Ramsar National Report to COP14

COP14 National Report

Background information

1. The COP14 National Report Format (NRF) has been approved at its 57th meeting (SC57) for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (China, 2021).

2. The NRF is being issued by the Secretariat in 2019 to facilitate Contracting Parties' implementation planning and preparations for completing the Report. The deadline for submission of national targets is by 24 January 2020 and the deadline for submission of completed National Reports is 21 January 2021 (final dates will be updated once the dates for COP14 are agreed).

3. This COP14 NRF closely follows that of the NRF used for COP13, to permit continuity of reporting and analysis of implementation progress by ensuring that indicator questions are as far as possible consistent with previous NRFs (and especially the COP13 NRF). It is also structured in terms of the Goals and Strategies of the 2016-2024 Ramsar Strategic Plan adopted at COP12 as Resolution XII.2.

4. This COP14 NRF includes 90 indicator questions. In addition, Section 4 is provided as an optional Annex in order to facilitate the task of preparing the Party's National Targets and Actions for the implementation of each of the targets of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024 according to Resolution XII.2.

5. As was the case for previous NRF, the COP14 NRF includes an optional section (Section 5) to permit a Contracting Party to provide additional information, on indicators relevant to each individual Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar Site) within its territory.

6. Note that, for the purposes of this national reporting to the Ramsar Convention, the scope of the term "wetland" is that of the Convention text, i.e. all inland wetlands (including lakes and rivers), all nearshore coastal wetlands (including tidal marshes, mangroves and coral reefs) and human-made wetlands (e.g. rice paddy and reservoirs), even if a national definition of "wetland" may differ from that adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention.

The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention and are made publicly available on the Convention's website.

8. There are seven main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
i) provide data and information on how, and to what extent, the Convention is being implemented
ii) provide tools for countries for their national planning
iii) capture lessons and experience to help Parties plan future action;
iv) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention from the Conference of the Parties;
v) provide a means for Parties to account for their commitments under the Convention;
vi) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementing the Convention, and to plan its future priorities; and
vii) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.

9. The data and information provided by Parties in their National Reports have another valuable purpose as well, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention".

10. To facilitate the analysis and subsequent use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, the Ramsar Secretariat holds in a database all the information it has received and verified. As for COP13, the COP14 reports will be in an online National Reporting system.

11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
i) providing an opportunity to compile and analyze information that contracting parties can use to inform their national planning and programming.
ii) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the global, national and regional implementation, and the progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at the COP as a series of Information Papers, including:
* the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level;
* the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance); and
* the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region;
iii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at the COP.
iv) providing the source data for time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (4th edition, 2010); and
v) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role on wetlands for the CBD. In particular, the Ramsar Secretariat and STRP used the COP10 NRF indicators extensively in 2009 to prepare contributions to the in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems for consideration by CBD SBSTTA14 and COP10 during 2010 (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3). Similar use of COP13 NRF indicators is anticipated for the CBD's post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

12. The structure of the COP14 National Report Format

Section 1 provides the institutional information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.
Section 2 is a 'free-text' section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.
Section 3 provides the 90 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation Goals and Targets in the Strategic Plan 2016-2024, and with an optional 'free-text' section under each indicator question in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of that activity.
Section 4 is an optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that has developed national targets to provide information on the targets and actions for the implementation of each of the targets of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024.
In line with Resolution XII.2, which encourages Contracting Parties "to develop and submit to the Secretariat on or before December 2016, and according to their national priorities, capabilities and resources, their own quantifiable and time-bound national and regional targets in line with the targets set in the Strategic Plan", all Parties are encouraged to consider using this comprehensive national planning tool as soon as possible, in order to identify the areas of highest priority for action and the relevant national targets and actions for each target.
The planning of national targets offers, for each of them, the possibility of indicating the national priority for that area of activity as well as the level of resourcing available, or that could be made available during the triennium, for its implementation. In addition, there are specific boxes to indicate the National Targets for implementation by 2021 and the planned national activities that are designed to deliver these targets. Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 shows the synergies between CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Ramsar Targets. Therefore, the NRF provide an opportunity that Contracting Parties indicate as appropriate how the actions they undertake for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets according to paragraph 51 of Resolution XII.3.
Section 5 is an optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that so wishes to provide additional information regarding any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

General guidance for completing and submitting the COP14 National Report Format

Important – please read this guidance section before starting to complete the National Report form
13. All Sections of the COP14 NRF should be completed in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
14. The deadline for submission of the **completed NRF is January 21st 2021**. It will not be possible to

include information from National Reports received after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP14.
15. The deadline for submission of **national targets is by 24 January 2020**
16. To help Contracting Parties refer to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP12, for each appropriate indicator a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP12 NRF or previous NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}
17. For follow up and where appropriate, a cross-reference is also provided to the relevant Key Result Area (KRA) relating to Contracting Parties implementation in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015.
18. Only Strategic Plan 2016-2024 Targets for which there are implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format. Those targets of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted in the National Report Format as the information is provided through the Ramsar Sites Data Base or the Work Plan of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (e.g. targets 6 and 14).
19. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarification, do so in the additional information box below the relevant indicator question. Please be as concise as possible (**maximum of 500 words** in each free-text box).
20. The NRF should ideally be completed by the principal compiler in consultation with relevant colleagues in their agency and others within the government and, as appropriate, with NGOs and other stakeholders who might have fuller knowledge of aspects of the Party's overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the document at any point and return to it later to continue or to amend answers. Compilers should refer back to the National Report submitted for COP13 to ensure the continuity and consistency of information provided. In the online system there is an option to allow consultation with others.
21. The completed NRF **must be accompanied by a letter that can be uploaded in the online system or send by email (nationalreports@ramsar.org) in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP14 National Report**.
If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (nationalreports@ramsar.org).

Section 1: Institutional Information

Important note: the responses below will be considered by the Ramsar Secretariat as the definitive list of your focal points, and will be used to update the information it holds. The Secretariat's current information about your focal points is available at https://www.ramsar.org/search?f%5B0%5D=type%3Aperson#search-contacts

Name of Contracting Party

The completed National Report **must be accompanied by a letter** in the name of the Head of Administrative Authority, confirming that this is the Contracting Party's official submission of its COP14 National Report. It can be attached to this question using the "Manage documents" function (blue symbol below)
› New Zealand

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

New_Zealand's_14th_National_report_to_Ramsar_Convention_on_Wetlands_-_Submission_Cover_Letter.pdf - Cover Letter - Minister of Conservation - Head of AA - New Zealand's National Report to COP 14 - 2022

Designated Ramsar Administrative Authority

Name of Administrative Authority
› Department of Conservation

Head of Administrative Authority - name and title
› Ms Penny Nelson

Mailing address
› Department of Conservation, PO Box 10420, Wellington 6143, New Zealand

Telephone/Fax
› +64 4 471 0726 (Wellington Office)

Email
› pnelson@doc.govt.nz

Designated National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention Matters

Name and title
› Ms. Maya Hunt Senior International Advisor

Mailing address
› Department of Conservation, PO Box 10420, Wellington 6143, New Zealand

Telephone/Fax
› +64 27 5755 490

Email
› mhunt@doc.govt.nz

Designated National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

Name and title
› Dr Hugh Robertson

Name of organisation
› Department of Conservation

Mailing address
› Private Bag 5, Nelson 7042, New Zealand

Telephone/Fax
› +64 3 546 9335

Email
› harobertson@doc.govt.nz

Designated Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

Name and title
› To be confirmed – CEPA re-appointment pending

Name of organisation
›

Mailing address
›

Telephone/Fax
›

Email
›

Designated Non-Government National Focal Point for Matters Relating to The Programme on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)

Name and title
› (1) Ms. Karen Denyer (2) Mr Tom Kay

Name of organisation
› (1) National Wetland Trust (2) Forest & Bird

Mailing address
› (1) PO Box 177 (2) PO Box 631
Pukekohe 2340 Wellington 6140
New Zealand New Zealand

Telephone/Fax
› (1) 021 031 2716 (2) 022 183 2729

Email
› (1) karen.denyer@papawerageological.co.nz (2) T.Kay@forestandbird.org.nz

Section 2: General summary of national implementation progress and challenges

In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP13 reporting)

A. What have been the five most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?

1)
› Designation of a new Ramsar site – Wairarapa Moana Wetland:
Designated in 2020, this is a large shallow lake-swamp at wetland complex that encompasses both Lake Wairarapa and Lake Onoke that has high cultural and ecological significance. Its designation is an important part of a long-term programme to protect and restore the lake and wetland complex, which is home to over 50 rare and threatened species. The Wairarapa Moana wetland is New Zealand's seventh Ramsar site.

2)
› New national policy and legislation to protect wetlands in New Zealand:
New or updated legal instruments (a National Policy Statement (NPS) and a National Environmental Standard (NES) to the Resource Management Act (RMA)) were established in 2020. The NPS included a specific focus on wetlands, so that, "There is no further loss of extent of natural inland wetlands, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted" which must be implemented at a regional level. The NES accompanies the NPS and sets rules to ensure that activities affecting a natural wetland will be well managed. The NES rules apply throughout New Zealand.

3)
› Te Mana o te Taiaio – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020:
In 2020, a new overarching but non-binding national biodiversity strategy and action plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity was agreed, covering the period to 2050. This provides a national strategic approach to biodiversity management across all players in New Zealand.
https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/biodiversity/aotearoa-new-zealand-biodiversity-strategy/

4)
› National review of Ramsar sites:
The Department of Conservation (DOC) completed the update of Ramsar Information Sheets (RISs) documents for five (of 6) existing Ramsar Sites, with the support of key stakeholders. The five sites are: Whangamarino Wetland (Waikato), Firth of Thames (Waikato), Kopuatai Peat Dome (Waikato), Manawatu River Estuary (Manawatu) and Awarua Wetland (Southland). Only 1 site (Farewell Spit) is now outstanding that we anticipate will be completed in 2022. The review of RISs is key milestone for New Zealand that enables our assessment of the effectiveness in maintaining the ecological condition and values of Ramsar Sites.

5)
› Significant increase in funding to protect and restore ecosystems, including wetlands:
A range of government initiatives (collectively labelled Jobs for Nature) have provided over $1.2 billion of new funding to protect and restore natural ecosystems, including for projects led by indigenous people. This represents the largest ever funding boost for environmental protection in New Zealand, and is a feature of the Government's Covid-19 economic recovery initiatives. The new funding includes over $400m to improve freshwater management. Most of these provide direct or indirect benefits to wetlands.
This Government's Jobs for Nature funding employs people on numerous wetland restoration projects, in collaboration with regional councils, Māori iwi and hapū (tribes and sub-tribes), communities and land-owners. To date, 192 freshwater restoration projects have been approved to receive Jobs for Nature funding. Many of these projects involve wetland restoration as a core objective. This complements DOC's Arawai Kākāriki programme, which focuses specifically on restoring the Ramsar sites at Whangamarino and Awarua-Waituna. Another key project aims to restore at least 30 hectares of the Wairarapa Moana Wetland through indigenous planting and pest control across 1000 hectares of wetlands and surrounding land.
The Government has also contributed $11.2m towards the purchase of a farm near Lake Horowhenua that will be converted to wetland to help improve water quality in the lake by treating contaminated urban and rural stormwater.

B. What have been the five greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?

1)
› Addressing historical and ongoing loss and degradation of wetlands:
New Zealand has historically lost 90% of inland wetlands, with lowland fertile wetlands often reduced to less than 1% of their original extent. Recent evidence indicates there is ongoing loss of wetlands in many regions, including through limited resources for enforcement of wetland policies and rules. Wetland remnants within changed catchments are at risk of ongoing decline and difficult to restore, even if most historic drivers of loss

have been addressed. In addition, many estuaries, lakes and river systems are degraded, due to a legacy of catchment degradation and land use change. While land use changes are now restricted and more sustainable, the restoration of freshwater and coastal wetland remains a significant challenge for New Zealand. The government has developed new wetland regulations to improve the protection for wetlands through a policy of no further loss of inland wetland area or values, alongside existing national policy to avoid significant adverse effects on coastal wetlands.

