and managed so as to preserve their natural condition.	Conservation Act 1987	Wilderness areas	
Ш	National Park	Category II protected areas are large natural or near natural areas	National Parks Act of 1980	National parks (balance)	
		set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes, along with	Conservation Act 1987	Conservation parks	

## Those not identified by Bellingham et al.

- Internationally protected areas
  - RAMSAR Wetlands
  - UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Marine protected areas
- Te Urewera
- Not limited to

Some species have improving population trends. The conservation status of 23 bird species improved in the 2016 assessment as a result of population increases, mainly because of management intervention.

Freshwater fish

17 (33%) are 'At Risk'

Around 5000 of the assessed 14000 terrestrial, freshwater, and marine

species are 'Data Deficient' - i.e. there is not enough information to know

· 22 (43%) are 'Threatened'

Biogenic marine habitats (created by living plants or animals) support high biodiversity and provide ecosystem services. Many of them

have been degraded or lost. For example, there has been a near total loss of kuku/green-lipped mussel beds in the Firth of Thames.

Naturally uncommon ecosystems are those

which covered less than

0.5% of the country's land

area in prehuman times.

There are 72 of these, of

which 45 (63%) are now

threatened

New Zealand's land area remains in native cover.

if they are in trouble.

as 'Data Deficient''

For example, 609 marine macroalgae (68%)

and 105 earthworms (59%) are assessed

Based on modelled Trophic tubes Still Level Index values, 46% of over 3000 Jakes larger than Tha are estimated to be in poor or very poor ecological health.

remain in Aotearoa New Zealand – around 10% of their former extent. Wetland loss is still occurring: At least 5000 ha of wetland is estimated to have been lost since 2001.

> Around 40800 ha of indigenous forest, scrub and shrubland was converted to non-indigenous land cover between 1996 and 2018. In the same period, 44800 ha of indigenous grasslands and 5500 ha of other indigenous cover were also converted to non-indigenous cover types.



Many species are in decline. Population declines of 61 vascular plant species means they have moved to a worse conservation status in the latest 2017 assessment.

#### Land reptiles

37 (35%) are 'Threatened'
 52 (50%) are 'At Risk'

A large body of research has found that concentrations of nutrients, sediment and pathogens in rivers increase as the catchment area in pastoral land use increases.

Rivers in urban areas are contaminated with nutrients, suspended sediment, pathogens and heavy metals.



214 non-indigenous marine species now live in Actearoa New Zealand's marine environments. Some of these have the ability to compete with and prey on indigenous species, modify natural habitats or alter ecosystem processes.

#### Source: Te Mana o te Taiao

### Significant Natural Areas (SNAs)



- Councils have had to protect areas with significant native biodiversity since the Resource Management Act (RMA) was introduced in 1991.
- Recent National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB) increase mandates

### **Identify Data Source**

Category	Rank	Legislation	Legislation section	Data custodian	Data sources	Licence	Published date	Last updated	Accessibility	Comment on data							
Terrestrial legally protected as identified by Bellingham et al. (2016)																	
National parks	5	National Parks Act 1980	s.12 - Specially Protected Area s.14 Wilderness Area s.15 - Amenities Area s.4 - National Park	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only	s.12 only Comes with the disclaimer 'Care should be taken in deriving conclusions from any data or information supplied.'							
				LINZ	<u>LINZ Protected Areas</u> (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS	The Department cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information. Rather it represents best endeavours to maintain an accurate record of conservation land.							
										downloads.							
Nature reserve	5	Reserves Act 1977	s.20 - Nature Reserve	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only								
				LINZ	UNZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS								
Sanctuary area	5	Conservation Act 1987	Conservation Act s.22 - Sanctuary Area	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only								
				LINZ	LINZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS								
Scientific	5	5 Re	Reserves Act 1977	Reserves Act 1977	Reserves Act 1977	s.21 - Scientific Reserve	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only					
reserve				LINZ	UNZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS								
Water Conservation Order	5	Conservation Act 1987								DATA GAP 15 listed here: https://www.epa.govt.rz/assets/Uploa ds/Documents/RMA- Proposals/Guidance/8f2f439a69/MFE- Infosheet-Water-Conservation- Orders.pdf							
Wilderness	5	5 Cc	5	5	5	Conservation Act	Conservation Act	Conservation Act	5 Conservation Act	s.20 - Wilderness Area	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only	
area		1987		LINZ	UNZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS								
Wildlife	5	5	5	Conservation Act	s.23B - Wildlife Management	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only						
management area		1987	Area	LINZ	UNZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS								
Wildlife sanctuary	5	Wildlife Act 1953	s.9 - Wildlife Sanctuary	LINZ	UNZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS								
Amenity areas 4	; 4	4	Conservation Act	s.23A - Amenity Area	DOC	DOC Public Conservation Land (1)	CC BY 4.0 licence	8 March 2018	Weekly	Download only							
	1987		LINZ	UNZ Protected Areas (2)	CC BY 4.0 licence	2 Feb 2017	2 May 2022	Download, OGC WFS									

A data gap refers to incomplete or missing data that are required in order to obtain a full picture, at a national level, of where protections have been applied across New Zealand's terrestrial and marine environments

- Conservation Covenants (Reserves Act 1977) held by local authorities, and reserves vested (Reserves Act 1977) in local authorities
- Protected private land (Reserves Act 1977)
- SNAs
- Gaps in data. For example, RAMSAR.

### **Data Source Maturity**

Focused on three measures of data maturity





- Last updated
- Known limitations
- License details

## PAN-NZ: Aggregator not creator

Potential Data Providers (91+):

- 67 Territorial Authorities
- 11 Regional Councils
- DoC
- LINZ
- QEII National Trust
- Etc...



## <u>Lowering transaction cost</u> in collecting protected area data

- Webservices
  - REST API
  - WFS
- Licensing



### **Protected Areas Source Data Stocktake**

	<b>Central Gov</b> PAN-NZ Dat	<b>t</b> a Sources	<b>Territorial</b> <b>Authority</b> Potential SNA Data Sources		
<b>Sources Identified</b>	8		15		
Licensing	8	100%	4	27%	
Downloads Available	8 100%		6	40%	
Webservices	3	38%	3	20%	

### Recommendations



- PAN-NZ Requires ongoing funding
- The data sharing ecosystem must be lifted
- A cross agency group should be formed to oversee the improvement of protected areas data and data sharing
- Common solutions to common problems must be found
- Protected area classifications should be updated
- PAN-NZ data should be released under open license



### Poll Question: Does your organisation hold or manage data on protected areas?



### **PAN-NZ Phase 2**

- Update 2023 report to incorporate new legislation Workshop with natural resource sector agencies to ensure all relevant entities included Carry out a survey to gather information from key data providers, stakeholders and endusers
- Determine how PAN-NZ should develop as a database



### Phase 2 – Engagement

- Will be sending out a survey to custodians of protected area data to gather information about the protected area data they possess
- Engage with groups solving similar problems with many of the same data custodians

#### PAN-NZ data sources

Availability of protected areas data and meta data

6. Have you (your organisation) contributed data to PAN-NZ in the past?

$\cap$	Yes
$\cup$	

$\sim$	14.14	
	N	0
		~
<u> </u>		

I don't know

7. Do you know of spatial or other digital data related to protected areas (click all applicable options)?

Within your agency

From other organisations

Neither

8. Do you coordinate with other organisations or individuals to collect and manage PA data?

$\cap$	Yes
$\smile$	

O No

If yes, who?

9. Do you provide this protected area data to other agencies?

	- N. I	۴.		_
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		-		~

O No

### Questions?

