

THREATENED SPECIES STRATEGY

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Sanctuaries of New Zealand
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Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Why have a strategy?

To identify the tools that are working well

To connect work programmes

To focus new projects

To provide clear goals

Threatened Species Strategy

Purpose

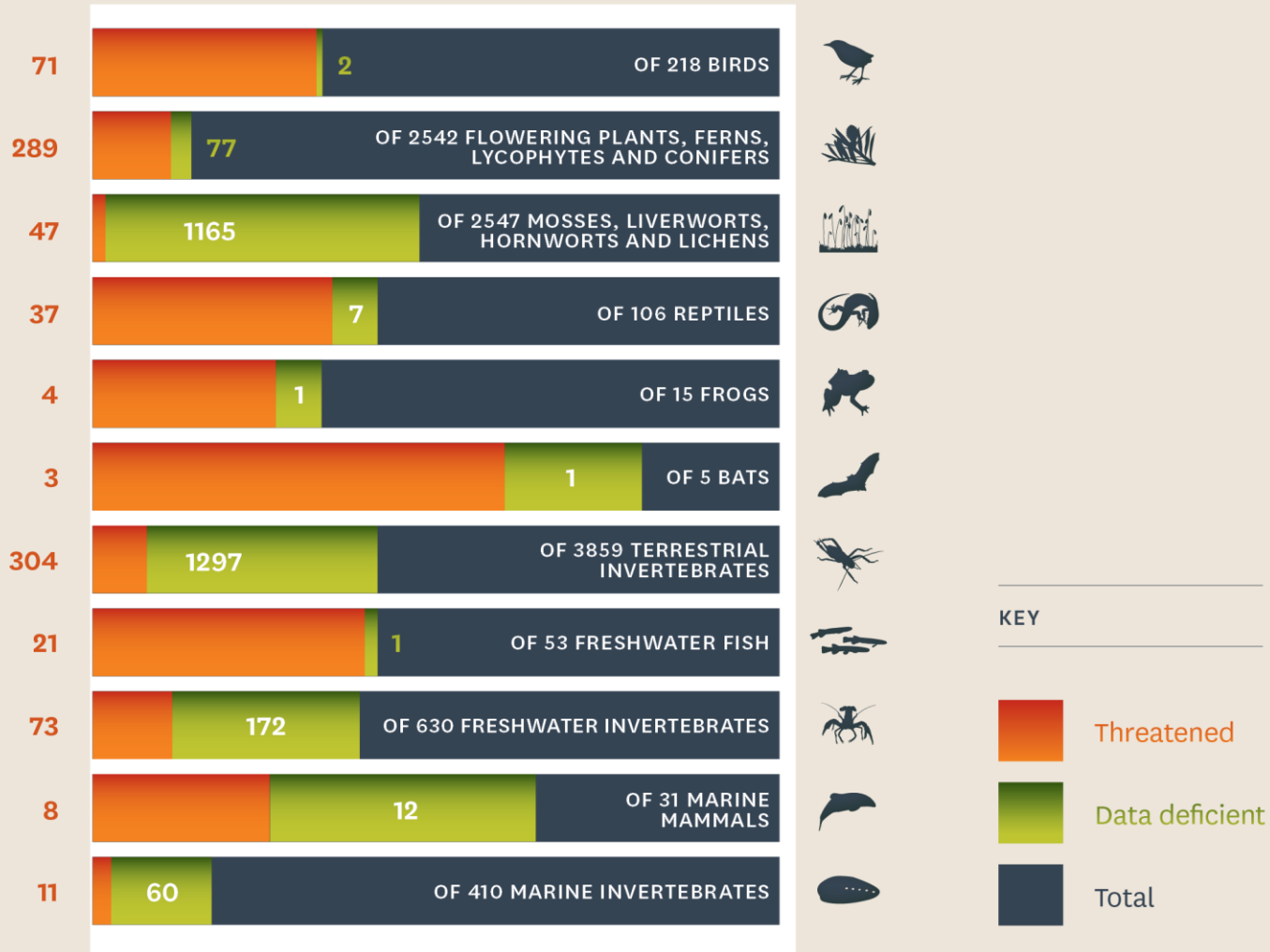
To “halt the decline in our threatened species and restore them to healthy populations.”

To build on existing commitments and programmes, and to identify further steps we need to take to restore those species already at risk of extinction, and prevent others from becoming threatened.

and

To invite all New Zealanders to be a part of this effort.