2)
› Addressing projected climate change impacts:
Climate change is expected to have a range of effects on wetlands, including increased risk from new or expanding weeds and pests, increase in fire frequency, sea level rise effects on coastal wetlands, changed rainfall patterns and impacts on alpine wetlands from shrinking glaciers and reduced snow cover. New Zealand has put in place some new systems for addressing climate change at a national level (including to meet emission targets and begin adaptation programmes), but specific wetland programmes are not yet developed. Similarly, while many wetland restoration projects are doing great work and producing real gains, there is a need to focus on climate change impacts and improving the management of catchments, as well as increasing wetland restoration activities. For example, recent human-induced fires at two significant peatlands (Awarua, Kaimaumau) illustrated the risk of a changing climate on the long-term conservation of wetland biodiversity.

3)
› Coordinated approach to CEPA:
The Government is committed to increasingly collaborate, build relationships, engage communities and partner effectively across the central government sector and with indigenous bodies, regional and local government, businesses, landowners, science providers, recreation and conservation organisations, and community groups to achieve its conservation objectives, and protect and restore nature. Implementing a strategic and targeted approach to wetlands communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) has been challenging due to a vacancy in the national CEPA role over the Covid period, and the wider resourcing pressures that has created. The National Focal Points have worked with the country's CEPA NGO Focal Points, however there is potential to implement a more planned and systematic approach to wetland CEPA activities, including by improving continuity in the Government CEPA focal point role. It will also be important to establish a more effective national network of wetland actors to exchange and promote CEPA ideas and resource materials, and identify and promote activities which will grow wetlands conservation and wise use in New Zealand. This includes ensuring that CEPA activities also contribute to ensuring that Māori whānau, hapū and iwi (tribes and sub-tribes) can practise their responsibilities as kaitiaki (guardians) of natural and cultural resources on public conservation lands and waters, including wetlands.

4)
› Ramsar support for Oceania region:
During the last triennium the level of support to implement the Ramsar Convention in the Oceania region decreased. This resulted from a change in Ramsar Convention resourcing. New Zealand would like to encourage further support for progressing the goals of the Convention across the Pacific region, particularly with Pacific Island States.

5)
› Maintaining and enhancing the ecological character of Ramsar sites:
The seven Ramsar Sites in New Zealand each have their own specific challenges. While the Ramsar Sites are recognised for the ecosystems and species they support, they remain under threat due to historic catchment land use change, water quality decline, flood control, habitat loss, water diversion and drainage, human-induced fires, and invasive species. The preparation of updated Ramsar Information Sheets for New Zealand's Ramsar Sites has found both negative and positive changes in ecological condition. This highlights that whilst many in the community are acting to help maintain and restore the ecological values of these wetlands of international importance, other human activities continue to have a negative effect on these sites. Climate change will further increase the threats to site ecological and cultural values. While there are new initiatives for many of the sites, and new legal tools to support their conservation, greater effort is needed to maintain and enhance New Zealand's Ramsar Sites.

C. What are the five priorities for future implementation of the Convention?

1)
› Implement new policies for wetlands - support and guidance to assist delivery:
The key focus over the last period has been the development of new national regulatory tools to improve the protection of wetlands. Specifically, the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, and its associated National Environmental Standards. These national policy instruments and their associated rules require more effective and nationally consistent control of activities that threaten wetlands. During the next triennium, a high priority for the Government is to provide support and clear guidance to ensure the

regulations are effectively applied across New Zealand. Increased resources for monitoring the local and regional compliance with new policies and rules will also be critical to halt the decline in wetland loss and degradation.

2)
› Working in partnership with iwi and hapū (Māori tribes and subtribes):
Wetland management sits within the partnership between the government and indigenous peoples under the Treaty of Waitangi. That includes an ongoing programme to settle historic grievances, and local partnership initiatives to address priority issues for each iwi and hapū (tribe and sub-tribe). Te Mana o Te Taiao – the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 (ANZBS) and the new national freshwater regulations explicitly recognise the need to undertake management in a way that is consistent with iwi values and in partnership with iwi and hapū.

3)
› Refreshed Ramsar strategy:
An undated New Zealand Ramsar Convention implementation strategy is to be developed by the Administering Authority (DOC), including to identify priorities for future designations and the opportunities that exist to leverage Ramsar Convention obligations and listed status to achieve wider wetlands conservation and wise use policy objectives.

4)
› Establishing wetlands restoration goals for New Zealand:
The Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 provides the high-level strategic approach towards management of the indigenous biodiversity of wetlands in New Zealand, as well as to avoid further native ecosystem loss more generally. As well as the strategy, the Department of Conservation has a range of prioritising systems for ensuring that efforts are focused on the most important issues for wetlands. At a local level, iwi and communities carry out much of the restoration work and set their own priorities, reflecting their capacity and values. Recognising that wetland restoration is occurring at different scales across community, public and private sectors, the development of national and regional goals and targets for wetland restoration is recommended, to help guide a unified and coordinated approach to restoration

5)
› Integrating wetlands in our responses to climate change:
The Government is developing an overall climate change response system, and is now developing further legislation to provide better tools for implementing responses such as managed retreat. Climate effects on wetlands are addressed through restoration strategies for each wetland, as the threats to each wetland will vary. A focus in future work on the regulation of water use, will be to ensure that predictions of changed rainfall and effects on carbon sequestration, adaptation and mitigation are factored into decisions to reduce the impacts of changes on natural systems including wetlands.

D. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning priorities for implementation assistance and requirements for such assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?
› Continue the encouragement of regional and international partnerships to progress the global implementation of the Convention, and seek opportunities for funding to enhance implementation in the Oceania region.

E. Do you (AA) have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention’s International Organisation Partners (IOPs)? (including ongoing partnerships and partnerships to develop)
› No.

F. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the ‘biodiversity cluster’ (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), World Heritage Convention (WHC), and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)?
› The Department of Conservation is the administrative authority for the Ramsar Convention. The Department is part of the Natural Resources Sector, a group of government agencies who are responsible for the management and stewardship of New Zealand’s natural resources. The Sector is tasked with building a coherent and integrated approach to sector-wide natural resources issues while providing joined-up, high quality advice to New Zealand Government Ministers.

G. How is the Ramsar Convention linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., on sustainable development, energy, extractive industries, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity) and how this could be improved?

› As noted in section F (above) the Natural Resources Sector coordinates the New Zealand Government agencies which are responsible for the management and stewardship of New Zealand's natural resources. A jointly agreed work programme focuses on delivering results both in the short and longer term. The goal of the Natural Resources Sector is to improve the productivity of New Zealand's resource-reliant industries while reducing their environmental impact. The Sector is also committed to working effectively with local government, iwi and hapū (smaller social or family groupings within an iwi), New Zealand business, and others to deliver on outcomes.
The Resource Management Act 1991 is New Zealand's main legislation for environmental management. The Act establishes an integrated framework and applies to land use, forestry, pollution, water and air in the terrestrial and marine environments. The Act requires consideration of economic, social and cultural well-being and establishes processes to consult with iwi and other stakeholders. The Freshwater NPS requires councils to manage water in an integrated and sustainable way to maintain the ecological health of freshwater ecosystems, while providing for economic growth within set water quantity and quality limits. Setting measurable limits to manage freshwater ecosystems is aligned with the wise-use principles of the Ramsar Convention. 2020 amendments and new provisions provided increased protection for remaining wetlands, while noting some aspects of the new regulations are under review. The New Zealand Government has over the past triennium implemented a programme of freshwater reforms including amending and reviewing implementation of the Freshwater NPS; setting a target to make 90 per cent of New Zealand's rivers and lakes swimmable by 2040; and establishing the Freshwater Improvement Fund. The government has also recently initiated work to review and update natural resource management and conservation legislation, including major reforms to the Resource Management Act and for environmental planning generally.

H. According to paragraph 21 of Resolution XIII.18 on Gender and wetlands, please provide a short description about the balance between men and women participating in wetland-related decisions, programmes and research.

› Women in New Zealand have, and continue to play, an important role in the political, social and economic fabric of New Zealand, including in all dimensions of environmental stewardship and management. New Zealand maintains a strong commitment to the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and is committed to addressing the remaining challenges for New Zealand women.
Along with pursuing progress for all New Zealand women, New Zealand is committed to ensuring progress for wahine Māori. A newly designed CEDAW tool, which is available on the Ministry for Women's website (https://women.govt.nz/cedaw) reflects Government's progress against all of New Zealand's recommendations, with a dedicated section on each recommendation, where applicable, for wahine Māori.
In relation to the management of New Zealand's protected area estate, the Department of Conservation (New Zealand's Ramsar Administrative Authority) is committed to equal employment opportunities with a diverse workforce that represents the communities we serve. It does this by focusing on the five priority commitments (the 'Papa Pounamu' priorities) identified by Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission:
1. Strengthening cultural competence
2. Addressing bias and discrimination
3. Building inclusive leadership
4. Developing relationships that are responsive to diversity
5. Supporting and engaging with employee-led networks.

I. Do you (AA) have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

› New Zealand acknowledges the work of the STRP in progressing priority issues that support the goals of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024. We note, however, the active work period for the STRP is time limited (approx. 18 months of each triennium) and recommend a review of options to improve the modus operandi to enhance implementation of the Convention.

J. Please list the names of the organisations which have been consulted on or have contributed to the information provided in this report

› Department of Conservation
Ministry for the Environment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Ministry for Primary Industries
Ministry of Health
Te Puni Kōkiri – Ministry of Māori Development
Land Information New Zealand
National Wetland Trust of New Zealand
Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society (Inc)
New Zealand Fish & Game Council
New Zealand Conservation Authority
Local Government New Zealand
Iwi for New Zealand's seven Ramsar sites
New Zealand Conservation Authority

Local Government New Zealand
Local government bodies
Fish & Game New Zealand
NIWA
Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research
Fonterra
Dairy NZ
Environmental Defence Society
Pukorokoro Miranda Nationalist’s Trust

Section 3: Indicator questions and further implementation information

Goal 1. Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15]

Target 1

Wetland benefits are featured in national/ local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level.
[Reference to Aichi Target 2]

1.1 Have wetland conservation and the identification of wetlands benefits been integrated into sustainable approaches to the following national strategies and planning processes, including: {1.3.2} {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i

Please select only one per square.

a) National Policy or strategy for wetland management	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
b) Poverty eradication strategies	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☑ Y=Not Relevant
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
f) National forest programmes	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
g) National policies or measures on agriculture	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant

i) National policies on energy and mining	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
j) National policies on tourism	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
k) National policies on urban development	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
l) National policies on infrastructure	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
m) National policies on industry	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality	☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ Y=Not Relevant

1.1 Additional information

› a) National Policy or strategy for wetland management:
Recent work to develop improved regulatory systems for water have specifically addressed threats to and provided better protection for remaining wetlands, and also made changes to reduce legal barriers to restoration work.
c) Water resource management and water efficiency plans:
Recent work to develop improved regulatory systems for water have specifically addressed threats to wetlands, and also made changes to reduce legal barriers to restoration work.
d) Coastal and marine resource management plans:
The existing NZ Coastal Policy Statement provides national policy direction on matters relevant to coastal wetlands. Work is now underway to reform the Act under which the policy is created, to provide a more effective range of tools for managing activities in the coastal environment.
e) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan:
Each region of New Zealand has a regional coastal plan which controls most activities that can occur in the coastal environment (other than fisheries). That is approved by the Minister of Conservation.
f) National forest programmes:
The National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry 2017 has specific protection for wetlands and their margins in production forests.
g) National policies or measures on agriculture:
See 1.1(a), which applies to the use of all resources including primary production land and use of freshwater.
h) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans drawn up under the CBD:

The new NZ Biodiversity Strategy 2020 addresses wetlands through general approaches that apply to all ecosystem types. It includes a specific measure related to wetland extent.
i) National policies on energy and mining:
Energy and mining are controlled under the Resource Management and Crown Minerals Acts, which includes the national regulatory systems for water and coastal management referred to above.
j) National policies on tourism:
Environmental effects of tourism are controlled under the Resource Management Act, which includes the national regulatory systems for water and coastal management referred to above. A new tourism strategy has also been developed to ensure that tourism initiatives are consistent with environmental goals.
k) National policies on urban development:
Urban development is controlled under the Resource Management Act, which includes the national regulatory systems for water and coastal management referred to above.
l) National policies on infrastructure:
Infrastructure is controlled under the Resource Management Act, which includes the national regulatory systems for water and coastal management referred to above.
n) National policies on aquaculture and fisheries {1.3.3} KRA 1.3.i:
There have been recent improvements in the law relating to management of freshwater fisheries, designed to provide a better management toolbox. Work is also underway to improve the management of the whitebait fishery.
o) National plans of actions (NPAs) for pollution control and management:
The Resource Management Act, which includes the national regulatory systems for water and coastal management referred to above, provides a comprehensive system for managing pollution.
p) National policies on wastewater management and water quality:
The Resource Management Act, which includes the national regulatory systems for water and coastal management referred to above, provides comprehensive controls on the take and discharge of water. A strategic exercise is currently underway to improve the provision of wastewater, drinking water and stormwater infrastructure and services.

