
LINK ONLINE

Short webinars for environmental policy-makers and practitioners

Take a Moment to Arohia te Taiao ...notice, discover, nurture, enjoy, celebrate...

The following questions were asked during our live webinar with Gradon Diprose, Angela Brandt and Alison Greenaway but due to time restrictions, we were unable to answer these in the session.

Do you have a heatmap or density map of surveys?

A report about participation trends from 2007-2018 can be found here:

<https://datastore.landcareresearch.co.nz/dataset/nzgbs-2018-participation-trends>. You can see how many surveys contributed at each spatial scale (national, regional, district) in the "Trend estimates" spreadsheets on our DataStore collection (e.g., 2019 trend estimates here: <https://datastore.landcareresearch.co.nz/dataset/nzgbs-2019-trend-estimates>; spreadsheets from 2020 should be posted soon). You can see this year's survey counts by region (as of the day before the survey ended) on the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NZGardenBirds/photos/pcb.1830274753835361/1830274583835378/>

How do backyard survey results correlate to remnant urban vegetation and proximity to larger natural areas? Guess I should look at the results on the website?

This is certainly an interesting question and one we'd be keen to explore further. One of the next steps for the programme is to facilitate more research questions like this to be addressed, which is why we're working to make the data more accessible and working with stakeholders to do further tailored analysis.

Why do garden birds survey in winter? Our garden birds vary according to season. E.g., Kereru are present in winter but not in summer.

Question #1 in our FAQ! (<https://gardenbirdsurvey.landcareresearch.co.nz/faq.html>) It is a common time for bird counts like this globally to be done, and in addition to the points raised in the FAQ, picking a time when no juveniles are about makes for easier identification. But your point is important - a consistent time for the survey year-to-year is essential for putting the data together to get trends over time because there are certainly seasonal differences in activity of different species.

Why use this conceptual framework compared to the sustainable development conceptual framework that includes economic, social, and environmental dimension?

These frameworks enable different thinking and actions, so it depends on what you are trying to work through. The NFF assists people to work with a plurality of values including relational values. We were showing the wide range of values shaping how people connect with nature.

Do you have preliminary ideas about how to establish non-representational forms of knowledge (sensing, feeling, tacit knowledge, etc) concretely in policy? Is this happening in other parts of the world?

Good question! This is a key challenge for much policy which is why we were trialling the Nature Futures Framework. We have started to explore these aspects as part of evaluating the impacts/outcomes from the NZ Garden Bird Survey. For example, we have explored what people learn from doing the survey (cognitive knowledge like bird names and 'facts'), and the affective or emotional states that are fostered through the practice. These non-representational forms of knowledge could be further explored particularly through the 'nature as culture' values, but this would require policy makers (and others) to become more open to other forms of knowledge. In other words, it may require us to leave behind and decolonise some of the ways we have been approaching policy. Indigenous researchers (and others) have also been exploring these questions in different contexts.

Is there an existing resource where we can easily use this framework for our everyday work?

Yes, these links may help: Official IPBES webpage for task force on scenarios and models, includes brief summary of task force roles, links to NFF review process, events/dialogues in Sept/Oct:

<https://ipbes.net/scenarios-models>.

Official Nature Futures Framework review 'introductory video' (Carolyn Lundquist, Laura Pereira):

<https://youtu.be/6F1V18so7UI>

Was there any breakdown of responses in either survey into cultural/ethnic group? Thinking of different cultural perspectives on nature...

We haven't undertaken a specific analysis that compares responses from different ethnic/cultural groups for any of the research projects we discussed. We have some data around ethnicity/culture for NZ Garden Bird Survey participants and the interviews done on connecting with nature during lockdown. However, we do not have this data for the Te Papa Te Au | The Current participants.

Alison mentioned having targets to aim for in regards to measuring up to our sustainability framework. Could she please give an example of what these targets might look like? e.g., everyone should spend 1 hour in nature per week, or, there should be x amount of nature within 10 minutes walking distance of everyone's house?

Alison was referring to the latest report from the OAG about NZ's progress towards SDGs.

<https://oag.parliament.nz/2021/sdgs>.

Do you engage with local government with your results?

We use webinars like this to engage with both local and central government, as well as using various other mechanisms.

Very concerned about the negativity of young people at Te Papa. Does your agency have some plans for addressing some of those issues raised?

The negative comments, while a small minority when compared to the positive ones, also reveal important values about nature. MWLR does not have specific plans to address these negative comments through one particular research project that we are aware of. However, we undertake a range of work that seeks to foster more meaning-filled people-nature relationships (like the NZ Garden Bird Survey, wetlands research, and bug and fungi ID resources).

Are you engaging with central government as well? Especially with Conservation legislation being reviewed?

MWLR staff have a range of ways we engage with central government. From webinars like this, policy briefs, staff secondments, publishing reports and articles, reviewing and providing advice, partnering on specific projects (like working with the Department of Conservation to promote the NZ Garden Bird Survey), through to kanohi ki te kanohi meetings with central Government staff. We also engage by responding to central government research priorities and proposing new research through various science investment funds that central government administers.