



**Protecting our region together –
Biosecurity in the Horizons
Region Discussion Document:
Summary of Submissions
12 March – 15 May 2026**



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Introduction

This report summarises the points made in individual submissions to “Protecting our region together – Biosecurity in the Horizons Region discussion document”, including direct responses to submissions questions, and key themes from all submissions.

Submissions were received by Horizons Regional Council from 12 March to 15 May 2026. 176 submissions were received by the 15 May deadline, however, feedback from iwi/hapū remains open. Iwi/hapū feedback is provided separately within this report.

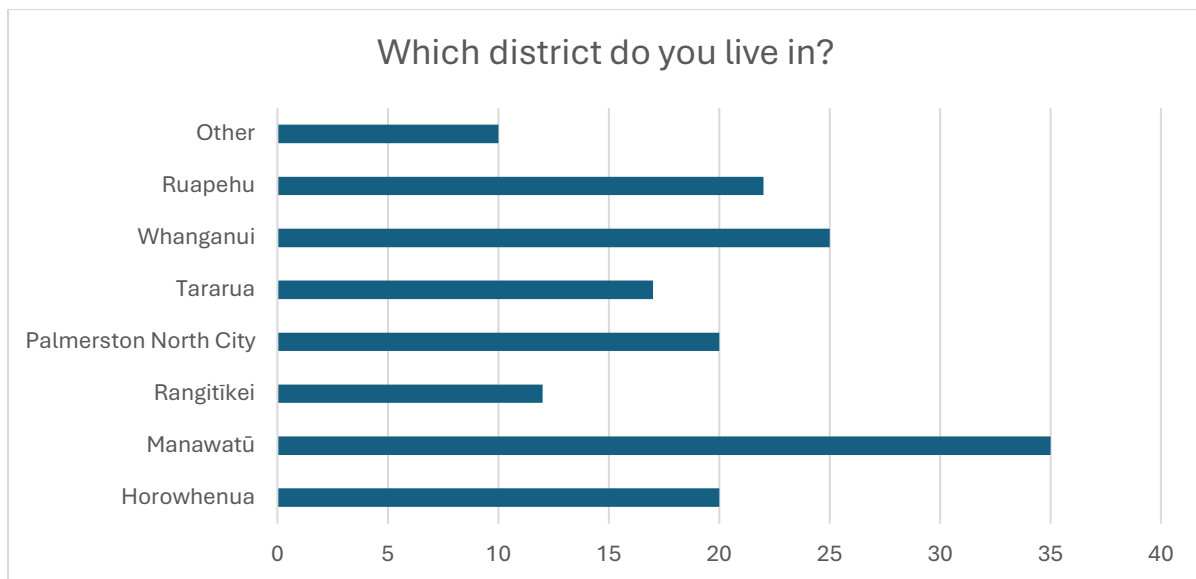
A full copy of submissions received will be provided to Council separately to this report.

Overview of responses to submission questions

Submitters who used the online submissions form or produced submissions that were in a form that enabled them to be integrated with the online submissions form, are represented below (161 of the 176 submissions). All submissions are considered in the section on key themes.

For prescribed option questions, the data is provided directly from the online submissions tool. For open text answers, the sentiment data is provided directly from the online submissions tool. It is important to note that the online submissions tool generates the sentiment data automatically, therefore parts of this document were developed with the assistance of AI tools and have been reviewed by Council staff. In doing so, the tool assesses sentiment based on the language used in the open text answers and does not necessarily reflect agreement/disagreement. For the open text data, the online submissions tool enables “tagging” for key themes which generates word clouds. The number of times the tag is used within the question dictates how large the word is shown. However, the tags do not generally represent whether submitters were for or against an idea, they only represent a degree of interest.

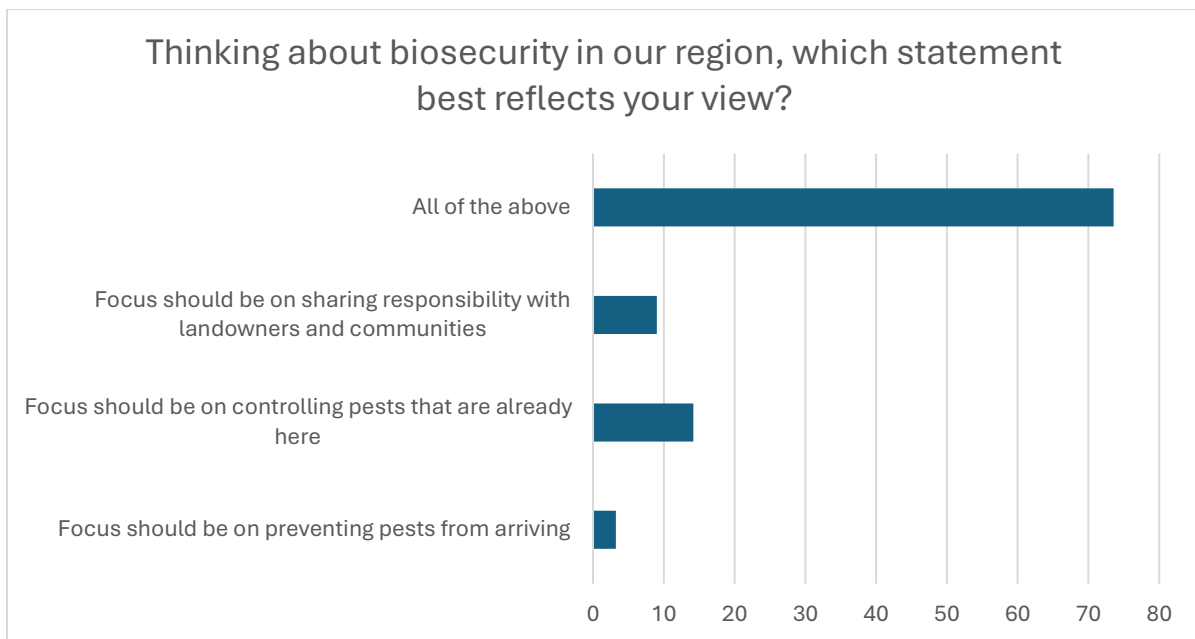
Which district do you live in?



100% of submitters answered this question.

District	Percent
Horowhenua	12.42%
Manawatū	21.74%
Rangitīkei	7.45%
Palmerston North City	12.42%
Tararua	10.56%
Whanganui	15.53%
Ruapehu	13.66%
Other	6.21%

Thinking about biosecurity in our region, which statement best reflects your view?



96.27% of submitters answered this question.

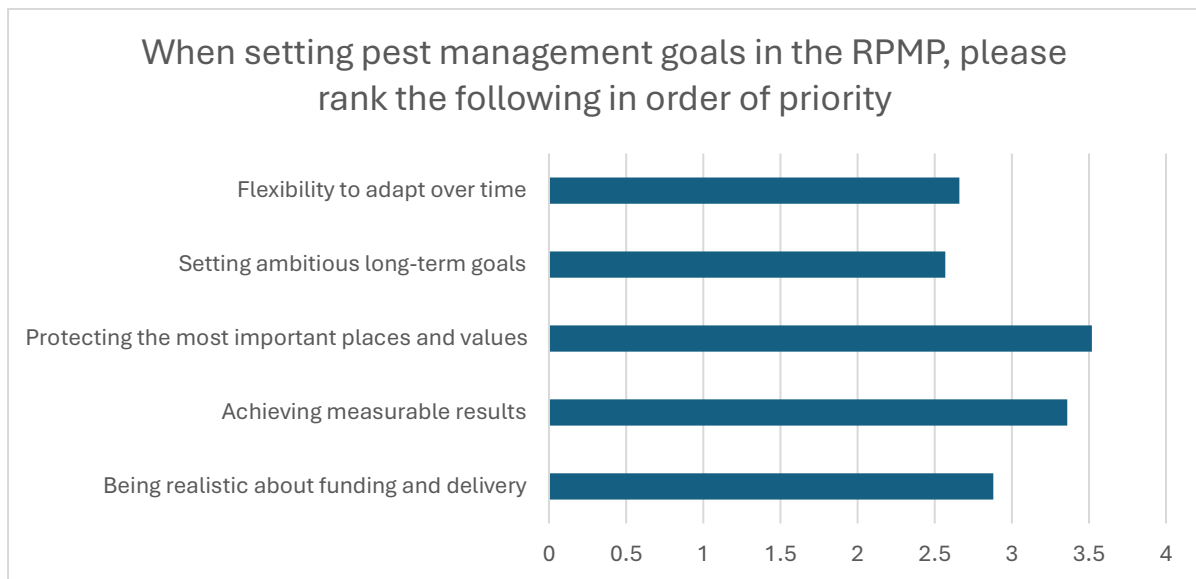
Answer	Percent
Focus should be on preventing pests from arriving	3.23%
Focus should be on controlling pests that are already here	14.19%
Focus should be on sharing responsibility with landowners and communities	9.03%
All of the above	73.55%

Please explain your choice.



57.76% of submitters answered this question. Submitters frequently commented that effective pest management requires both prevention and active control. They noted a focus on only prevention would result in continued damage from those pests already present. There was strong support for community involvement and a strong theme of shared/collective responsibility. Most respondents viewed pest management as a shared role within the community rather than a regulatory function.

When setting pest management goals in the RPMP, please rank the following in order of priority.