Target 2

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone.
[Reference to Aichi Targets 7 and 8], [Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

2.1 Has the quantity and quality of water available to, and required by, wetlands been assessed to support the implementation of the Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1, VIII.2) ? 1.24.
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

2.1 Additional Information
› Under the Resource Management Act, including the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (Freshwater NPS), regional authorities across New Zealand are required to implementing a scientifically based approach to set water quality objectives that consider compulsory aquatic values, including ecosystem health. The NPS includes bottom lines and requirements to address over-allocation. A national environmental standard provides new standardised rules relating to threats to water. That includes requirements relating to wetland mapping. Local authorities are also responsible for flood control and drainage operations, which can potentially conflict with wetland protection, requiring good alignment between legislation, policies and implementation at the local level.

2.2 Have assessments of environmental flow been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts on the ecological character of wetlands (Action r3.4.iv)
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

2.2 Additional Information

› Under the Resource Management Act 1991 catchment development and water use proposals that lead to changes to water quantity/flows have to consider potential adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems. There are numerous examples of environmental flow and water level assessments being applied to river systems in New Zealand and to define the water level requirements for lakes and palustrine wetlands. This includes

assessment of the optimal water levels to maintain and enhance the ecological character of Ramsar sites (e.g. Waituna Lagoon). New rules have strengthened these requirements. In some cases, Water Conservation Orders under the RMA have provided specific water level regimes intended to prevent further drainage of, and to protect outstanding wetland areas, such as for Lakes Wairarapa and Ellesmere (Te Waihora) to protect their wildlife and fishery values. These also balance effects of flood control and drainage schemes which can have ongoing effects on wetlands.

2.3 What, if any, initiatives been taken to improve the sustainability of water use (or allocation of water resources) in the context of ecosystem requirements across major river basins (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.12)? (Action 3.4.6.)

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown

2.3 Additional Information
› The Resource Management Act provides tools for management of the use of and discharges to water, and land-use changes that can affect water. Recent national direction under the Act (NPS and NES) are designed to improve the effectiveness and consistency of water management, including to ensure that ecosystem health is not threatened and indigenous people's and other community values are recognised and provided for.

2.4 Have projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands been developed (Action r3.4.ix.)

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

2.4 Additional Information
› Examples of projects that demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management in New Zealand include:
- There has been progressive improvement in the quality of regulatory regional water plans, and the way these are developed. A national programme supports sharing of best practice for water planning.
- A new national approach to water management was developed through a multi-stakeholder collaborative process. Similar processes are being undertaken at a local level in some regions.
- Waituna Lagoon: Ecological Guidelines for Waituna Lagoon were published in 2013, which outlined a recommended water level management regime for the lagoon (part of the Awarua Ramsar Site). These guidelines have been applied in statutory processes to improve the hydrological management regime for the coastal system.
- Kaituna River/Maketu Estuary: an initiative to re-align the Kaituna River/Maketu Estuary (located in the North-East of the North Island) is being implemented to facilitate an improved hydrological regime.

2.5 Percentage of households linked to sewage system?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
› >99

2.5 Additional Information
› A programme to improve the management of wastewater throughout New Zealand is underway, including to support updates to wastewater treatment facilities to meet their environmental limits.

2.6 What is the percentage of sewerage coverage in the country?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact number (percentage)

› ~79%
☐ F=Less than (percentage)

›
☐ G=More than (percentage)

›

☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.6 Additional Information
›

2.7 What is the percentage of users of septic tank/pit latrine if relevant to your country? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact number (percentage)

› ~21%
☐ F=Less than (percentage)

›
☐ G=More than (percentage)

›
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.7 Additional Information
›

2.8 Does the country use constructed wetlands/ponds as wastewater treatment technology? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.8 Additional Information
› Constructed wetlands and ponds are utilised across New Zealand to facilitate treatment of agricultural and urban wastewater. Pond systems, in particular, are the most common treatment technology used for small-medium towns. Constructed wetlands are sometimes used to provide further treatment.
In 2021, revised guidelines for the treatment of agricultural run-off using constructed wetlands were published by a Crown Research Agency. Refer to:
https://niwa.co.nz/sites/niwa.co.nz/files/CW%20Technical%20Guidelines-Final.1%2020.5.21%2Bnote.pdf
In addition, a new Constructed Wetland Practitioner Guide has been produced in partnership with the dairy industry. Refer to: https://niwa.co.nz/sites/niwa.co.nz/files/wetland%20practitioner%20Guide-Final%2019.5.22.pdf

2.9 Number of wastewater treatment plants (or volume treated exist at national level)? SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

Please select only one option
☐ E=Exact number (plants)

›
☐ F=Less than (plants)

›
☐ G=More than (plants)

›
☑ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.9 Additional Information
› This information is not collected at a national level. The aim of New Zealand’s wastewater policies is to have all sewage (other than sewage from isolated rural households) treated and discharged in a way that does not threaten ecosystems, cultural or human health. Note that management of the ‘Three Waters’ (drinking water, stormwater and wastewater) is currently under review in New Zealand.

2.10 How is the functional status of the wastewater treatment plants? If relevant to your country

SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.

Please select only one option
☐ A=Good
☐ B=Not functioning
☑ C=Functioning
☐ Q=Obsolete
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.10 Additional Information
› A reform is underway to improve the overall management of wastewater systems in New Zealand.
A national review of wastewater coverage, operation and performance was prepared for the Ministry of Environment in October 2020. Refer to:
https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/wastewater-sector-report.pdf

2.11 The percentage of decentralized wastewater treatment technology, including constructed wetlands/ponds is?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
Please select only one option
☑ A=Good
☐ B=Not Functioning
☐ C=Functioning
☐ Q=Obsolete
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.11 Additional Information
›

2.12 Number of wastewater reuse systems (or volume re-used) and purpose?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
›

2.12 Additional Information
› Re-use of wastewater is rare in New Zealand, other than use for irrigation/fertilising of land as part of the disposal process.
For detailed information, refer to the national review of wastewater coverage, operation and performance prepared for the Ministry of the Environment.
https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/wastewater-sector-report.pdf

2.13 What is the purpose of the wastewater reuse system if relevant to your country ?
SDG 6 Target 6.3.1.
Please select only one option
☑ R=Agriculture
☐ S=Landscape
☐ T=Industrial
☐ U=Drinking
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

2.13 Additional Information

Please indicate if the wastewater reuse system is for free or taxed or add any additonal information.
› In general, wastewater reuse is done as part of the safe disposal system, and generally to land as fertiliser for forestry or pasture.

2.14 Does your country use a wastewater treatment process that utilizes wetlands as a natural filter while preserving the wetland ecosystem?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No
☐ X=Unknown

2.14 Additional information: If Yes, please provide an example

› Within New Zealand, constructed wetlands are regularly used in wastewater treatment processes. These wetlands are purposefully constructed to treat wastewater or runoff from urban or agricultural environments, usually as tertiary level treatment.
Natural wetlands in some catchment settings also capture runoff, but may be subject to increased sediment or nutrient inputs. The intentional use of natural wetlands for wastewater treatment is not a favoured approach and rarely applied. In a unique situation, the Paihia township wastewater treatment system relied partly on the Waitangi natural wetland, the treatment process has recently been significantly upgraded to reduce the impact on the wetland.

Target 3

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}
[Reference to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8]

3.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the Ramsar wise use principle and guidance (Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands) in its activities and investments concerning wetlands? {1.10.1} KRA 1.10.i

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

3.1 Additional Information

› The principle of wise use is embedded within national and regional approaches to the management and restoration of wetlands, including projects involving the private sector. Wise use is ensured by the regulatory controls on use, but private sectors are also involved in restoration initiatives.
Although further effort is required to disseminate Ramsar Convention handbooks and associated information, the broad concepts within this material are consistent with New Zealand's approaches to private-public sector projects concerning wetlands. For example, the Department of Conservation partnerships with Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited (New Zealand's largest dairy co-operative), Air New Zealand, and Meridian Energy.

3.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the conservation, wise use and management of {1.10.2} KRA 1.10.ii

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
b) Wetlands in general	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

3.2 Additional information

› a) Ramsar sites
'Living Water' is a 10-year partnership between the Department of Conservation and Fonterra to improve biodiversity and water quality across New Zealand. The partnership continues to work to improve five sensitive catchments by developing tools and trialling best-practice methods to promote sustainable agriculture and enhance wetlands, including at two Ramsar Sites: (i) Tīkapa Moana/the Firth of Thames: Pūkorokoro/Miranda catchment: ; and (ii) Waituna Lagoon catchment. Refer to www.livingwater.net.nz
In addition, several of the governments Jobs for Nature projects that support local community employment in response to the coronavirus global pandemic have benefited Ramsar sites, such as Wairarapa Moana Wetland.
b) Wetlands in general
There are multiple groups within the private sector that are actively contributing to the conservation and wise use of wetlands, this includes:
• Many private landowners voluntarily protected wetlands on their land via covenants with the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, or similar arrangements with the Department of Conservation, Fish and Game Councils or local authorities. https://qeiinationaltrust.org.nz/
• Jobs for Nature projects that support local community employment in response to the coronavirus global pandemic have benefited other wetlands, such as Waimea Inlet.

• Living Water (Fonterra and the Department of Conservation partnership) to promote sustainable agriculture and freshwater ecosystem restoration.
• Gamebird hunters support wetland conservation through a levy on hunting licence sales which supports wetland conservation and purchase.
• The Aotearoa Circle is partnership of public and private sector leaders, unified and committed to the pursuit of sustainable prosperity and reversing the decline of New Zealand's natural resources https://www.theaotearoacircle.nz/
• Hydropower companies such as Mercury also contribute to wetland/freshwater conservation partnerships https://www.mercury.co.nz/why-mercury/partnerships
• Species conservation programmes are also supported by the private sector, such as the Genesis Energy partnership with DOC to protect Whio/Blue Duck https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/whio-forever/

3.3 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {1.11.1} KRA 1.11.i
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

3.3 Additional information
› There are a range of funding programmes to support sustainable agriculture initiatives and community restoration initiatives, many of which directly or indirectly benefit wetlands. There have also been adjustments to tax policies to ensure that valuable investments such as riparian fencing and planting are not disadvantaged. Much of New Zealand's economic response to Covid has been focused on enhancing conservation as well as providing economic support to affected businesses and individuals, for example the Government's Jobs for Nature programme. Policy development to better align climate policy with biodiversity protection has the potential to better incentivise wetland protection and management.
The Government's Jobs for Nature funding is employing people on numerous wetland restoration projects, in collaboration with regional councils, Māori iwi and hapū (tribes and sub-tribes), communities and land-owners. To date, 192 freshwater restoration projects have been approved to receive Jobs for Nature funding. Many of these projects involve wetland restoration as a core objective. This includes DOC's Arawai Kākāriki programme, which focuses specifically on restoring the Ramsar sites at Whangamarino and Awarua-Waituna. Another key project aims to restore at least 30 hectares of the Wairarapa Moana wetland through indigenous planting and pest control across 1000 hectares of wetlands and surrounding land.
The Government has also contributed $11.2m towards the purchase of a farm near Lake Horowhenua that will be converted to wetland to help improve water quality in the lake that had become degraded as a result of previous urban and horticulture development.