NUMBER OF THREATENED SPECIES BY BROAD TAXONOMIC GROUP



The challenge is real

- New Zealand has an estimated 50 000 species – assessed 13 000
- 3 000 of these are considered data deficient
- More than 3 000 of our native species are classified as threatened or at risk
- More than 800 of these threatened species are at risk of extinction

Halting (and reversing) the decline



- Evidence-based decision-making
- Collaboration
- Action on the ground



Community

Business



Science

Action



Foundations for Recovery

Large scale in-situ management

Integration of species and ecosystem prioritisation tools

Will drive us toward a large increase in species we manage

Goals

1. Manage 500 Species for protection by 2025 - a 40% increase on today – increasing to 600 species for protection by 2030

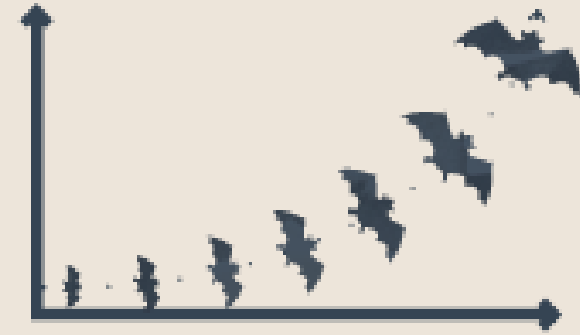


What do we mean by ‘protection’?

the long-term protection of species, including managing all threats to secure species from extinction and ensuring their populations are buffered from the impacts of loss of genetic diversity, and longer term environmental events such as climate change.

Goals

2. Enhance the populations of 150 prioritised threatened and at risk species



What do we mean by ‘enhanced’?

‘Enhanced national population’ means conservation management has successfully enabled the recovery and long-term sustainability of a species. This will result in an increase in

- the total number of individuals nationally,
- the geographic range of the species, or
- the viability of the population by addressing genetic problems such as limited gene flow or inbreeding.

Goals

3. Integrate Te Ao Māori (the Māori world view) and mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) into species recovery programmes by 2025
4. Support research that helps us to better understand data deficient species



Actions

1. Achieve the Predator Free 2025 goals:

- Continue with Battle for our Birds – monitoring and taking action
- 1 million additional hectares of predator control
- Eradicating predators from at least 20,000 hectares of mainland NZ without the use of fences
- Predator-free status for all nature reserve islands
- Ability to eradicate at least one mammal predator.

2. Continue to invest in improving tools and technologies for predator control by:

- Focusing the science system through the Conservation and Environment Science Roadmap and the Biological Heritage Science Challenge.
- Supporting innovation by the private sector
- Continuing to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of 1080

Actions

3. Identify a priority list of threatened and at risk plant species, and ensure that their seeds are held in a recognised seed storage facility by 2025.

4. Biosecurity 2025

- Strengthen NZ's biosecurity system using 2016 *Biosecurity 2025 Direction Statement*.

5. Progress key regulatory reforms:

- New marine protection legislation to provide more flexible tools for protecting marine ecosystems.
- The continued development of a National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity by the stakeholder-led Biodiversity Collaborative Group.

Actions

- 6. Implement freshwater reforms, particularly setting and implementing environmental limits; and continue support for freshwater habitat restoration.**
- 7. Identify and publish threatened species 'hotspots' both on and off public conservation land to identify the key areas d threatened species for potential protection.**
- 8. Select 500 of the data deficient species to focus researchers on further scientific work.**

Actions

- 9. Ensure that national recovery planning systems and processes are fit for purpose, efficient and integrate mātauranga Māori.**
 - Incorporate Māori principles and knowledge

- 10. Develop and implement a comprehensive monitoring regime that can be used by all those involved in species management that:**
 - Provides timely useful information on threatened species
 - Specifies a trigger for intervention to avoid extinction or increase the threat status of a species.

The process and what happens next?

- Draft Strategy released 10th May
- Submission period closed Monday 31st July
- Targeted release of final Strategy
 - Requires Cabinet approval 21st August
- Implementation plan will be developed from August

Consultation

Treaty partners

- Ngati Kuia
- Ngai Tahu
- Iwi Leaders Group

Government sector

- Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
- Ministry for the Environment
- Ministry for Primary Industries
- Biodiversity Working Group (regional councils)
- Te Papa

Consultation

Community sector – conservation groups - NGOs

- Endangered Species Foundation
- Wellington Botanical Society
- Forest & Bird
- Zoological and Aquarium Association

Events and Promotion

- Fieldays
- Festival
- DOC Visitor Centres