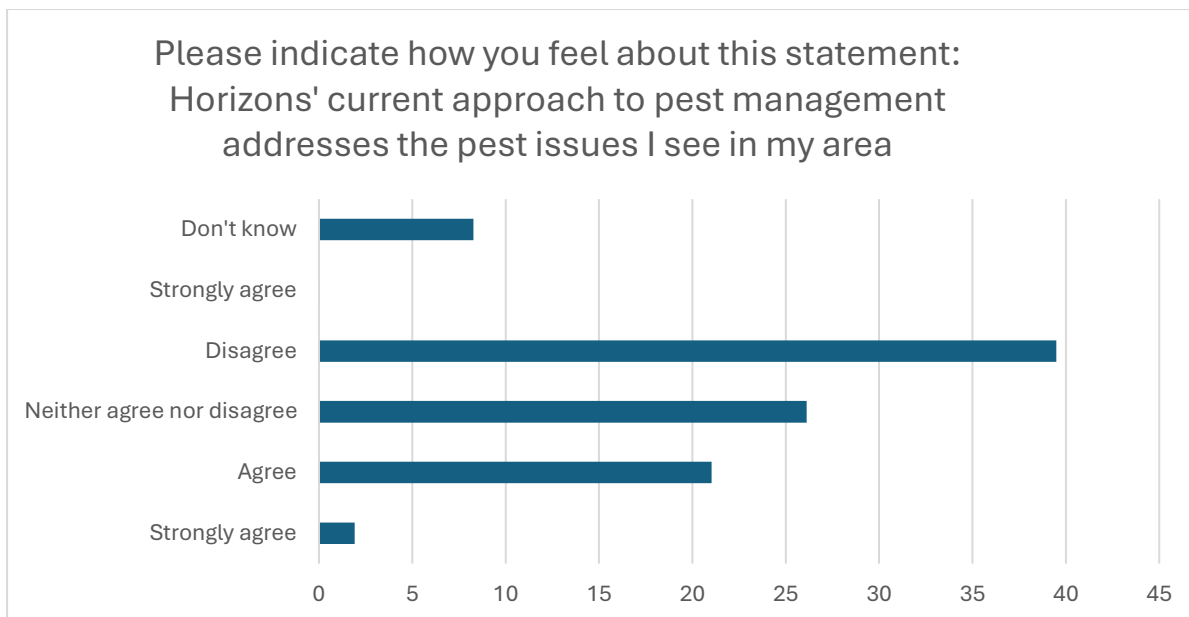


96.27% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average rank
Flexibility to adapt over time	3.34
Setting ambitious long-term goals	3.43
Protecting the most important places and values	2.48
Achieving measurable results	2.64
Being realistic about funding and delivery	3.12

Please indicate how you feel about this statement: Horizons' current approach to pest management addresses the pest issues I see in my area.

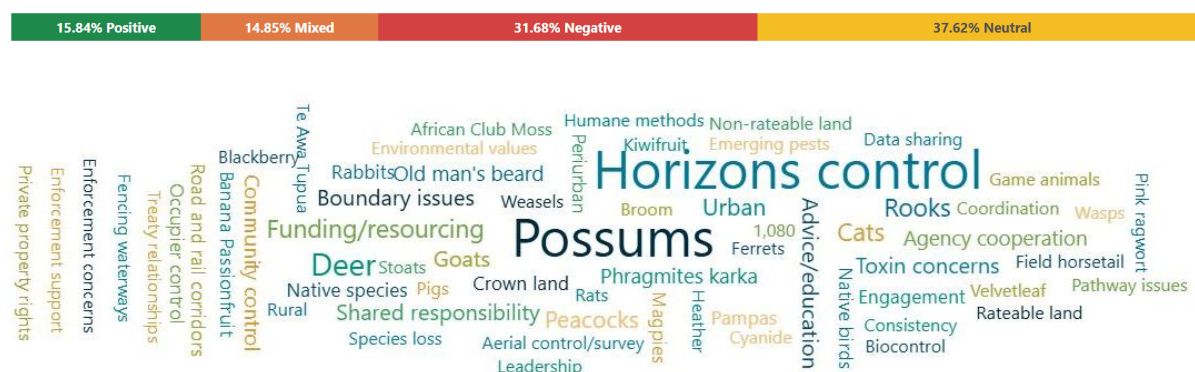
Please note with this question there was a typo in the survey form with two answers stating, “strongly agree” and no “strongly disagree”. We can likely infer that those submitters that answered the “strongly agree” next to disagree intended to respond, “strongly disagree”, with one submitter stating this under the below free text.



97.52% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Strongly agree	1.91%
Agree	21.02%
Neither agree nor disagree	26.11%
Disagree	39.49%
Strongly agree	3.18%
Don't know	8.28%

Please explain your choice.



62.73% of submitters answered this question. Many submitters expressed concerns about observing an increased numbers of pests (including many species that currently sit outside of the RPMP). Some respondents mentioned a perceived lack of pest control in their area and frustration with slow response times or limited follow through, however other submitters mentioned that Horizons staff are doing good work but often added that resourcing appears lacking. A small number of submitters mentioned specific areas of satisfaction, particularly where they had direct contact with a Horizons officer.

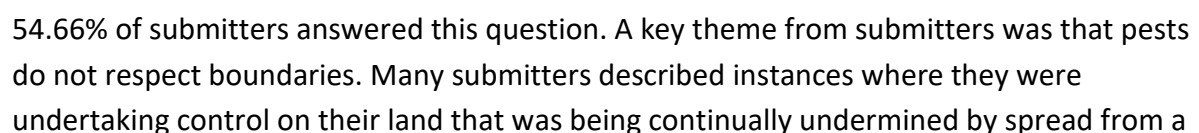
Imagine you are an occupier of a property with pests spreading from an adjacent property. How important is it to you to have rules under a RPMP to ensure pests are controlled on the adjacent property?

A horizontal bar chart with five categories on the y-axis: 'Not sure', 'Not important at all', 'Not very important', 'Somewhat important', and 'Very important'. The x-axis represents percentages from 0 to 80 in increments of 10. The bars are dark blue. The 'Very important' bar extends to 70, 'Somewhat important' to 20, 'Not very important' to 6, 'Not important at all' to 3, and 'Not sure' to 1.

Importance Level	Percentage
Not sure	1
Not important at all	3
Not very important	6
Somewhat important	20
Very important	70

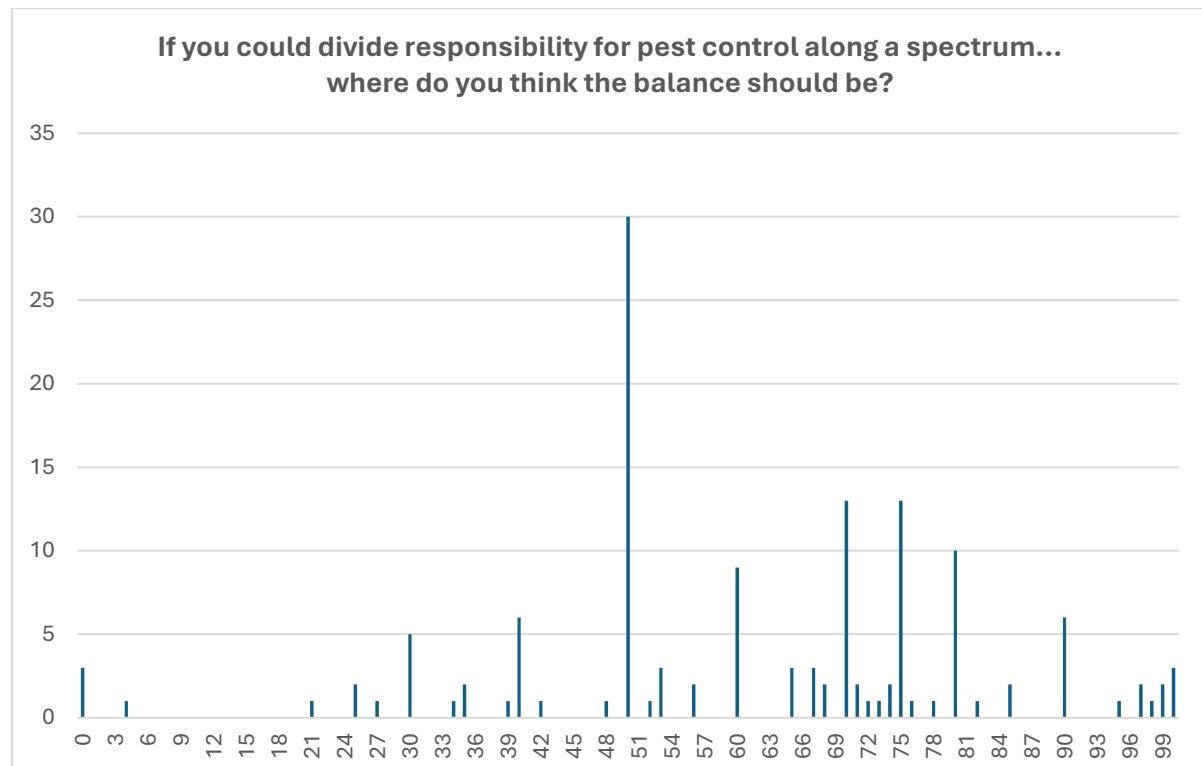
Answer	Percentage
Very important	69.87%
Somewhat important	19.87%
Not very important	5.77%
Not important at all	2.56%
Not sure	1.92%

15.91% Positive	11.36% Mixed	28.41% Negative	44.32% Neutral
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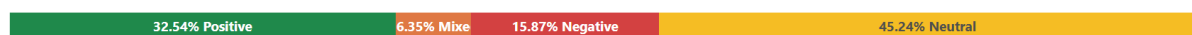
neighbouring property. Many submitters supported regulation and enforcement as key to ensuring fairness and collective effort. Other submitters expressed concerns about enforcement and suggested more practical support for landowners who were not managing the pests on their land.

If you could divide responsibility for pest control along a spectrum from 0% (occupiers do all control, Horizons provides advice/enforcement only) to 100% (Horizons does all the control, occupiers grant access to their land and assist with reporting), where do you think the balance should be?