3.4 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {1.11.2} KRA 1.11.i
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned
☑ Z=Not Applicable

3.4 Additional Information
›

Target 4
Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment.
{Reference to Aichi Target 9]

4.1 Does your country have a comprehensive national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands? {1.9.1} KRA 1.9.i
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

4.1 Additional information
› The New Zealand Freshwater Fish Database records the occurrence of fish in fresh waters of New Zealand,

including introduced and pest fish species. Data stored includes the site location, the species present, abundance and size, and information such as the fishing method used and a physical description of the site. See https://niwa.co.nz/information-services/nz-freshwater-fish-database.
Biosecurity NZ is the national statutory body responsible for biosecurity, which works regionally with regional councils and other bodies such as DOC which manage wetlands and certain invasive species (eg freshwater fish and wildlife species). Some pest species are identified in biosecurity legislation and national and regional pest plans and actively controlled at the border or to restrict or prevent their spread to new sites within the country.
A Consolidated List of Environmental Weeds in New Zealand was published in 2008 (see www.doc.govt.nz/documents/science-and-technical/drds292.pdf). The New Zealand Virtual Herbarium is an on-line botanical information resource accessible via the internet. It provides access to data on plant and fungi specimens kept by New Zealand's herbaria, including invasive wetland plants. See www.virtualherbarium.org.nz/home.
Th National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) updated national guidance on freshwater invasive species in 2020. Refer to:
https://niwa.co.nz/sites/niwa.co.nz/files/Freshwater%20invasive%20species%20of%20New%20Zealand%202020_0.pdf
Other resources (including invasive wetland plants) include:
• Freshwater plant and animal pest records published by Statistics New Zealand, https://www.stats.govt.nz/indicators/freshwater-pests
• the National Plant Pest Accord Information: see www.biosecurity.govt.nz/nppa;
• Weedbusters: www.weedbusters.co.nz;
• NZ Plant Conservation network www.nzpcn.org.nz/; and
• NatureWatch: www.naturewatch.org.nz/.
Several other databases of invasive alien species are also maintained by local authorities and are publicly accessible.

4.2 Have national policies or guidelines on invasive species control and management been established or reviewed for wetlands? {1.9.2} KRA 1.9.iii

Please select only one option

☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

4.2 Additional information

› Biosecurity is a high priority for New Zealand. Biosecurity is managed under the Biosecurity Act 1993. Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ) is an operational component of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) with oversight for biosecurity activity in New Zealand. Multiple government agencies also have a role in components of the pest border security system. MPI takes a lead role in dealing with pests that are considered a national priority and the Department of Conservation (DOC) manages pests on public conservation land and pest species and the movement of aquatic life nationally (jointly with MPI) under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations. Regional and district councils are required to prepare and implement regional pest management strategies under the Biosecurity Act 1993. BNZ, DOC and regional councils actively undertake weed and pest management in wetlands throughout the country.
The National Pest Plant Accord is aimed at preventing pests already established in New Zealand from spreading further. All plants listed in the Accord are unwanted organisms under the Biosecurity Act 1993. These plants cannot be sold, propagated or distributed in New Zealand.
For more information on MPI biosecurity activities, see www.biosecurity.govt.nz/
In 2020, the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy/Te Mana o Te Taiao was published, that provides specific goals and objectives relating to management of invasive species to protect indigenous biodiversity and important introduced species. https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/biodiversity/aotearoa-new-zealand-biodiversity-strategy/
In addition, a 2019 NIWA report provides guidance on invasive plant strategic analysis, incursion detection and control methods: https://www.envirolink.govt.nz/assets/12-1-Best-Management-Practice-for-Aquatic-Weeds-Framework.pdf

4.3. Has your country successfully controlled through management actions invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems?

Please select only one option

☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ X=Unknown

4.3 Additional Information

If ‘Yes’, please provide examples, including the species name and the successful management action

› Invasive species management is a significant focus for the New Zealand Government, iwi, NGOs, community and the primary industry sector. As an estimate, more than 100 wetland dependent species (including river, lake, estuary, and palustrine wetland species) are currently targeted in control and surveillance programmes. For example, biosecurity responses to address the infestation of Spartina (an invasive grass common in inter-tidal habitats) are regularly undertaken in New Zealand, with eradication effectively achieved in many regions. Control of invasive marine and freshwater fish species and other organisms is also common where new infestations are recorded.
National Interest Pest Responses aim to eradicate selected established pests from New Zealand that are considered to present a very high biosecurity risk. Several of these species are freshwater pest plants including Phragmites, Hydrilla, Salvinia, Ceratophyllum demersum Manchurian wild rice and water hyacinth. All of these National Interest Pest Response programmes are progressing well towards their goals. For example, eradication of C. demersum from the South Island has been successful.
Additionally, eight wetland invasive alien plant species, one invasive alien fish species and two alien invasive invertebrate species have been eradicated from New Zealand. Refer to https://www.reabic.net/journals/mbi/2018/4/MBI_2018_Champion.pdf

4.4 Are there invasive species of high risk to wetland ecosystems that have not been successfully controlled through management actions?
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ X=Unknown

4.4 Additional Information

If 'Yes', please provide examples, including the species name and the challenges to management
› Several alien invasive wetland/aquatic species currently lack effective control tools. For instance, there is limited ability to control invasive fish such as koi carp within riverine wetland systems (e.g., Lower Waikato River Valley) although there have been successful eradications of several species from isolated small water bodies.
Key wetland plants that are similarly uncontrolled over much of the core part of their introduced range include Salix cinerea and Osmunda regalis. A number of invasive alien micro-organisms also lack control methods, such as myrtle rust (Austropuccinia psidii) that threaten several critically endangered wetland species (e.g. Syzygium maire).
In 2018, the Department of Conservation increased funding to undertake surveillance or control of four additional freshwater invasive species, Koi Carp, Gambusia and Rudd (all invasive fish) and further investment into Ceratophyllum demersum (hornwort). There are also national and regional programmes to prevent establishment and spread of other pests, such as golden dodder.
The Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) are also coordinating management responses to new wetland invasive alien species incursions such as Epilobium hirsutum in Canterbury, Ichthyosaura alpestris apuanus in Waikato and Cabomba caroliniana in Auckland.

4.5 Have the effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes been assessed?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

4.5 Additional Information
› The Ministry for Primary Industries, the Department of Conservation, regional authorities and community groups routinely undertake assessments of the effectiveness of invasive species control as part of standard operational procedures. Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand also control wetland/aquatic weeds with independent assessment of their control programmes.

Goal 2. Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network
[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, 13, 14, 15]

Target 5
The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management {2.1.}
[Reference to Aichi Targets 6,11, 12]

5.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List? {2.1.1} KRA 2.1.i

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.1 Additional information
› New Zealand has published Guidelines for the Assessment of Potential Ramsar Sites in New Zealand, which are available for use by any interested community groups, central and local government, iwi and other stakeholders. Identification of priorities for further designation of Ramsar sites in New Zealand will be based on these guidelines.
The Guidelines can be found on the Department of Conservation website. See www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/international-agreements/ramsar-convention-on-wetlands/publications/national-guidelines-for-the-assessment-of-potential-ramsar-wetlands-in-new-zealand/.

5.2 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.1} KRA 2.2.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

5.2 Additional information
› The Guidelines for the Assessment of Potential Ramsar Sites in New Zealand ((Denyer & Robertson 2016; see 5.1 above) is applied in the national identification of further Ramsar sites.
The development and application of the NZ guidelines is based on the RSIS, and the Strategic guidelines published by the Ramsar Convention. For example, the RSIS provides important information relating mapping and classification of biogeographical regions, and to analyse representativeness of hydro systems and wetland types across the current Ramsar Site network.

5.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a formal management plan? {2.4.1} KRA 2.4.i
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact number (sites)

› 1 site
☐ F=Less than (sites)

›
☐ G=More than (sites)

›
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

5.4 Of the Ramsar Sites with a formal management plan, for how many of these is the plan being implemented? {2.4.2} KRA 2.4.i
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact number (sites)

› 1 site
☐ F=Less than (sites)

›
☐ G=More than (sites)

›
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

5.5 Of the Ramsar sites without a formal management plan, for how many is there effective management planning currently being implemented through other relevant means e.g. through existing actions for appropriate wetland management? {2.4.3} KRA 2.4.i
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact number (sites)

› 6 sites
☐ F=Less than (sites)

›
☐ G=More than (sites)

›
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

5.3 – 5.5 Additional information
› The Department of Conservation has implemented a national ecosystem management planning system, which includes all Ramsar Sites. Ecosystem ‘prescriptions’ are prepared that outline the primary threats (pressures) on each site, and the management interventions to maintain and enhance the ecological character of sites.
These prescriptions align with and support other management plans (such as the Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland Catchment Management Plan) and can be updated readily as part of annual business planning processes.
The Manawatu Estuary Ramsar Site has a formal management plan.

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.6 Additional information
› Reviews of the management effectiveness of Ramsar has occurred through a comprehensive view of Ramsar Information Sheets, including reporting on any actual or likely changes in ecological character. These RISs at other sites are in progress as part of the Ramsar Information Sheet reviews. In addition, at all Ramsar Sites, general performance reporting is undertaken as part of the Department of Conservation operational programmes.

5.7 How many Ramsar Sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.4.4} {2.4.6} KRA 2.4.iv
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact number (sites)

› 3 sites
☐ F=Less than (sites)

›
☐ G=More than (sites)

›
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

5.7 Additional information

If at least 1 site, please give the name and official number of the site or sites
› New Zealand’s wetlands invariably have a range of potential interested parties, all of which often have an interest in being involved in site management.
Three New Zealand Ramsar Sites have formal cross-sectoral committees the Manawatu Estuary, Awarua Wetland and Wairarapa Moana Wetland Ramsar sites. The remaining sites have formal or informal cross-sectoral agreements, where site managers seek to liaise with interested parties.
In the management of Ramsar Sites on public conservation land the Department of Conservation works with local Māori iwi and hapū (tribes and sub-tribes) to ensure that the strength and nature of their interests in these places are understood and that this understanding is incorporated into the Department of Conservation’s ongoing management of sites in keeping with obligations under section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987.

Target 7
Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}.
[Reference to Aichi Targets 5, 7, 11, 12]

7.1 Are mechanisms in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.1} KRA 2.6.i
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No

☐ C=Some Sites
☐ D=Planned

7.1 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Some sites’, please summarise the mechanism or mechanisms established
› The Department of Conservation (as Administrative Authority) is responsible for, or directly linked to, the management of most of New Zealand’s Ramsar Sites. The Scientific and Technical (STRP) National Focal Point is also a staff member of the Department of Conservation. Clear lines of communication therefore exist between Ramsar Site managers and National Focal Points.
At all Ramsar Sites, monitoring is implemented by regional authorities, the Department of Conservation, Fish and Game Councils, NGOs (eg. the Ornithological Society of New Zealand), and research partners. Monitoring data is shared between organisations and was used to update of Ramsar Information Sheets during the 2018-2021 triennium.
While mechanisms are in place for informing changes in Ramsar Sites, at several Ramsar Sites the ecological character monitoring programmes are limited by available resources.

7.2 Have all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.6.2} KRA 2.6.i

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No
☐ C=Some Cases
☐ O=No Negative Change

7.2 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Some cases’, please indicate for which Ramsar Sites the Administrative Authority has made Article 3.2 reports to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made
› The Department of Conservation completed the update of Ramsar Information Sheets (RISs) documents for five (5) Ramsar Sites, with the support of key stakeholders. The five sites are: Whangamarino Wetland (Waikato), Firth of Thames (Waikato), Kopuatai Peat Dome (Waikato), Manawatu River Estuary (Manawatu) and Awarua Wetland (Southland). Only 1 site (Farewell Spit) is now outstanding that we anticipate will be completed in 2022.
For all 5 Ramsar sites assessed, both positive and negative changes in ecological character were reported. Negative changes include deteriorating trends in water quality at some sites, decline in populations of some threatened or migratory species, and habitat degradation due to fire or weed invasion.
There are several instances of negative changes in the condition of Ramsar sites in New Zealand since the date of the last Ramsar site update, including recent (2022) human-induced peatland fires at Awarua Wetland, that may require reporting to the Secretariat, although whether these changes are significant (outside the limits of acceptable change) is yet to be determined.

7.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, such as requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.6.3} KRA 2.6.ii

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ Z=Not Applicable

7.3 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, please indicate the actions taken
›

Goal 3. Wisely Using All Wetlands

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]

Target 8

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i
[Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

8.1 Does your country have a complete National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i

Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=In Progress
☐ D=Planned

8.1 Additional information

› The Freshwater Ecosystems of New Zealand (FENZ) geodatabase of inland palustrine wetlands, rivers/streams and lakes consists of a large set of spatial data layers and supporting information on New Zealand's rivers, lakes and wetlands. FENZ can be used to objectively map and quantify various aspects of New Zealand's freshwater. https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/freshwater-ecosystems-of-new-zealand/. MfE also has published updated wetland maps derived from FENZ: https://data.mfe.govt.nz/layer/95347-wetland-extent-2001-16/

There are limitations to the FENZ mapping of wetlands when being applied at local scales. To address this a range of new technologies have been explored to improve wetland inventory, although still in development. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2020) also requires all regional authorities to undertake mapping of wetlands to report on changes in wetland extent, but this process has not yet been completed.

A framework for mapping of coastal wetlands, including their environmental values, has also been compiled as part of an inventory of New Zealand Coastal Hydrosystems and associated coastal classification framework (Hume et al. 2016). See https://data.mfe.govt.nz/layer/53565-nz-coastal-hydrosystems/.

8.2 Has your country updated a National Wetland Inventory in the last decade?

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=In Progress
☐ C1=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

8.2 Additional information

› In May 2017, a revised assessment of wetland extent and loss was published by the Ministry of the Environment. Refer to: https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Fresh%20water/analysis-of-wetland-loss.pdf

Further, in 2020, the Government updated national policy on wetlands that required further improvements in wetland mapping. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2020) states:

"Every regional council must identify and map every natural inland wetland in its region that is:

(a) 0.05 hectares or greater in extent; or

(b) of a type that is naturally less than 0.05 hectares in extent (such as an ephemeral wetland) and known to contain threatened species."

Refer to: https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Fresh%20water/national-policy-statement-for-freshwater-management-2020.pdf

8.3 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii

Please select only one option

☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

8.3 Additional information

› The FENZ geodatabase (see section 8.1 above) is designed as a support tool to provide a base inventory data layer to be used by other agencies.

Various regional and district councils are now updating wetland mapping as new information becomes available, and in response to the mapping requirements under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2020) (see section 8.2 above). Although further work to define and improve coastal wetland mapping is still required.

Information on the state and trend of wetlands (currently focused on the health of rivers and lakes) is maintained by councils and used for national state of the environment reporting. For example:

- Our freshwater 2020 domain report (released under the New Zealand Environmental Reporting Act 2015) presents information about the state of New Zealand’s fresh water ecosystems and species. https://www.mfe.govt.nz/fresh-water/state-of-our-freshwater/environmental-reporting.
- Land, Air, Water Aotearoa (LAWA) provides a publicly available website with information on the quality of all New Zealand freshwater rivers and lakes. The website (available at https://www.lawa.org.nz/) displays information from more than 1100 freshwater monitoring sites located around the country. In 2022 a new Estuaries Health Topic was added to LAWA with information on mud content, contaminants and macrofaunal health indicators measured within 80 estuaries.
- A number of councils also undertake regional monitoring of palustrine wetlands, although no coordinated national programme currently exists.

8.4 Is wetland inventory data and information made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

8.4 Additional information
› The environment state and trend reports prepared by central and local government and centralised databases (e.g. FENZ geodatabase and LAWA data platform) are publicly available for use by stakeholders. The Our fresh water 2020 domain report (see section 8.3 above) is publicly available on the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment website. See https://www.mfe.govt.nz/fresh-water/state-of-our-freshwater/environmental-reporting. Other information, such as underpinning datasets, and supporting scientific papers for the domain report are also available at this website.
The Our marine environment 2019 domain report (released under the New Zealand Environmental Reporting Act 2015) is also publicly available on the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment website. See https://www.mfe.govt.nz/marine/state-of-our-marine-environment/environmental-reporting.

8.5 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed during the last triennium? {1.1.3}

Please describe on the sources of the information on which your answer is based in the free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you are able to, please describe the principal driver(s) of the change(s).
* 'Condition' corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention
Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Sites	☐ P=Status Improved ☑ O=No Change ☐ N=Status Deteriorated
b) Wetlands generally	☐ P=Status Improved ☐ O=No Change ☑ N=Status Deteriorated

8.5 Additional information on a) and/or b)
› a) Ramsar sites
Taken in their entirety, the condition of New Zealand's Ramsar Sites has not changed significantly overall since the last report*.
*During the 2018-2021 triennium the New Zealand Government updated of Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) for 5 (of 6) Ramsar sites, including reporting on any likely or actual changes in the ecological character. This indicated that both positive and negative changes in wetland condition have occurred at New Zealand's Ramsar sites. See section 7.2 for more details.
b) Wetlands in general
The Our freshwater 2020 domain report (see section 8.3 above) presents information about the state of New Zealand's fresh water. https://www.mfe.govt.nz/overview-our-freshwater-2020. Key findings for New Zealand reported in Our fresh water 2020 are as follows:
Native freshwater species and ecosystems are under threat. New Zealand has a diverse and unique range of freshwater species, habitats, and ecosystems but many are under threat and continue to decline. These declines are the result of:
- converting land to cities, towns, farms, and plantation forests by clearing native forest and draining wetlands
- changing waterways from their natural form and building in-stream structures like weirs
- reducing flows
- bringing new species into the country intentionally or accidentally (many of which have become well-established, continue to disperse, and threaten native freshwater species)
Water is polluted in urban, farming, and forestry areas:
Pollution affects almost all of our rivers and many of our lakes and aquifers. Groundwater quality is mixed but is improving in many places.
- Pesticides have been detected in groundwater at many sites.
- Concentrations of pollutants (nutrients, chemicals, pathogens, and sediment) in freshwater are higher in urban, farming, and forestry areas than in natural conditions – sometimes many times higher.
- Some freshwater contains emerging contaminants but mostly at low level
Changing water flows affect our freshwater:
The changes we have made to the water levels, flows, and courses in our rivers and aquifers are affecting our freshwater including wetlands
Climate change is affecting freshwater in Aotearoa New Zealand:
Changes to our climate are already being observed. Some changes are significantly different from pre-industrial conditions (temperature, glacier ice extent, sea level), while others (extreme rainfall) cannot be

detected consistently yet
The Our marine environment 2019 domain report examined the most pressing issues on New Zealand's oceans, seas, coastlines and estuaries. It reported on 4 key issues these habitats.
https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/environmental-reporting/our-marine-environment-2019-summary
The 4 key issues were:
- Native marine species and habitats are under threat
- Activities on land are polluting our marine environment
- Activities at sea are affecting the marine environment
- Climate change is affecting marine ecosystems, taonga species, and people

8.6 Based upon the National Wetland Inventory if available please provide a figure in square kilometres for the extent of wetlands (according to the Ramsar definition) for the year 2020 and provide the relevant disaggregated information in the box below. This Information will also be used to report on SDG 6, Target 6.6, Indicator 6.6.1, for which the Ramsar Convention is a co-custodian.
Please select only one option
☐ E=Exact Number (km2)

›
☐ G=More than (km2)

›
☑ X=Unknown

8.6 Details

According to the Ramsar definition and classification of wetlands, the disaggregated information on wetland extent is as follows.
Note:
The minimum information that should be provided is the total area of wetlands for each of the three major categories; "marine/coastal", "inland" and "human-made".
If the data on inventories are partial or not complete, use the information that is available.
Guidance on information on national wetland extent, to be provided in Target 8 "National Wetlands Inventory" of the National Report Form can be consulted at: https://www.ramsar.org/document/guidance-on-information-on-national-wetland-extent
›

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
A -- Permanent shallow marine waters in most cases less than six metres deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits.	
B -- Marine subtidal aquatic beds; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.	
C -- Coral reefs.	
D -- Rocky marine shores; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.	
E -- Sand, shingle or pebble shores; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.	
F -- Estuarine waters; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.	
G -- Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.	

Ga -- Bivalve (shellfish) reefs.	
H -- Intertidal marshes; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes.	
I -- Intertidal forested wetlands; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.	
J -- Coastal brackish/saline lagoons; brackish to saline lagoons with at least one relatively narrow connection to the sea.	
K -- Coastal freshwater lagoons; includes freshwater delta lagoons.	
Zk(a) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, marine/coastal.	

8.6 Marine/Coastal Wetlands total (km2)

›

8.6 Inland Wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
L -- Permanent inland deltas.	
M -- Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls.	
N -- Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks.	
O -- Permanent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.	
P -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes floodplain lakes.	
Q -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes.	
R -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats.	
Sp -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.	
Ss -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.	

Tp -- Permanent freshwater marshes/pools; ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic soils; with emergent vegetation water-logged for at least most of the growing season.	
Ts -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils; includes sloughs, potholes, seasonally flooded meadows, sedge marshes.	
U -- Non-forested peatlands; includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.	
Va -- Alpine wetlands; includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.	
Vt -- Tundra wetlands; includes tundra pools, temporary waters from snowmelt.	
W -- Shrub-dominated wetlands; shrub swamps, shrub-dominated freshwater marshes, shrub carr, alder thicket on inorganic soils.	
Xf -- Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands; includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.	
Xp -- Forested peatlands; peatswamp forests.	
Y -- Freshwater springs; oases.	
Zg -- Geothermal wetlands.	
Zk(b) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland.	

8.6 Inland Wetlands total (km2)

›

8.6 Human-made wetlands

	Square kilometers (km2)
1 -- Aquaculture (e.g., fish/shrimp) ponds.	
2 -- Ponds; includes farm ponds, stock ponds, small tanks; (generally below 8 ha).	

3 -- Irrigated land; includes irrigation channels and rice fields.	
4 -- Seasonally flooded agricultural land (including intensively managed or grazed wet meadow or pasture).	
5 -- Salt exploitation sites; salt pans, salines, etc.	
6 -- Water storage areas; reservoirs/barrages/dams /impoundments (generally over 8 ha).	
7 -- Excavations; gravel/brick/clay pits; borrow pits, mining pools.	
8 -- Wastewater treatment areas; sewage farms, settling ponds, oxidation basins, etc.	
9 -- Canals and drainage channels, ditches.	
Zk(c) – Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, human-made.	

8.6 Human-made wetlands total (km2)
›

8.6 Additional information

Additional information: If the information is available please indicate the % of change in the extent of wetlands over the last three years. Please note: For the % of change in the extent of wetlands, if the period of data covers more than three years, provide the available information, and indicate the period of the change.
› The NZ Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2020 (2022 submission) provides the following information on ‘Land converted to wetlands’ (CRF 4.D.2, page 280):
Between 1990 and 2020, 8,395 hectares of land were converted to Wetlands, while 11,827 hectares of Wetlands were converted to other land uses (mainly Grassland, at 9,921 hectares). This resulted in a net decrease in total area reported under Wetlands of 3,431 hectares. The wetland losses were mainly related to the conversion of vegetated wetland to grassland (9,397 hectares). Increases in area of wetland open water (8,223 hectares) are mainly due to the development of irrigation ponds in the Canterbury and Otago regions. However, approximately 760 hectares of new open water has resulted from new lakes forming within the Southern Alps, often at the foot of glaciers.

8.7 Please indicate your needs (in terms of technical, financial or governance challenges)to develop, update or complete a National Wetland Inventory
› We acknowledge the new (2020) guidelines for national wetland inventory that have been published by the Ramsar Convention Secretariat.
https://www.ramsar.org/resources/training-webinar-on-national-wetlands-inventories
Within a New Zealand context, the Ministry for the Environment is currently evaluating new spatial tools (remote sensing based) for the mapping of wetlands, with supporting national guidance to assist implementation of mapping requirements under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.
In terms of practical needs, guidance on innovative technologies for the mapping of coastal wetland systems would be well received.