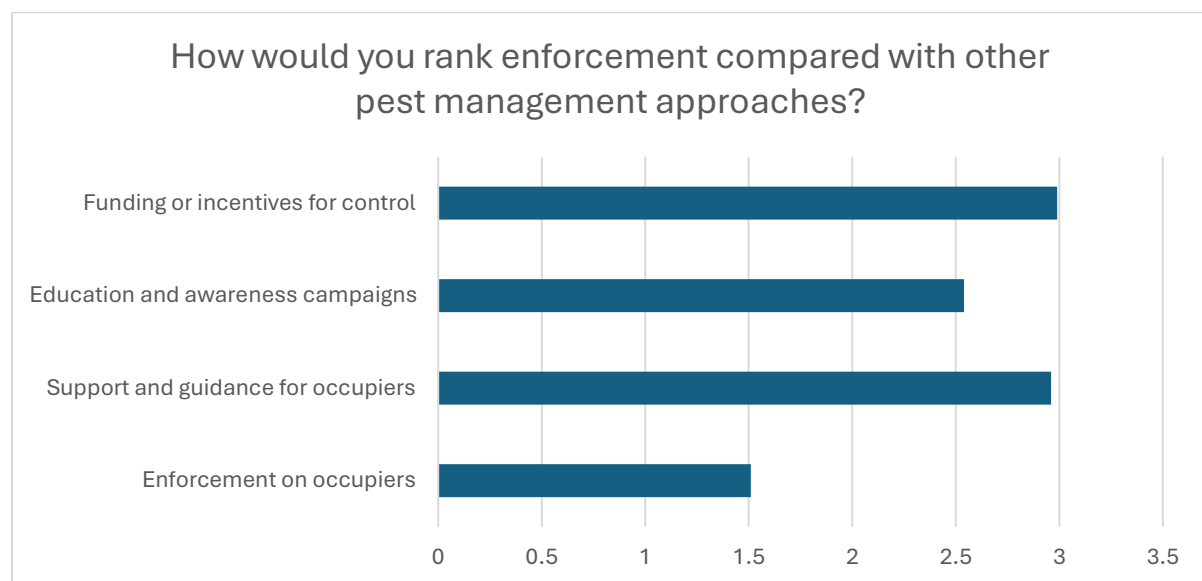
86.96% of submitters answered this question. The average of responses was 61.22%.

Why do you think the balance should be at this point on the spectrum?



Most submitters saw pest management as a shared responsibility and noted that the appropriate division of responsibility was dependent on the species, the scale of the problem, the costs of control, whether benefits are regional or local, and the need for boundary control. Many submitters saw Horizons' role as providing leadership, coordination for regional programmes, providing technical support and education, funding or resourcing, and undertaking landscape-scale control. Some submitters saw Horizons' enforcement role as key for effective pest management, while others expressed concerns over private property rights.

How would you rank enforcement compared with other pest management approaches?

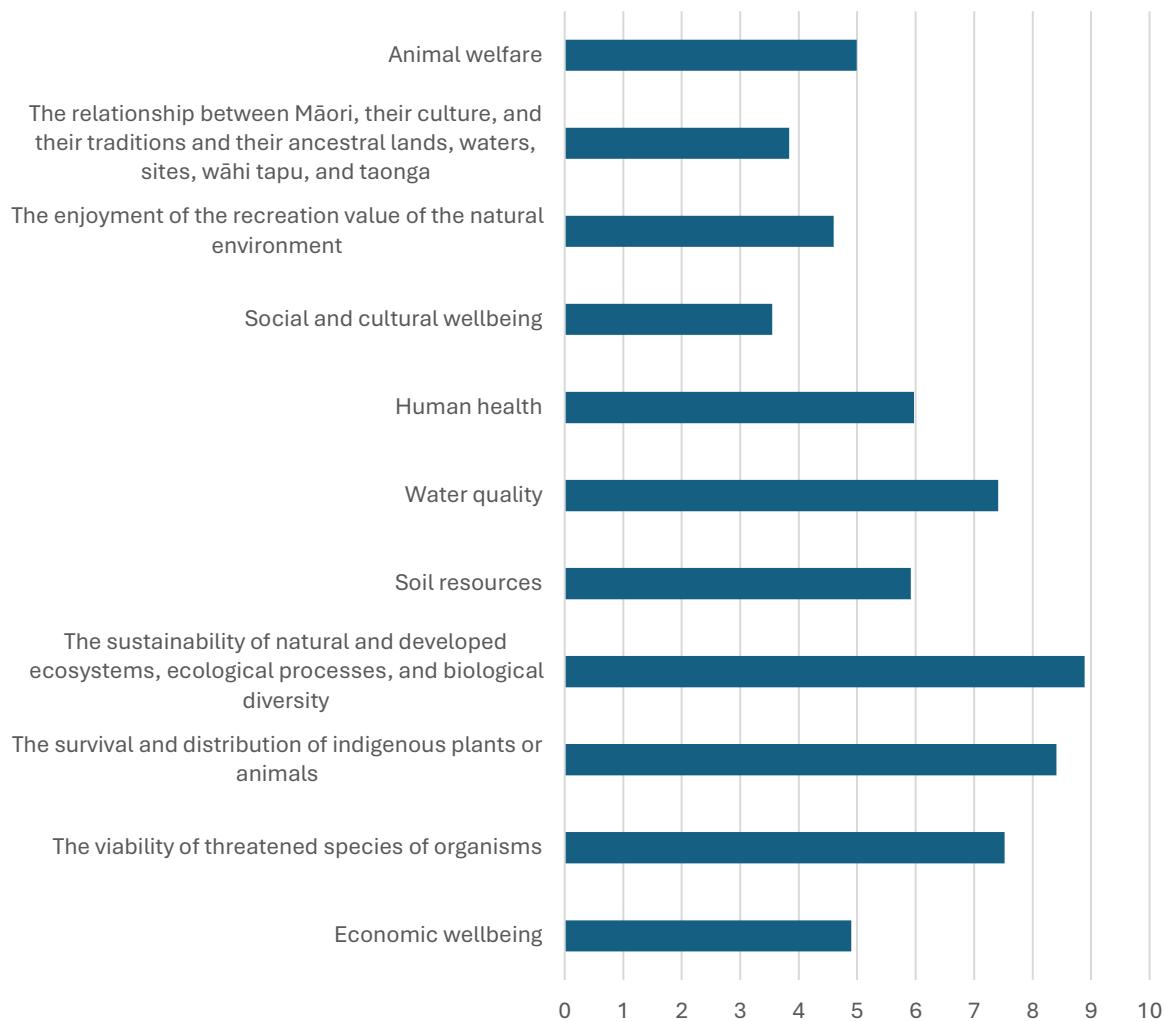


95.65% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average rank
Enforcement on occupiers	3.49
Support and guidance for occupiers	2.04
Education and awareness campaigns	2.46
Funding or incentives for control	2.01

Please rank the following values from most threatened to least threatened by pest/nuisance plants and animals in our region.

Please rank the following values from most threatened to least threatened by pest/nuisance plants and animals in our region

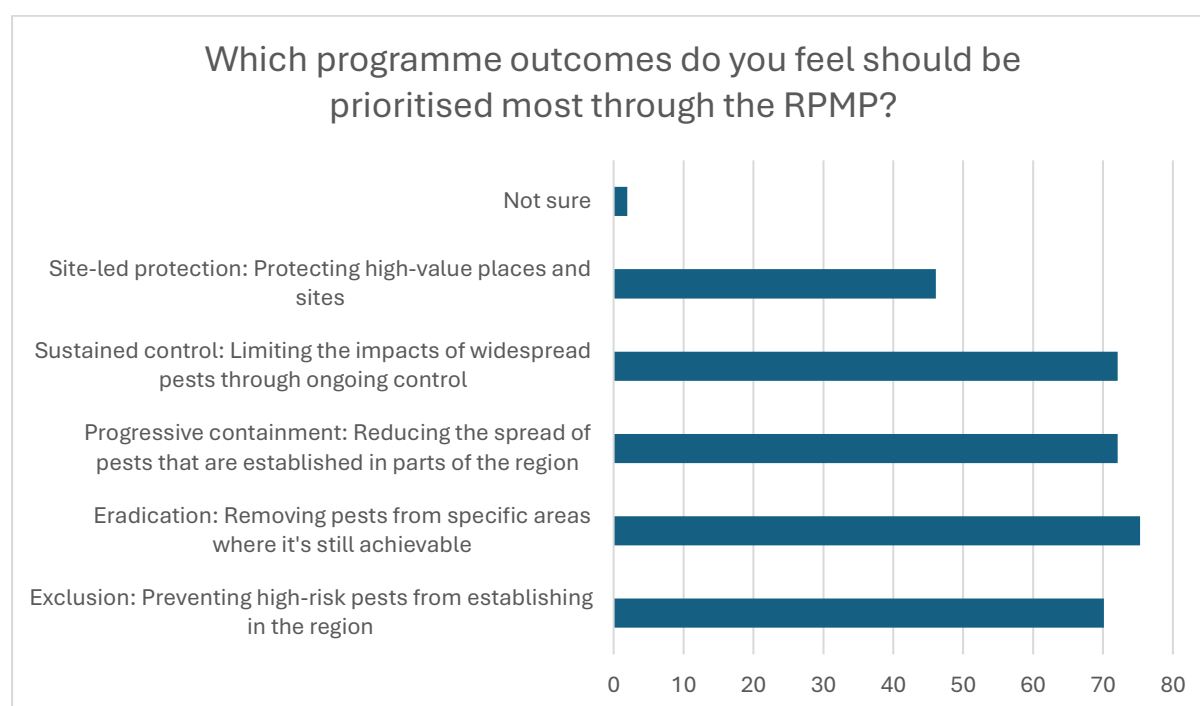


95.03% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average rank
Animal welfare	7.01
The relationship between Māori, their culture, and their traditions and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu, and taonga	8.16
The enjoyment of the recreation value of the natural environment	7.40
Social and cultural wellbeing	8.45
Human health	6.03
Water quality	4.59
Soil resources	6.08
The sustainability of natural and developed ecosystems, ecological processes, and biological diversity	3.11
The survival and distribution of indigenous plants or animals	3.59

submitters viewing these as under significant threat from pests. Many submitters expressed concerns about the long-term consequences of pests, including irreversible damage like species loss, and the increased future cost if control efforts are delayed. Many submitters noted the impacts of pests on reduced farm productivity. A range of species were mentioned within individual submissions, and there was not a strong theme in terms of individual species.