Target 9

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}.
[Reference to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7]

9.1 Is a Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) that promotes the wise use of wetlands in place? {1.3.1}
KRA 1.3.i

If ‘Yes’, please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=In Preparation
☐ D=Planned

9.1 Additional information
› The Resource Management Act and national direction under the Act, in particular the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management and associated National Environmental Standards-Freshwater, provides a comprehensive system for managing the use of water and wetlands, and activities that impact wetlands.

9.2 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments? {1.3.5}{1.3.6}
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=In Progress
☐ D=Planned

9.2 Additional information
› Recent national instruments to improve the management of wetlands, the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management and associated National Environmental Standards-Freshwater have included improved controls to protect, restore and ensure the wise use of wetlands.

9.3 Are wetlands treated as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? {1.7.1} {1.7.2} KRA 1.7.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

9.3 Additional information
› Water resource management in New Zealand is undertaken at a catchment or multiple catchment level, at the scale of river basins.
Under national policy requirements (NPS-Freshwater Management 2020), regional authorities are directed to implement freshwater planning using specific Freshwater Management Units. Freshwater Management Units are defined as ‘A water body, multiple water bodies or any part of a water body determined by the regional council as the appropriate spatial scale for setting freshwater objectives and limits and for freshwater accounting and management’. These units specifically identify wetlands (including lakes, rivers, estuaries) at river basin scales at set objectives and targets for their management.

9.4 Have Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management (see Resolution X.19)? {1.7.2}{1.7.3}
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

9.4 Additional information
› Water resource management in New Zealand is undertaken at catchment or multiple catchment level by regional councils (local government), based on collaborative processes that enables community and stakeholders to participate in planning and management.
In these forums, CEPA principles and tools are routinely applied to ensure the community representatives and stakeholders have knowledge of the water resource issues, and are able to participate in discussions relating to the management of freshwater and coastal habitats.

9.5 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigating or adapting to climate change? {1.7.3} {1.7.5} KRA 1.7.iii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

9.5 Additional information

› The recently released (2022) Emissions Reduction Plan for New Zealand has recognized the role of wetlands as nature-based solutions in adapting to and mitigating climate change. The restoration of coastal and inland wetlands was listed as a priority action in the Emissions Reduction Plan, with associated funding to quantify the carbon response to management in coastal and freshwater ecosystems.
The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2020) also established a new policy (Policy 4), that requires freshwater to be managed “as part of New Zealand’s integrated response to climate change”.

9.6 Has your country formulated plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? {1.7.4} {1.7.6} KRA 1.7.v

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

9.6 Additional information

› Agriculture is a core component of New Zealand primary industries and trade, and this sector is engaging in projects that promote sustainable catchment management, including management of wetlands – through agencies such as DairyNZ www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/, Beef and Lamb NZ beeflambnz.com/compliance/environment, Forest Owners Association https://nzfoa.org.nz/ and Horticulture NZ https://www.hortnz.co.nz/environment/.
In 2017 and 2020 the Government’s Freshwater Improvement Fund directly supported on-ground projects to improve the management of New Zealand’s lakes, rivers, streams, groundwater and wetlands, including many projects in farming regions. Refer to:
https://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/funding/freshwater-improvement-fund/table-of-projects
Crown Research Institutes, such as the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), have also invested in applied research for example to develop and test effectiveness of constructed wetlands to address water quality effects associated with nutrient run-off from agriculture. This includes new Constructed Wetland Practitioner Guidelines to mitigate contaminant losses from agricultural land have recently been produced in partnership with DairyNZ. Refer to:
https://niwa.co.nz/sites/niwa.co.nz/files/wetland%20practitioner%20Guide-Final%2019.5.22.pdf
Furthermore, the Ministry of Primary Industries through its Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Fund is supporting a 4 year collaborative programme with NIWA and 5 Regional Councils to demonstrate and test the performance of 6 new constructed wetlands intercepting farm run-off in a range of farming systems across New Zealand.

9.7 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

{1.6.1} KRA 1.6.i

Please select only one per square.

a) agriculture-wetland interactions	☐ C=Planned ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes
b) climate change	☐ C=Planned ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes
c) valuation of ecoystem services	☐ C=Planned ☑ B=No ☐ A=Yes

9.7 Additional information

› Research on aquatic ecosystem functioning and biological conservation in New Zealand is considered to be of a high standard, including research on agriculture-wetland interactions, climate change and to a lesser degree on ecosystem services supported by wetlands.
In 2021, New Zealand hosted the INTECOL International Wetlands Virtual Conference https://www.intecol2021.com/. The provided a forum for >400 wetland researchers and managers from across the world to share new findings in wetland science, strengthen partnerships and promote the role of traditional knowledge in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
A further achievement was publication of ‘Advances in New Zealand Freshwater Science’ (Jellyman et al. 2016), comprising 34 chapters, (including one specifically on wetlands; Robertson et al) summarising the current state of knowledge about freshwater management in New Zealand. See the Freshwater Sciences Society website (http://freshwater.science.org.nz/).

9.8 Has your country submitted a request for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, Resolution XII.10 ?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

9.8 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate How many request have been submitted
›

9.9 Has your country made efforts to conserve small wetlands in line with Resolution XIII. 21?
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

9.9 Additional information: (If 'Yes', please indicate what actions have been implemented)

If 'Yes', please indicate what actions have been implemented
› Small wetlands are actively managed in New Zealand through policy instruments and conservation programmes. The establishment of new (2020) national policy and legislation for wetlands in New Zealand contained specific policies and rules to improve the protection of wetlands, irrespective of size. Specifically, the NPS-Freshwater Management 2020 established a new national policy:
Policy 6: There is no further loss of extent of natural inland wetlands, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted

Target 10

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels.
[Reference to Aichi Target 18]

10.1 Have case studies, participation in projects or successful experiences on cultural aspects of wetlands been compiled. Resolution VIII.19 and Resolution IX.21? (Action 6.1.6)
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=In Preparation
☐ D=Planned

10.1 Additional information

If yes please indicate the case studies or projects documenting information and experiences concerning culture and wetlands
› See additional information provided at 10.2 below.

10.2 Have the guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands been used or applied such as
(Resolution VII. 8) (Action 6.1.5)
Please select only one per square.

a) stakeholders, including local communities and indigenous people are represented on National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=In Preparation ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes

b) involvement and assistance of indigenous people's and community-based groups, wetland education centres and non-governmental organizations with the necessary expertise to facilitate the establishment of participatory approaches	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=In Preparation ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes

10.2 Additional information

If the answer is "yes" please indicate the use or aplication of the guidelines
› New water regulatory requirements embed Māori concepts for water management.
Establishing and strengthening Mātauranga Māori (knowledge systems) in water resources management is a focus for many iwi, government, and community projects in New Zealand, and is aligned with the guidelines. Examples of guidelines, best-practice approaches, and significant programmes include:
• State of the Takiwa: an environmental monitoring and reporting process that integrates Mātauranga Māori and western science.
• Te Reo o Te Repo: a publication illustrating Mātauranga Māori
• Te Mana o Te Wai fund: funding for projects that support or enable iwi/hapū to improve the water quality of freshwater bodies, including lakes, rivers, streams, estuaries and lagoons.
A page on the Our Estuaries Hub acts as a repository for resources in Te Reo Māori and cultural aspects of coastal wetlands.

10.3 Traditional knowledge and management practices relevant for the wise use of wetlands have been documented and their application encouraged (Action 6.1.2)
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=In Preparation
☐ D=Planned

10.3 Additional information
› In 2021, a significant new publication describing traditional wetland knowledge was released Te Reo o Te Repo – Kei konei tonu au. The cultural handbook provides Māori values, knowledge, and perspectives from across Aotearoa New Zealand, illustrating the diversity and significance of wetland ecosystems and mātauranga Māori based tools and approaches.
https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/publications/te-reo-o-te-repo-kei-konei-tonu-au/
The release of Te Reo o Te Repo followed the success of the 2017 publication, 'Te Reo o Te Repo: The voice of the wetland' (Taura et al. 2017). https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/publications/te-reo-o-te-repo/
During the 2018-2021 triennium, the Lakes380 national research programme investigating the history of New Zealand lakes has extensively documents traditional knowledge and management practices, focusing on the Wairarapa Moana Wetland Ramsar sites. Refer to: https://www.lakestoriesnz.org/ and https://lakes380.com/wairarapa-moana-iwi-rohe-study/
In 2018, a special issue of the NZ Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research published a series of articles to promote Mātauranga Māori shaping marine and freshwater futures.
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tnzm20/52/4

Target 11

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.} [Reference to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 13, 14]

11.1 Have ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands been researched in your country, recorded in documents like State of the Environment reporting, and the results promoted? {1.4.1} KRA 1.4.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=In Preparation
☐ C1=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

11.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, how many wetlands and their names

› A New Zealand review of the ecosystem services that wetlands provide was published in 2013 (Clarkson et al. 2013). Refer to: Clarkson, B.R., Ausseil, A.E., Gerbeaux, P. (2013). 'Wetland ecosystem services'. In Dymond, J.R. (ed.) Ecosystem services in New Zealand – conditions and trends. Manaaki Whenua Press: Lincoln, New Zealand.
The ecosystem services/benefits of some Ramsar sites in New Zealand have also been specifically assessed in technical reports and as part of reviewing catchment management, including for the Whangamarino, Wairarapa Moana Wetland and Awarua sites.

11.2 Have wetland programmes or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives or food and water security plans been implemented? {1.4.2} KRA 1.4.i

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

11.2 Additional information

› In response to the global coronavirus pandemic the New Zealand Government initiated a Jobs for Nature national programme that sought to support local communities affected by job losses and reduced employment opportunities, for example as a result of less tourism. The Jobs for Nature invested NZ$1.2B of funding into environmental projects across multiple government agencies, many of which focused on wetland or catchment restoration.

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {1.4.3}{1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names
› A range of formal and informal mechanisms are applied in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, which take into consideration the spectrum of socio-economic values held by stakeholders, iwi, community and industry.

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands including traditional knowledge for the effective management of sites (Resolution VIII.19)? {1.4.3}{1.4.4} KRA 1.4.iii

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.4 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names
› The Department of Conservation works in close partnership with iwi across New Zealand as Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) partners, including iwi associated with Ramsar Sites and other wetlands. Cultural values are embedded within wetland management and are described within all Conservation Management Strategies (administered by the Department of Conservation), and Regional and District Plans (administered by councils). Although, recognising that further effort is needed to strengthen cultural values in wetland management and to enhance the role of iwi in management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands.
The new national direction for water management under the Resource Management Act provides specific requirements to address cultural values and approaches (Te Mana o Te Wai).

Target 12

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.} [Reference to Aichi Targets 14 and 15].

12.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.8.1} KRA 1.8.i
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

12.1 Additional information
› The Ministry for the Environment and the Department of Conservation have identified freshwater restoration as a strategic national priority. Since 2018, the New Zealand Government has committed over $400 million NZD of funding to projects to improve freshwater management.
The Government (through the Department of Conservation) is also implemening a national Freshwater Stretch Goal to restore 50 freshwater ecosystems from the mountains to the sea.
These initiatives are based on assessment of the national priorities for wetland restoration and focused on geospatial assessment of New Zealand's vulnerable fresh water catchments. For example, see mapping of vulnerable sites: https://data.mfe.govt.nz/layer/53523-vulnerable-catchments/ and priority freshwater ecosystems www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/freshwater-ecosystems-of-new-zealand/

12.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, plans or projects been effectively implemented? {1.8.2} KRA 1.8.i
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

12.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Partially', please indicate, if available the extent of wetlands restored
› During the past triennium significant investment in wetland restoration programmes has occurred through central and local government, iwi, industry, NGO and community led initiatives.
Some examples of projects that have been implemented are:
- Jobs for Nature. A Government led investment in nature as part of a social-economic response to the global Covid-19 pandemic, e.g. see https://www.mfe.govt.nz/funding/jobs-for-nature and https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/jobs-for-nature--mahi-mo-te-taiao/
- The Freshwater Improvement Fund (coordinated by the Ministry for the Environment). The Fund provided $67 million NZD in funding since 2018 to help restore freshwater and coastal ecosystems. https://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/funding/freshwater-improvement-fund
- The Arawai Kākāriki Wetland Restoration Programme (led by the Department of Conservation). This Programme has invested $1.6 million NZD per annum to restore the ecosystem health of large scale wetland sites. https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/freshwater-restoration/arawai-kakariki-wetland-restoration/
- Nga Awa river restoration programme (led by the Department of Conservation), which is taking a whole catchment approach, working in partnership with others Nga Awa is investing $4M per annum to restore 14 rivers from mountains to sea. https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/freshwater-restoration/nga-awa/
- Living Water, a partnership between the Department of Conservation and Fonterra investing $2M per annum to develop scalable solutions that will enable farming, freshwater and healthy ecosystems to thrive side-by-side. https://www.livingwater.net.nz/
The ongoing effectiveness of these restoration programmes will depend on sustaining ongoing support and funding from multiple sectors.

12.3 Have the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands and on Peatlands, climate change and wise use (Resolutions VIII.1 and XII.11) been implemented including?
Please select only one per square.

a) Knowledge of global resources	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

b) Education and public awareness on peatlands	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☑ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
c) Policy and legislative instruments	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes
d) Wise use of peatlands	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
e) Research networks, regional centres of expertise, and institutional capacity	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
f) International cooperation	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
g) Implementation and support	☐ Y=Not relevant ☐ X=Unknown ☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

12.3 Additional Information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partially’, please indicate, the progress in implementation
›

Target 13

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods
[Reference to Aichi Targets 6 and 7]

13.1 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.3.3} {1.3.4} KRA 1.3.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

13.1 Additional information
› The Resource Management Act effectively establishes a comprehensive system of SEAs for decisions at all levels.

13.2 Are Environmental Impact Assessments made for any development projects (such as new buildings, new roads, extractive industry) from key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries that may affect wetlands? {1.3.4} {1.3.5} KRA 1.3.iii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Some Cases

13.2 Additional information
› The Resource Management Act effectively establishes a comprehensive system of environmental impact assessment in the establishment of plans and/or the granting of consents for water use and land use changes.

Goal 4. Enhancing implementation

[Reference to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17]

Target 15

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

15.1 Have you (AA) been involved in the development and implementation of a Regional Initiative under the framework of the Convention? {3.2.1} KRA 3.2.i
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

15.1 Additional information

If 'Yes' or 'Planned', please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative
› New Zealand is an active member of the East-Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP).

15.2 Has your country supported or participated in the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {3.2.2}
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No
☐ D=Planned

15.2 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s)
›

Target 16

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}
[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 18]

16.1 Has an action plan (or plans) for wetland CEPA been established? {4.1.1} KRA 4.1.i

Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this in the Additional information section below
Please select only one per square.

a) At the national level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes ☑ C=In Progress
b) Sub-national level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ C=In Progress
c) Catchment/basin level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ C=In Progress
d) Local/site level	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes ☐ C=In Progress

16.1 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘In progress’ to one or more of the four questions above, for each please describe the mechanism, who is responsible and identify if it has involved CEPA NFPs
› A draft Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) Action Plan has been prepared to provide a national framework for coordinated delivery of wetland CEPA in New Zealand. It sets out actions and priorities for the next 10 years, identifying who might lead the action and who the target audience is. It covers all five components of CEPA with the overall strategic intent of empowering people to take action for wetlands.

16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii
a) at Ramsar Sites
Please select only one option
☑ E=Exact Number (centres)

› 1 centre
☐ F=Less than (centres)

›
☐ G=More than (centres)

›
☐ C=Partially
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

16.2 How many centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres, education centres) have been established? {4.1.2} KRA 4.1.ii
b) at other wetlands
Please select only one option
☐ E=Exact Number (centres)

›
☐ F=Less than (centres)

›
☑ G=More than (centres)

› 10 centres
☐ C=Partially
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

16.2 Additional information

If centres are part of national or international networks, please describe the networks
› a) Ramsar Sites
The Firth of Thames Ramsar Site is the location for the Pūkorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre, owned and operated by the Pūkorokoro Miranda Naturalists’ Trust. The centre has hosted hundreds of visits by local and international visitors, schools, and tertiary institutions. See www.miranda-shorebird.org.nz/. The Pūkorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre collaborates with East-Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAFP) network
Interpretation for site visitors also occurs at the Awarua Wetland; Whangamarino Wetland; Wairarapa Moana Wetland; Manawatu Estuary and Farewell Spit Ramsar Sites.
b) Other wetlands (examples)
There are a range of other visitor centres in New Zealand that have a focus on wetlands. Some examples of these are outlined below:
- An outdoor wetland education discovery trail, developed by the National Wetland Trust at Rotopiko near Hamilton, provides a self-guided experience for schools and families.
- The Visitor Centre at the National Trout Centre (Turangi) provides interpretation and education on freshwater ecology and the sustainable use of freshwater.
- The Travis Wetland education centre (Christchurch) provides a laboratory, educational facility and meeting space for groups.
- Sinclair Wetland (Otago) is privately owned by Te Rūnunga o Ngāi Tahu. It includes an information centre.
- Forest & Bird also manage an ‘outdoor classroom’ associated with wetlands at Bushy Park, Tarapuruhi
The National Wetland Trust continues the development of plans for a National Wetland Education Centre that will include exhibits on Ramsar Sites.

16.3 Does the Contracting Party {4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii
Please select only one per square.

a) promote stakeholder participation in decision-making on wetland planning and management	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes
b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?	☐ D=Planned ☐ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☑ A=Yes

16.3 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partially’, please provide information about the ways in which stakeholders are involved
› a) There are established processes in New Zealand for promoting public participation in planning and management. A key opportunity is in the development of region-wide Conservation Management Strategies and Regional Plans, which require public participation and provide the opportunity for public submissions on how wetlands should be managed. Further, in the management of wetlands on Crown Land the Department of Conservation works with iwi, hapū and whānau (local Māori) to ensure that the strength and nature of their interests in these places are understood and that this understanding is incorporated into the Department of Conservation’s ongoing management of sites in keeping with obligations under section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987.
b) Stakeholder support for nomination is an important criterion for selection of new Ramsar Sites in New Zealand. The 2020 designation of the Wairarapa Moana Wetland as a Ramsar site involved extensive consultation with stakeholders and local community and was broadly supported across the region.

16.4 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

16.4 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has
›

16.5 Do you have an operational cross-sectoral body equivalent to a National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee? {4.1.6} KRA 4.3.v

Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

16.5 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, indicate a) its membership; b) number of meetings since COP13; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has
› New Zealand does not have a formal national Ramsar or wetland committee. However, a range of environmental and conservation forums have been established that provide national advice to central government agencies, such as the New Zealand Conservation Authority.

16.6 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Administrative Authority and a), b) or c) below? {4.1.7} KRA 4.1.vi:

Please select only one per square.

a) Ramsar Site managers	☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
b) other MEA national focal points	☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes
c) other ministries, departments and agencies	☐ D=Planned ☑ C=Partially ☐ B=No ☐ A=Yes

16.6 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partially’, please describe what mechanisms are in place
› The Department of Conservation is both the Administrative Authority for the Convention and an agency responsible for the operational delivery of services at Ramsar Sites. The role the Department plays ensures regular and ongoing communication between national focal points with Ramsar Site managers.
The National Wetland Trust provides several communication mechanisms to exchange information including regular wetland restoration events and newsletters which have included Ramsar-related articles.

16.7 Have Ramsar-branded World Wetlands Day activities (whether on 2 February or at another time of year), either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP13? {4.1.8}
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No

16.7 Additional information
› Forest & Bird and the National Wetland Trust of New Zealand (NGO-co focal points for Ramsar in New Zealand) and Fish and Game NZ have undertaken a range of projects for World Wetlands Day each year and used the outcomes of those projects (data, maps, info) to educate the public and create media attention on wetlands.

16.8 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day-related activities) been carried out since COP13 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.1.9}
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.8 Additional information

If these and other CEPA activities have been undertaken by other organizations, please indicate this
› Forest & Bird (NGO-co focal point for Ramsar in New Zealand) is a strong advocate of the value and importance of wetlands and has had ongoing campaign related to wetlands for several years. They have a campaign called ‘Every Wetland Counts’ that calls on the Government to take a range of actions to better protect and restore wetlands. More info can be found at;
https://www.forestandbird.org.nz/campaigns/wetlands and
https://www.forestandbird.org.nz/sites/default/files/2022-02/Every%20Wetland%20Counts%20brochure_1.pdf
Fish and Game NZ owns and manages many wetlands across the country, including some as part of Ramsar sites such as the Whangamarino (eg Whangamarino Wetland - Fish & Game (fishandgame.org.nz)).

Target 17

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 from all sources are made available. {4.2.}
[Reference to Aichi Target 20]

17.1a Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2018, 2019 and 2020? {4.2.1} KRA 4.2.i
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ Z=Not Applicable

17.1b If ‘No’ in 17.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment
›

17.2 Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.2.2} KRA 4.2.i
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No

17.2 Additional information

If 'Yes' please state the amounts, and for which activities
›

17.3 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Has the agency provided funding to support wetland conservation and management in other countries? {3.3.1} KRA 3.3.i
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ Z=Not Applicable

17.3 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate the countries supported since COP12
› New Zealand is a contributor country to the KIWA programme for Pacific countries, which has included support for Ramsar initiatives.
The New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Aid Programme provides core, untagged, multi-year funding to the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).
SPREP's Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management programme activities include wetland conservation and restoration work, implementing the Pacific Regional Wetlands Action Plan and supporting engagement with the Ramsar Convention and its Pacific Island member states.
New Zealand is also a contributor country to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Global Climate Fund (GCF). This funding supports a range of projects to support climate resilience and protect biodiversity and ecosystems within developing countries, including the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

17.4 [For Contracting Parties with a development assistance agency only ('donor countries')]: Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by the agency? {3.3.2} KRA 3.3.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant
☐ Z=Not Applicable

17.4 Additional information
›

17.5 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only ('recipient countries')]: Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {3.3.3}
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ Z=Not Applicable

17.5 Additional information

If 'Yes', please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP12
›

17.6 Has any financial support been provided by your country to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☑ B=No
☐ Z=Not Applicable

17.6 Additional information

If “Yes” please state the amounts, and for which activities
›

Target 18

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

18.1 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.1} {3.1.2} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☑ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

18.1 Additional information
› The Department of Conservation is the Ramsar Administrative Authority and is also the focal point for other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Convention on Migratory Species; and the Convention on Biological Diversity). This provides for the integration and assessment of key issues across these multilateral environmental agreements.

18.2 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO)? {3.1.2} {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iv
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

18.2 Additional information
› The Department of Conservation works closely with other government agencies and global bodies on cross-cutting issues, including issues of relevance to implementation of the Ramsar Convention.

18.3 Has your country received assistance from one or more UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO) or the Convention’s IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.4.1} KRA 4.4.ii.

The IOPs are: BirdLife International, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Wetlands International, WWF and Wildfowl & Wetland Trust (WWT).
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☐ X=Unknown
☑ Y=Not Relevant

18.3 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ please name the agency (es) or IOP (s) and the type of assistance received
›

18.4 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {3.4.1}
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

18.4 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partially’, please indicate the networks and wetlands involved
› Various scientists and wetland programmes from Crown Research Institutes, universities, NGOs and the government regularly engage with local, national and international colleagues and community groups to develop collaborative, information sharing projects.