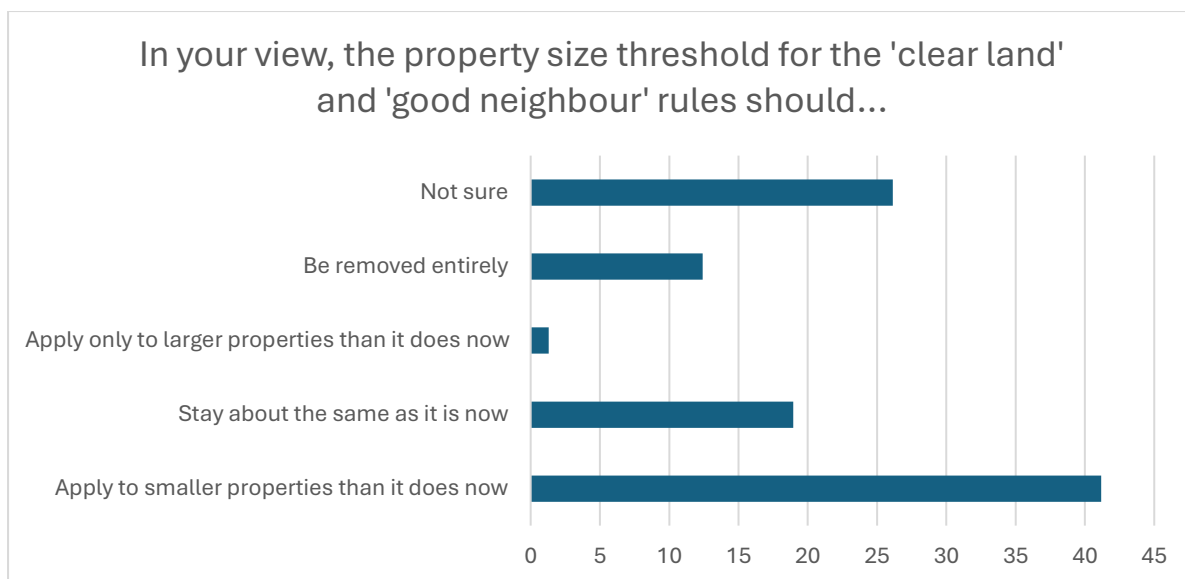
Which programme outcomes do you feel should be prioritised most through the RPMP?



95.65% of submitters answered this question. Please note that submitters were able to choose all answers they felt applied. There was no significant difference between most of the management options, with the exception of site-led protection which was deprioritised.

Answer	Percentage
Exclusion: Preventing high-risk pests from establishing in the region	70.13%
Eradication: Removing pests from specific areas where it's still achievable	75.32%
Progressive containment: Reducing the spread of pests that are established in parts of the region	72.08%
Sustained control: Limiting the impacts of widespread pests through ongoing control	72.08%
Site-led protection: Protecting high-value places and sites	46.10%
Not sure	19.95%

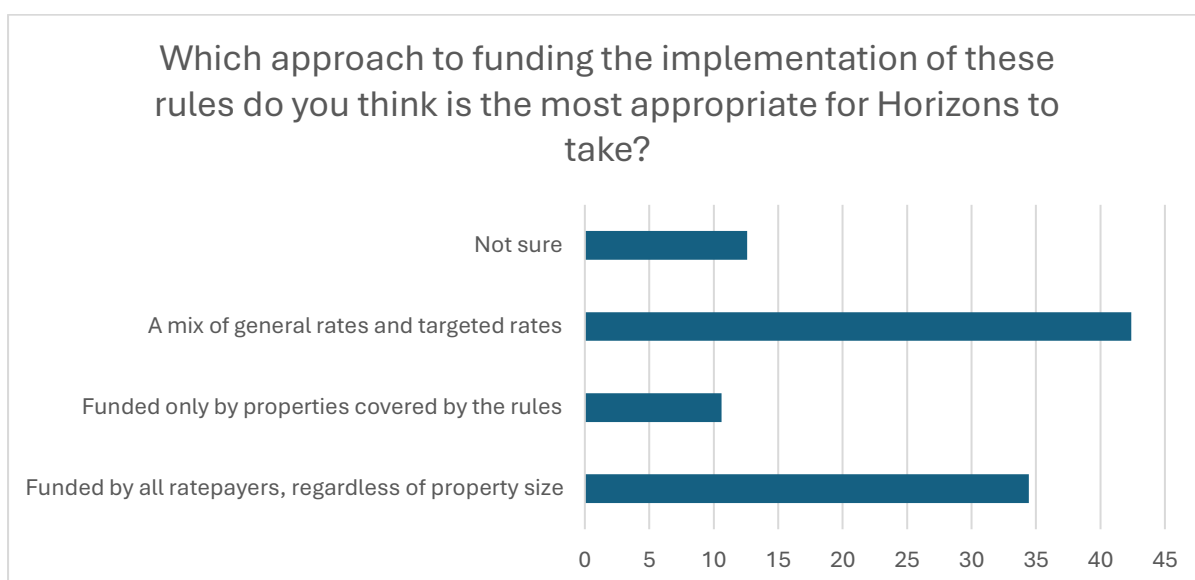
In your view, the property size threshold for the 'clear land' and 'good neighbour' rules should...



95.03% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Apply to smaller properties than it does now	41.18%
Stay about the same as it is now	18.95%
Apply only to larger properties than it does now	1.31%
Be removed entirely	12.42%
Not sure	26.14%

Which approach to funding the implementation of these rules do you think is the most appropriate for Horizons to take?



93.79% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Funded by all ratepayers, regardless of property size	34.44%

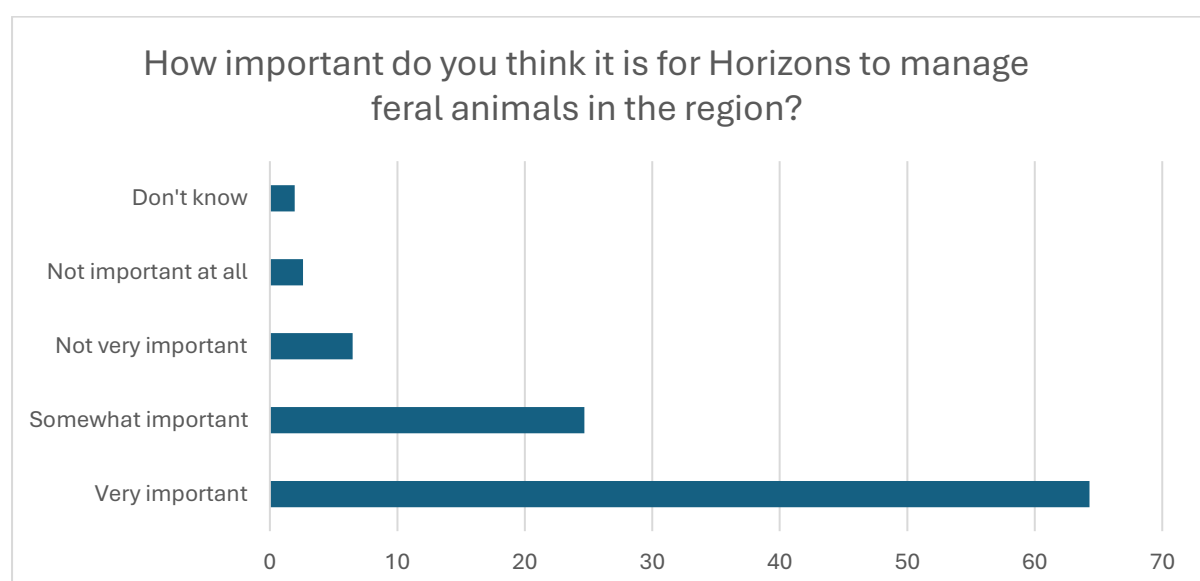
Funded only by properties covered by the rules	10.60%
A mix of general rates and targeted rates	42.38%
Not sure	12.58%

Tell us more about your answers on property size and how these rules should be funded.



45.34% of submitters answered this question. Common themes were that smaller properties can harbour pests and therefore should be subject to the rules, that pest management is a shared responsibility that also provides both public and private benefits, and the need for further advice/education and practical support around pest control to support the rules. Some submitters expressed concerns over private property rights with a desire to manage their land at their discretion, with others arguing that all occupiers should bear the responsibility and cost for managing the pests on their land. Affordability and value for money were other key themes, with concerns over the use and cost of rates.

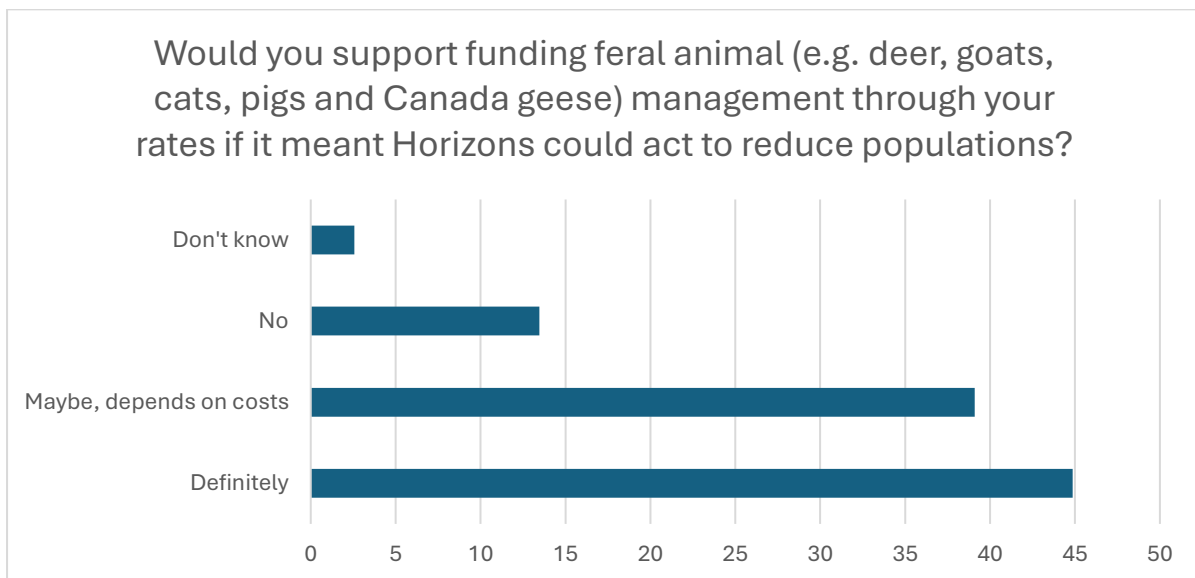
How important do you think it is for Horizons to manage feral animals in the region?



95.65% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Very important	64.29%
Somewhat important	24.68%
Not very important	6.49%
Not important at all	2.60%
Don't know	1.95%

Would you support funding feral animal (e.g. deer, goats, cats, pigs and Canada geese) management through your rates if it meant Horizons could act to reduce populations?



96.89% of submitters answered this question.

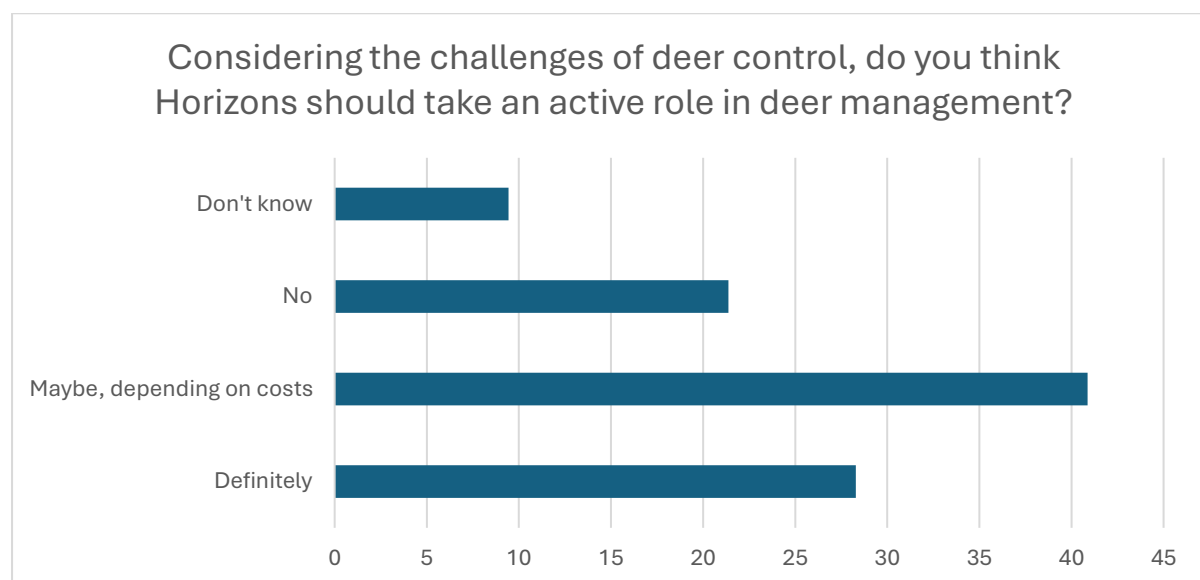
Answer	Percentage
Definitely	44.87%
Maybe, depends on costs	39.10%
No	13.46%
Don't know	2.56%

Please explain your answer to the last question.



54.04% of submitters answered this question. Most submitters recognised feral animals as an issue, particularly feral cars, deer, pigs, and goats and their impact on environmental values, and expressed support for ratepayer funding to support coordinated management. A common theme was cost concerns, and general support for rates funding provided the costs were reasonable and would provide good value for money. Some submitters supported funding for some species but not others. Some submitters felt that recreational hunting would solve much of the feral animal problem, with some citing access issues. Some submitters expressed concerns about private property rights and a desire to retain responsibility for the management of their own land, as well as concerns about providing access to others.

Considering the challenges of deer control, do you think Horizons should take an active role in deer management?



98.76% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Definitely	28.30%
Maybe, depending on costs	40.88%
No	21.38%
Don't know	9.43%

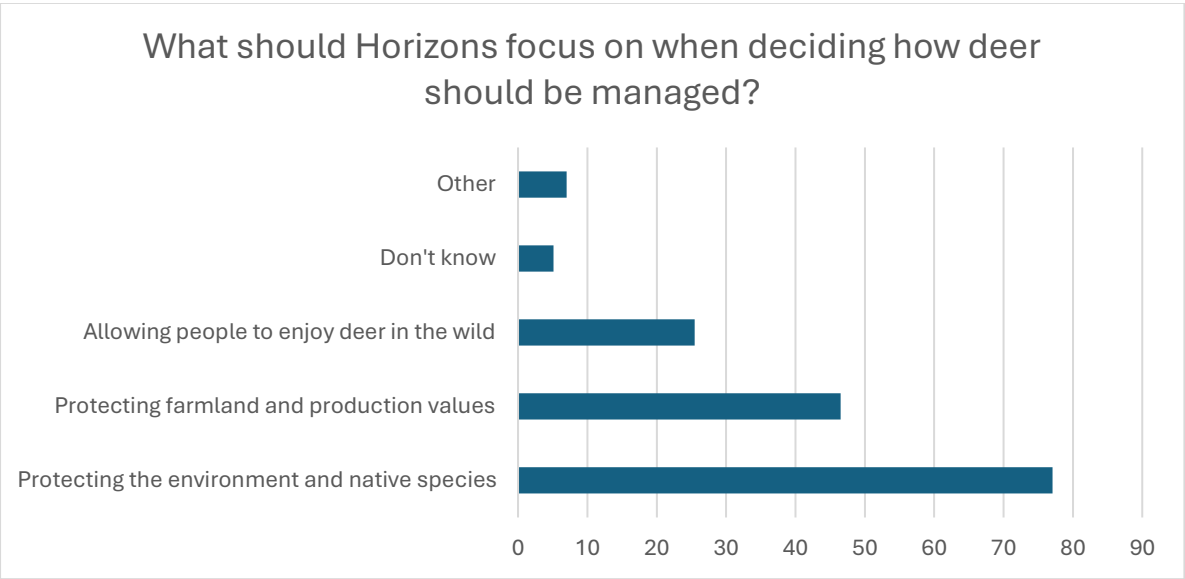
This may indicate that submitters were more likely to support rates funding for feral animals other than deer.

Please explain your answer to the last question.



50.31% of submitters answered this question. A strong theme was the need to control deer to support environmental values. Many submitters supported Horizons taking a role in deer management, provided it was cost-efficient and delivered measurable outcomes. Most submitters felt that recreational hunting would be a solution to the deer problem, with some citing access issues. Many submitters expressed a need for cooperation across agencies such as Horizons, the Department for Conservation, and Territorial Authorities. Some submitters noted forestry blocks as harbouring deer. A number of submitters highlighted deer as a resource for food security or recreation.

What should Horizons focus on when deciding how deer should be managed?



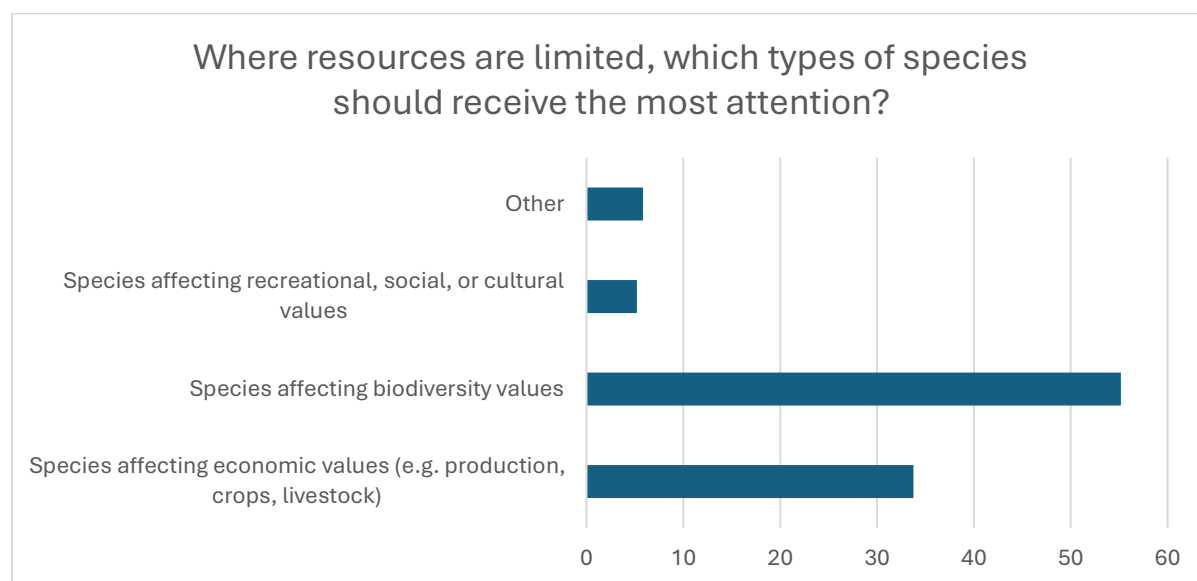
97.52% of submitters answered this question. Please note that submitters were able to choose all answers they felt applied.