Leading initiatives include:
- Lakes380: Our lakes' health past present and future research programme https://lakes380.com/
- New Zealand Fish Passage Advisory Group. See https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/habitats/freshwater/fish-passage-management/advisory-group/
- Restoring wetland ecosystem functioning research programme. See https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/discover-our-research/biodiversity/species-and-ecosystem-conservation/restoring-wetland-ecosystem-functioning/
- Te reo o te repo: The voice of the wetland. See https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/publications/te-reo-o-te-repo/
- National Wetland Trust. https://www.wetlandtrust.org.nz/
- INTECOL wetland virtual conference 2021. https://www.intecol2021.com/
- The Our Estuaries Hub has had many new modules added since the 2018 update. See https://www.doc.govt.nz/estuaries
In addition, the biennial National Wetland Restoration Symposium organised by the National Wetland Trust provides regular opportunities for practical training and sharing experience among wetland managers (as well as landowners, scientists, iwi and members of the wetland community) from across New Zealand.

18.5 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made public (e.g., through publications or a website)? {3.4.2} KRA 3.4.iv

Please select only one option

☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

18.5 Additional information

› Information about New Zealand's Ramsar Sites is available on the Department of Conservation Website (at http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/international-agreements/ramsar-convention-on-wetlands/nz-wetlands-of-international-importance/).
An information brochure covering 40 wetlands to visit in New Zealand can be downloaded from the Department of Conservation website at: www.doc.govt.nz/nature/habitats/wetlands/wetlands-by-region/magical-places-40-wetlands-to-visit-in-new-zealand-brochure/.
The National Wetland Trust of New Zealand also publishes information about wetlands/Ramsar sites https://www.wetlandtrust.org.nz/what-we-do/resources
A broad range of technical reports that summarise the status of wetlands and Ramsar Sites have also been produced. For example, these include:
- Our freshwater 2020 and Our marine environment 2019 reports on the state of New Zealand's environment https://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/environmental-reporting
- LAWA - Land, Air, Water Aotearoa https://www.lawa.org.nz/
- Local government (council) publications
- Arawai Kākāriki wetland restoration programme publications https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/freshwater-restoration/arawai-kakariki-wetland-restoration/
- Living Water publications https://www.livingwater.net.nz/
- Lakes380 research outputs on the state of New Zealand lakes https://lakes380.com/

18.6 Have all transboundary wetland systems been identified? {3.5.1} KRA 3.5.i

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned
☑ Z=Not Applicable

18.6 Additional information

›

18.7 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {3.5.2} KRA 3.5.ii

Please select only one option

☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned
☑ Y=Not Relevant

18.7 Additional information

If ‘Yes’ or ‘Partially’, please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place
›

18.8 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? {3.5.3} KRA 3.5.iii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned
☐ Z=Not Applicable

18.8 Additional information
› Yes, New Zealand is an active member of the East-Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and contributes to a number of multi-lateral forums and projects to progress conservation of migratory species.

Target 19
Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced.
[Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17]

19.1 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made? {4.1.4} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☑ D=Planned

19.1 Additional information
›

19.2 Are wetland conservation and wise-use issues included in formal education programmes?
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

19.2 Additional information

If you answer yes to the above please provide information on which mechanisms and materials
› The established Enviroschools programme (see www.enviroschools.org.nz/) integrates a range of environmental topics (including projects relating to wetlands and freshwater) into primary and secondary education in New Zealand.
Most universities and tertiary institutes also coordinate strong education and research programmes that relate to wetland conservation and wise use, including academic programmes focused on lakes, rivers, and coastal environments. The Department of Conservation directly supports post-graduate research through a national conservation scholarship programme. https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/research-and-development/postgraduate-scholarship-programme/. The National Wetland Trust provides an annual Golden Plover Award to support tertiary level research projects.
The Department of Conservation has also actively supported wetland education through the LEARNZ programme at the nationally significant O Tu Wharekai wetland. This involves virtual field trips to a remote, high country wetland ecosystem. https://www.learnz.org.nz/wetlandbiodiversity181/bg-standard-f/wetland-treasures

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv
a) at Ramsar Sites
Please select only one option
☐ E=Exact number (opportunities)

›
☐ F=Less than (opportunities)

›
☐ G=More than (opportunities)

›

☐ C=Partially
☐ X=Unknown
☑ Y=Not Relevant

19.3 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP13? {4.1.5} KRA 4.1.iv
b) at other wetlands
Please select only one option
☐ E=Exact number (Opportunities)

›
☐ F=Less than (Opportunities)

›
☑ G=More than (Opportunities)
☐ C=Partially
☐ X=Unknown
☐ Y=Not Relevant

19.3 Additional information

including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training
› The biennial National Wetland Restoration Symposia provides training opportunities for all New Zealanders, on wetland management and monitoring. These symposia are organised by the National Wetland Trust, with the support of multiple agencies. The Symposia provides a highly practical, participant-driven forum for knowledge exchange, training and networking for landowners, iwi, people committed to wetland biodiversity and restoration, policy makers and wetland scientists from all over New Zealand. In 2018, the Symposium was held in Napier, New Zealand with more than 200 people participating. The theme was Living Wetlands in the Living Landscape, see: www.wetlandtrust.org.nz/Site/Wetland_Events/Restoration_Symposia.ashx
The 2021 Wetland Symposia event was held in conjunction with the INTECOL wetland conference in Christchurch, New Zealand. https://www.intecol2021.com/
Crown Research Institutes, the Department of Conservation, local authorities and some technical institutes run several courses linked to training in wetlands, including identifying wetland biodiversity, assessing fish passage, monitoring techniques, and wetland delineation. Most of these training opportunities are offered to anyone wishing to attend, including wetland site managers.

19.4 Have you (AA) used your previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring implementation of the Convention? {4.3.1} KRA 4.3.ii
Please select only one option
☑ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned
☐ Z=Not Applicable

19.4 Additional information

If ‘Yes’, please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring
› National Reporting provides an opportunity to stocktake activities in wetland management regionally and nationally.

Section 4. Optional annex to allow any Contracting Party that has developed national targets to provide information on those

Goal 1

Target 1: Wetland benefits

Wetland benefits are featured in national / local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level. [Reference to Aichi Target 2]

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 1: Wetland benefits - National Targets

›

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Planned activity

›

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 1: Wetland benefits - Additional Information

›

Target 2: Water Use

Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone. {Reference to Aichi Targets 7 and 8], [Sustainable Development Goal 6, Indicator 6.3.1]

Target 2: Water Use - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 2: Water Use - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 2: Water Use - National Targets

›

Target 2: Water Use - Planned activity

›

Target 2: Water Use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 2: Water Use - Additional Information

›

Target 3: Public and private sectors

Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands. {1.10}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 3, 4, 7 and 8]

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 3: Public and private sectors - National Targets

›

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Planned activity

›

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 3: Public and private sectors - Additional Information

›

Target 4: Invasive alien species

Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment. [Reference to Aichi Target 9]

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 4: Invasive alien species - National Targets

›

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Planned activity

›

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 4: Invasive alien species - Additional Information

›

Goal 2

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites

The ecological character of Ramsar Sites is maintained or restored through effective, planning and integrated management {2.1.}.[Reference to Aichi Target 6,11, 12]

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - National Targets

›

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Planned activity

›

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 5: Ecological character of Ramsar Sites - Additional Information

›

Target 7: Sites at risk

Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed {2.6.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 5, 7, 11, 12]

Target 7: Sites at risk - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 7: Sites at risk - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 7: Sites at risk - National Targets

›

Target 7: Sites at risk - Planned activity

›

Target 7: Sites at risk - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 7: Sites at risk - Additional Information

›

Goal 3

Target 8: National wetland inventories

National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i. [Reference to Aichi Targets 12, 14, 18, 19]

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 8: National wetland inventories - National Targets

›

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Planned activity

›

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 8: National wetland inventories - Additional Information

›

Target 9: Wise Use

The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone {1.3.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 4, 6, 7]

Target 9: Wise Use - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 9: Wise Use - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 9: Wise Use - National Targets

›

Target 9: Wise Use - Planned activity

›

Target 9: Wise Use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 9: Wise Use - Additional Information

›

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge

The traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels. [Reference to Aichi Target 18].

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - National Targets

›

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Planned activity

›

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 10: Traditional Knowledge - Additional Information

›

Target 11: Wetland functions

Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated. {1.4.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 13, 14]

Target 11: Wetland functions - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 11: Wetland functions - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 11: Wetland functions - National Targets

›

Target 11: Wetland functions - Planned activity

›

Target 11: Wetland functions - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 11: Wetland functions - Additional Information

›

Target 12: Restoration

Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation. {1.8.}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 14 and 15].

Target 12: Restoration - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 12: Restoration - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 12: Restoration - National Targets

›

Target 12: Restoration - Planned activity

›

Target 12: Restoration - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021
›

Target 12: Restoration - Additional Information

›

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability

Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods.[Reference to Aichi Targets 6 and 7]

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - National Targets

›

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Planned activity

›

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals
Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 13: Enhanced sustainability - Additional Information

›

Goal 4

Target 15: Regional Initiatives

Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention. {3.2.}

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - National Targets

›

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Planned activity

›

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 15: Regional Initiatives - Additional Information

›

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use

Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness {4.1}. [Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 18].

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - National Targets

›

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Planned activity

›

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use - Additional Information

›

Target 17: Financial and other resources

Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 from all sources are made available. {4.2.}.[Reference to Aichi Target 20]

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 17: Financial and other resources - National Targets

›

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Planned activity

›

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 17: Financial and other resources - Additional Information

›

Target 18: International cooperation

International cooperation is strengthened at all levels {3.1}

Target 18: International cooperation - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 18: International cooperation - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 18: International cooperation - National Targets

›

Target 18: International cooperation - Planned activity

›

Target 18: International cooperation - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 18: International cooperation - Additional Information

›

Target 19: Capacity Building

Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced. [Reference to Aichi Targets 1 and 17].

Target 19: Capacity Building - Priority

Please select only one option

☐ A=High
☐ B=Medium
☐ C=Low
☐ D=Not relevant
☐ E=No answer

Target 19: Capacity Building - Resourcing

Please select only one option

☐ A=Good
☐ B=Adequate
☐ C=Limiting
☐ D=Severely limiting
☐ E=No answer

Target 19: Capacity Building - National Targets

›

Target 19: Capacity Building - Planned activity

›

Target 19: Capacity Building - Outcomes achieved by 2021

Outcomes achieved by 2021 and how they contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Note: this field has to be completed when the full report is submitted in January 2021

›

Target 19: Capacity Building - Additional Information

›

Section 5: Optional annex to enable Contracting Parties to provide additional voluntary information on designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites)

Guidance for filling in this section

1. Contracting Parties can provide additional information specific to any or all of their designated Ramsar Sites.
2. The only indicator questions included in this section are those from Section 3 of the COP14 NRF which directly concern Ramsar Sites.
3. In some cases, to make them meaningful in the context of reporting on each Ramsar Site separately, some of these indicator questions and/or their answer options have been adjusted from their formulation in Section 3 of the COP14 NRF.
4. Please include information on only one site in each row. In the appropriate columns please add the name and official site number (from the Ramsar Sites Information Service).
5. For each 'indicator question', please select one answer from the legend.
6. A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

A final column of this Annex is provided as a 'free text' box for the inclusion of any additional information concerning the Ramsar Site.

New Zealand

Awarua Wetland (102)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder

involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
›

Farewell Spit (103)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes

☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
›

Firth of Thames (459)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
›

Kopuatai Peat Dome (444)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through

existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
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Manawatu river mouth and estuary (1491)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No

☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
›

Whangamarino (443)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar

Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
›

Wairarapa Moana Wetland (2432)

5.6 Have all Ramsar sites been assessed regarding the effectiveness of their management (i.e. sites with eitheraformal management plan or management via other relevant means where they exist e.g through existing actions for appropriate wetland management)? {1.6.2} KRA 1.6.ii
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

5.7 Has a cross-sectoral site management committee been established for the site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

11.1 Has an assessment been made of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ D=Planned

11.3 Have socio-economic values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

11.4 Have cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No

☐ C=Partially
☐ Z=No Management Plan

16.3a Is stakeholder participation in decision-making promoted, especially with local stakeholder involvement in the management of the Ramsar Site?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

16.6a Have communication mechanisms been established to share information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the Ramsar Site manager(s)?
Please select only one option
☐ A=Yes
☐ B=No
☐ D=Planned

Any additional comments/information about the site
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