Answer	Percentage
Protecting the environment and native species	77.07%
Protecting farmland and production values	46.50%
Allowing people to enjoy deer in the wild	25.48%
Don't know	5.10%

Other	7.01%
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Submitters who responded “other” expressed a range of views. There were calls for Horizons to work alongside other agencies and groups already involved in deer management. Some submitters emphasised the recreational and food resource of deer. There was a call for the use of professional hunters. Additional priorities of disease transmission management, and a balance between values were also put forward.

Where resources are limited, which types of species should receive the most attention?

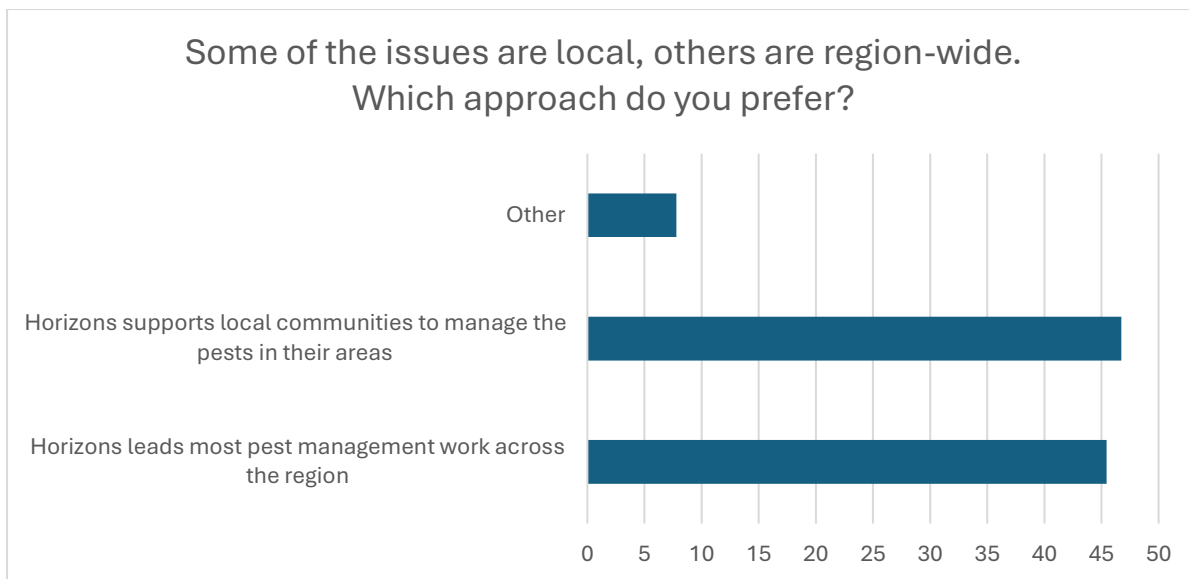


95.65% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Species affecting economic values (e.g. production, crops, livestock)	33.77%
Species affecting biodiversity values	55.19%
Species affecting recreational, social, or cultural values	5.19%
Other	5.84%

Submitters who responded “other” mentioned prioritising biodiversity and native species, and a focus on specific high-impact predators such as feral cats, possums, mustelids, rodents, and hedgehogs. Some submitters expressed concerns around public health or the method of control such as use of poisoning. Some submitters responded “all of the above” or wanted to select both biodiversity and economic impacts.

Some of the issues are local, others are region-wide. Which approach do you prefer?

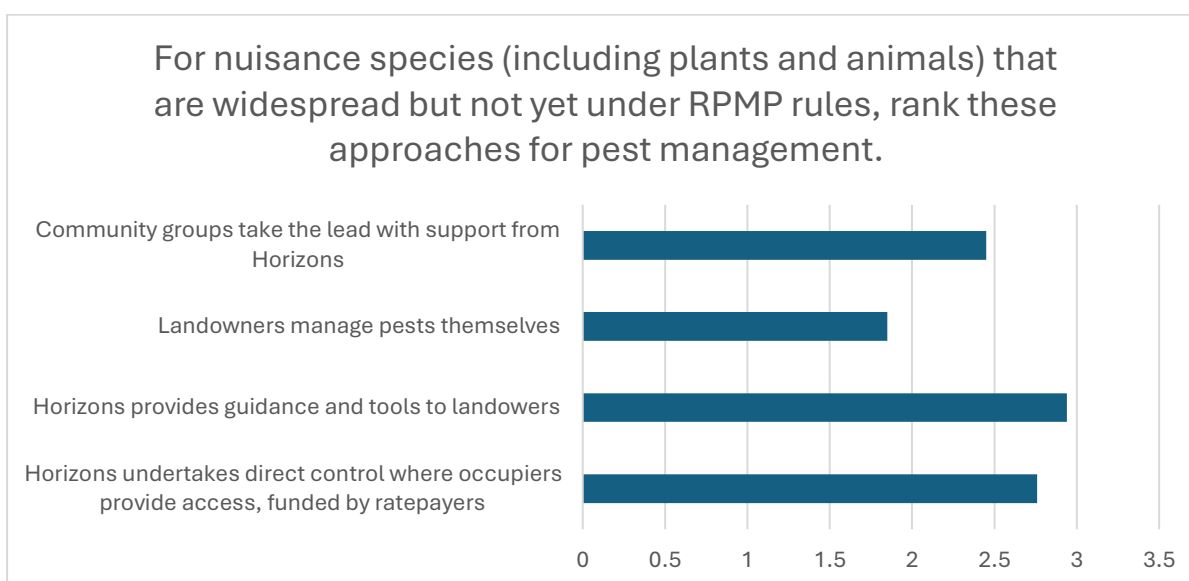


95.65% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Horizons leads most pest management work across the region	45.45%
Horizons supports local communities to manage the pests in their areas	46.75%
Other	7.79%

Submitters who responded “other” primarily expressed the desire for a partnership model or a combination of regional leadership and local action. Some submitters noted that the approach should vary based on whether landscape-scale control is required. Some submitters expressed a need for funding, data sharing, and additional support for occupiers.

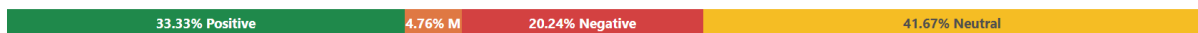
For nuisance species (including plants and animals) that are widespread but not yet under RPMP rules, rank these approaches for pest management.



96.89% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average rank
Horizons undertakes direct control where occupiers provide access, funded by ratepayers	2.24
Horizons provides guidance and tools to landowners	2.06
Landowners manage pests themselves	3.15
Community groups take the lead with support from Horizons	2.55

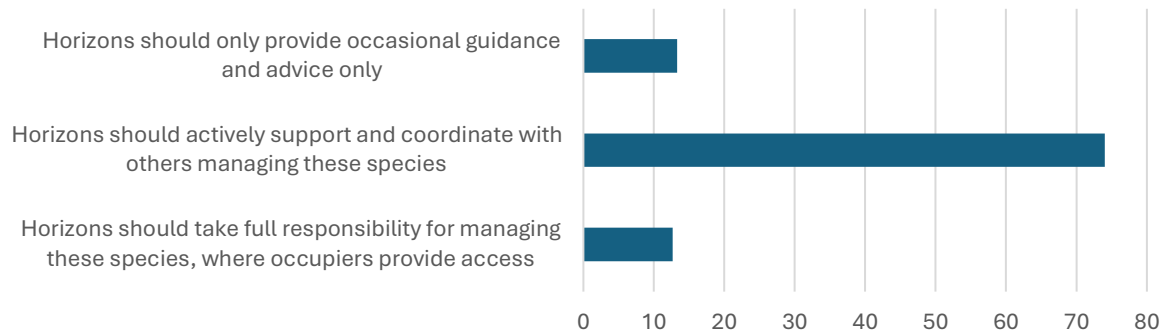
Do you have suggestions for how Horizons could work with iwi, hapū, community groups, or industry to manage species not included in the RPMP?



52.17% of submitters answered this question. There was strong support for working alongside iwi, hapū, community groups, and industry to support coordination of pest management. Many submitters sought increased advice/education, financial support, equipment, or staff assistance to support community control. Some submitters noted that local groups often have valuable knowledge and existing networks that Horizons could leverage. Some submitters called for better communication between agencies. Several submitters highlighted the importance of meaningful engagement with iwi and hapū, and incorporating mātauranga Māori into pest management decisions.

Please indicate how involved Horizons should be in managing species (including plants and animals) that are not listed in the RPMP, noting that any involvement would be rates funded.

Please indicate how involved Horizons should be in managing species (including plants and animals) that are not listed in the RPMP, noting that any involvement would be rates funded.



93.17% of submitters answered this question.

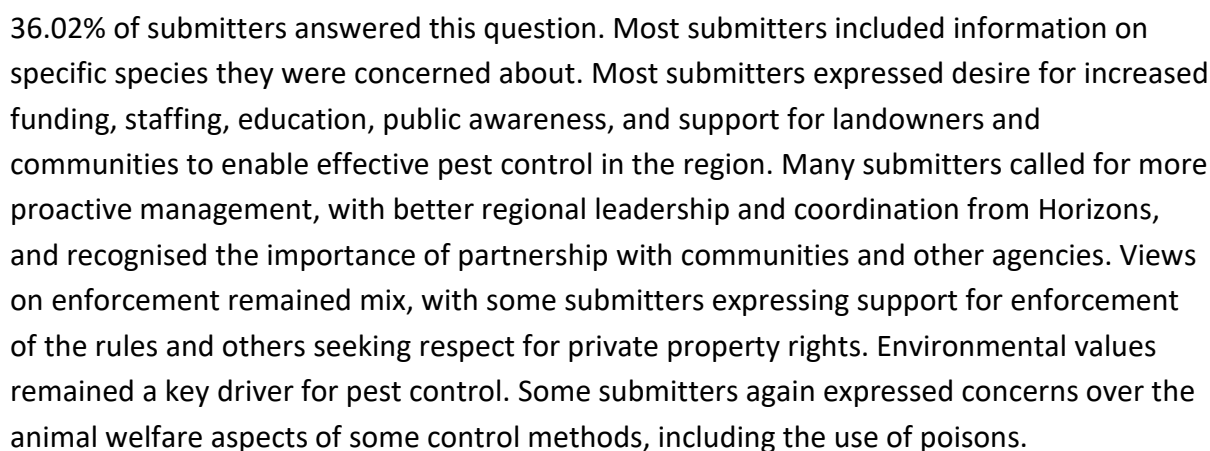
Answer	Percentage
Horizons should take full responsibility for managing these species, where occupiers provide access	12.67%
Horizons should actively support and coordinate with others managing these species	74.00%
Horizons should only provide occasional guidance and advice only	13.33%

Do you have a pest management experience, positive or negative, that you would like to share with us?



49.69% of submitters answered this question. Some submitters shared positive experiences of successful pest management and collaboration. Where Horizons staff were mentioned, experiences were largely positive with appreciation for the knowledge and help of officers despite perceived resourcing limitations. A larger proportion highlighted frustrations with ineffective pest management, increasing numbers of pests, or challenges in achieving

Please tell us anything else you would like to know about pest management, biosecurity, or the issues covered in the discussion document.



Key themes arising from general submissions

These themes are taken from all submissions received in the consultation period, not only those from the survey form. All submissions were read in full, and the following themes represent common submission points. There are both general and species-specific themes.

The themes presented below reflect the issues that emerged most strongly through review of all submissions. Their relative prominence is based on qualitative assessment rather than quantitative analysis. Word clouds included earlier in this report provide an indication of the frequency of topics raised during consultation.

General themes

Values

Submitters strongly prioritised the protection of environmental values from the impacts of pests, particularly those relating to indigenous biodiversity. Many submitters expressed that the ranking of values was difficult to do and that values should not be protected in isolation from one another.

Shared responsibility/partnership/coordination

There was strong support through submissions for multi-agency collaboration and partnerships between Horizons and territorial authorities, the Department of Conservation, iwi/hapū, community groups, and landowners/occupiers. Submitters recognised that no agency could manage pests effectively alone and noted issues with lack of coordination and misaligned funding priorities across agencies. Most submitters felt that lack of action by some undermines collective effort. The model most supported was that Horizons should provide leadership, coordination, and regulation, while occupiers were to undertake on the ground control. There was support for accountability through rules and enforcement, if accompanied by support mechanisms such as advice/education, funding, and practical tools/resources.

Funding/rates

Submissions strongly called for Horizons to do more in the pest management space. This included providing funding/resources, advice, education, and adding species into the RPMP. It was generally accepted that this requires rates funding. However, a number of submitters expressed concerns about the cost of rates and their use. Submitters were concerned about the fairness of cost distribution, with some targeted rated properties concerned they were “paying twice”. There were also concerns by submitters that rates revenue was not being spent prudently due to a lack of visible outcomes, with many submitters only supporting additional programmes if they are shown to be cost-efficient. Submitters were concerned that ratepayers may be effectively subsidising pest control on public land, particularly where pests were persistent or spreading from that land.

Management programmes

There was relatively consistent support for all of the management programmes, with the exception of site-led control which was deprioritised. Some submitters noted that programmes must be designed based on the species and that a 'one size fits all' approach was not practical. Some submitters emphasised the need for clear objectives for each programme and better reporting/data sharing by Horizons on how programmes are tracking towards meeting these. Some submitters expressed concerns that some existing programmes are underfunded or not achieving the sought objectives.

Crown land

There was a strong theme from submissions that Crown land is a major source of pest spread. Submitters felt that pest control on public land is insufficient and/or inconsistent. Some submitters expressed an expectation that Crown land should meet at least the same standard as private land for pest control, if not higher. There were concerns about a lack of accountability and some submitters expressed a desire for Horizons to enforce the Department of Conservation to do pest control work, particularly on boundaries. There was strong support for stronger rules, enforcement, and coordination for pest management on Crown land.

Boundary issues

There was consensus that pests crossing property boundaries is a significant issue with broad support for good neighbour rules in principle. However, there were concerns about lack of enforcement and inconsistent application of the rules (particularly in relation to Crown/public land). Submitters were divided between a desire for stronger enforcement, and a desire for more education and support from Horizons for occupiers. Some submitters expressed concerns about private property rights and a lack of flexibility in how they could manage their land.

Animal welfare/humane control/toxins

There was general support for pest control, however, there were concerns about how it is carried out. Some submitters expressed concerns for animal welfare and the need for humane methods. There were concerns about trapping methods, and impacts of toxins on non-target species. Some submitters raised issues about the ongoing use of toxins, citing environmental issues and constraints on other activities such as hunting/harvesting of deer. There was a clear expectation that control methods should be effective, humane, and minimise unintended impacts.

Species-specific themes

Feral cats

Submitters strongly supported the control of feral cats, primarily due to their impacts on biodiversity. Some submitters expressed a desire for territorial authority bylaws to be enforced and supported responsible ownership measures such as microchipping and desexing. Some submitters stressed the importance of distinguishing between feral, stray, and owned cats. A few submitters expressed animal welfare concerns about the methods available to control feral cats and concerns about risks to owned cats.

Feral deer

Feral deer were widely recognised as a threat to environmental values and, to a lesser extent, economic wellbeing through their impacts on production. Some submitters also recognised that deer are a valued resource as a food source and for recreation. There were strong calls for the control of feral deer and Horizons' involvement in this. However, there was a strong divide between council intervention and hunter-led control, with some submitters commenting that recreational or commercial hunting could solve the issues, and some suggesting "bounty" schemes. Many submitters stressed the importance of improved coordination between hunters, landowners/occupiers (to provide access), and agencies including councils and government departments.

Feral pigs and goats

Feral pigs and goats received a similar amount of attention with similar submission themes. They were both recognised by submitters as causing adverse effects on environmental values and it was noted that both species are increasing in some areas. There was submitter support for targeted control in high-impact areas. The issues of pigs and goats were seen as being difficult to manage at scale, and submitters expressed the need for landowners and the Department of Conservation to take a stronger role. There was some support for Horizons to play a role.

Possums

Submitters were broadly supportive of possum control due to the impacts of possums on environmental values and economic wellbeing. Submitters generally viewed the current possum control programme as effective and shared experiences of positive outcomes. However, other submitters felt the programme was not well funded in their area, with stations not baited often enough. Some submitters expressed concerns about future gaps in control as OSPRI programmes are scaled back. Some submitters noted ongoing boundary issues where they neighboured Crown land.

Mustelids and rodents

Submitters expressed concerns about the impacts of mustelids (ferrets, stoats, and weasels), and rodents (rats and mice) on biodiversity, particularly native birds. Submitters who supported control generally focused on high-value biodiversity sites and delivery by

community/volunteer trapping groups. Submitters sought Horizons' support of programmes through advice, education, and resources, rather than delivery of control.

Canada geese and peacocks

Some submitters raised concerns about the impacts of Canada geese and peacocks, particularly their impacts on economic wellbeing due to impacts on production. Canada geese were also seen as adversely impacting water quality, and peacocks were seen to be damaging to the enjoyment of the recreational value of the natural environment. Some submitters supported each species being included in the RPMP, and requested Horizons provide support through advice.

Phragmites karka

Phragmites karka received strong submitter feedback as an emerging and escalating threat to environmental values. Submitters expressed that current management is insufficient and sought its inclusion in the RPMP, increased funding and education from Horizons, and a coordinated regional response. Some submitters acknowledged that control is difficult and resource-intensive to control.

RPMP plants

The submissions about pest plants can generally be grouped into current RPMP and non-RPMP plants. The plants in the RPMP are seen by submitters as not being effectively controlled with ongoing spread and persistence. This theme was generally species-specific such as old man's beard, banana passionfruit, wilding conifers, and blackberry. Many submitters expressed frustration about boundary issues, particularly when neighbouring Crown or council land. Many submitters also noted pest plants in road and rail corridors as a source of spread and expressed concerns that these areas are not managed to the same standard as private land. Plant programmes in the progressive containment and sustained control programmes were seen as largely ineffective.

Non-RPMP plants

For plants outside the current RPMP, submitters expressed a desire for better early intervention by Horizons and held a strong view that the system is too slow to recognise and act on new infestations. There were concerns about nuisance plant spread from gardens and lifestyle blocks. Submitters noted a low public awareness of nuisance plants and their impacts on values, particularly environmental values. Submitters called for better education and support from councils.

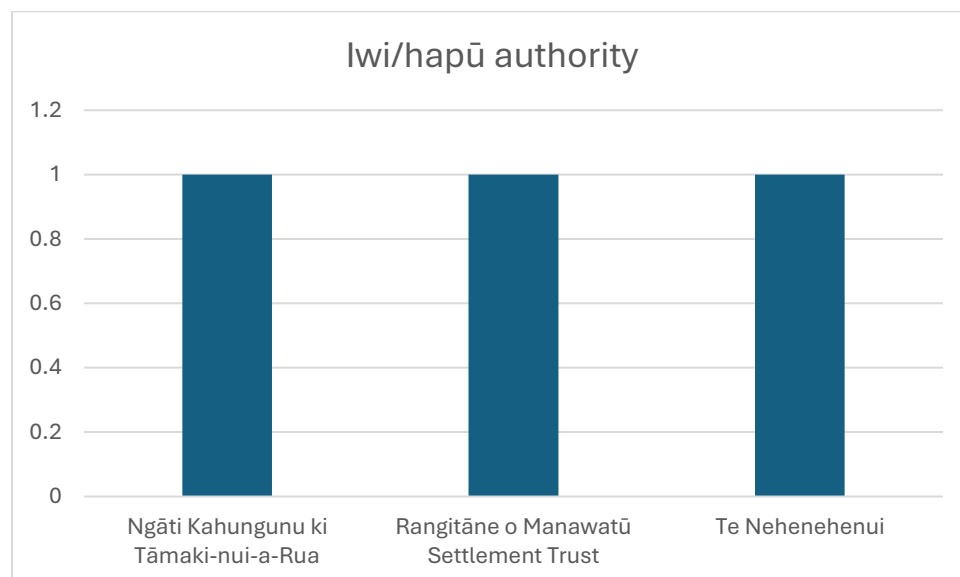
Iwi and hapū submissions

We received three submissions from iwi/hapū, all of which were outside of the consultation period. We note that during the consultation period, there were several emergency management events in the region which may have impacted the ability for iwi/hapū to

make a submission. Additionally, we note that many iwi have resourcing currently tied up in Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe agreement considerations as well as settlement processes. Many iwi have stated that the survey format doesn't align well with their preferred methods for providing feedback, and this is likely to have contributed to the low level of engagement. Some iwi have indicated a desire to be more involved as the review progresses and there are more opportunities for hui/wānanga with council officers on the ground.

Iwi and hapū authorities were provided a custom submissions form and some details varied slightly, for example, submitters were asked for their iwi/hapū authority rather than district. Additionally, some of the ranking options were unintentionally swapped around (e.g. 11 = most threatened instead of least threatened). The graphs below take this into account and represent the most popular answers in the same way as for general submissions.

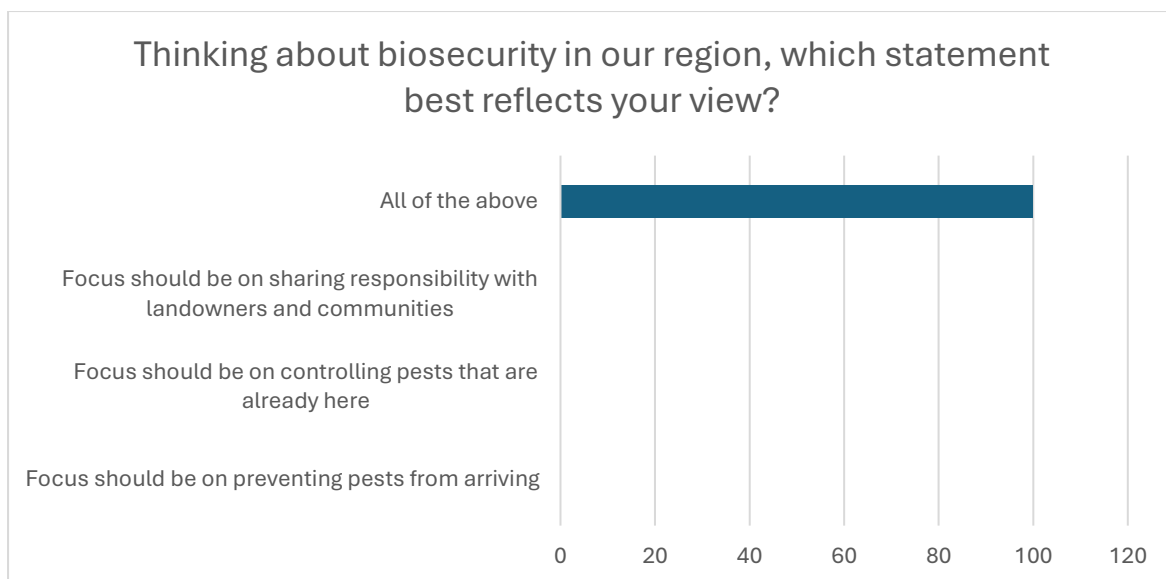
Iwi/hapū authority



100% of submitters answered this question.

Iwi/hapū authority	Responses
Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua	1
Rangitāne o Manawatū Settlement Trust	1
Te Nehenehenui	1

Thinking about biosecurity in our region, which statement best reflects your view?



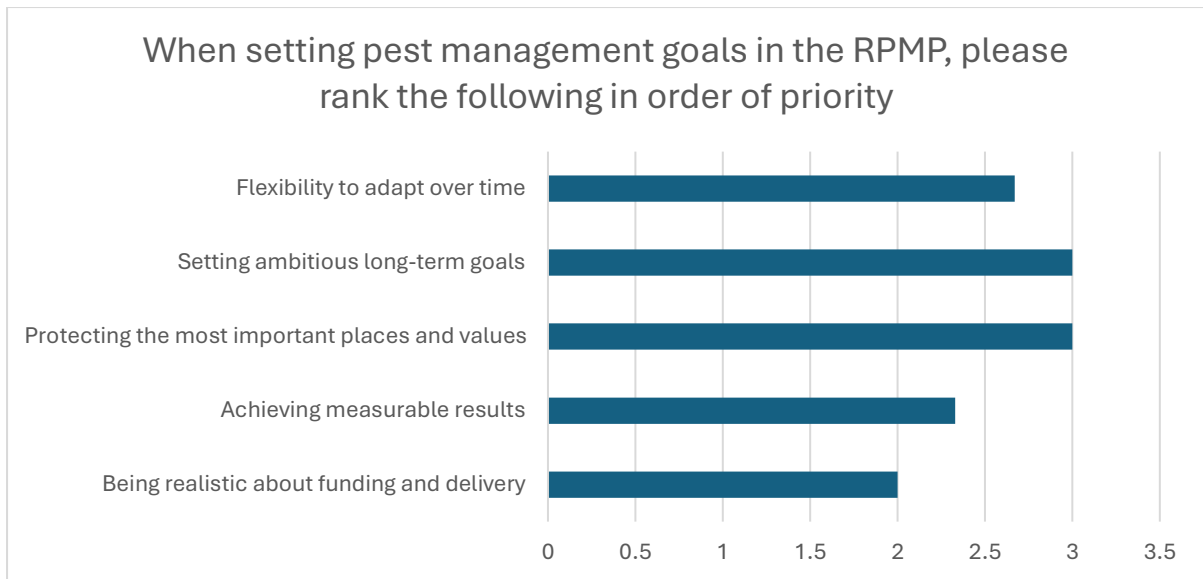
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percent
Focus should be on preventing pests from arriving	0%
Focus should be on controlling pests that are already here	0%
Focus should be on sharing responsibility with landowners and communities	0%
All of the above	100%

Please explain your choice.

66.6% of submitters answered this question. Both submitters emphasised the need for shared responsibility.

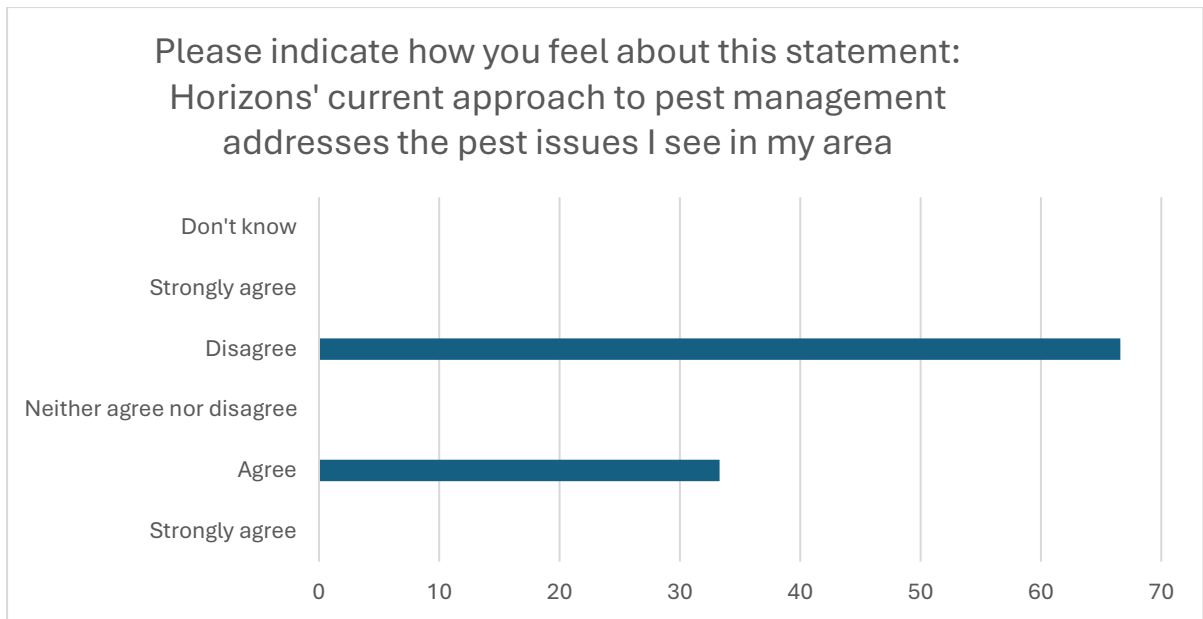
When setting pest management goals in the RPMP, please rank the following in order of priority.



100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Score
Flexibility to adapt over time	2
Setting ambitious long-term goals	2.33
Protecting the most important places and values	3
Achieving measurable results	3
Being realistic about funding and delivery	2.67

Please indicate how you feel about this statement: Horizons' current approach to pest management addresses the pest issues I see in my area.



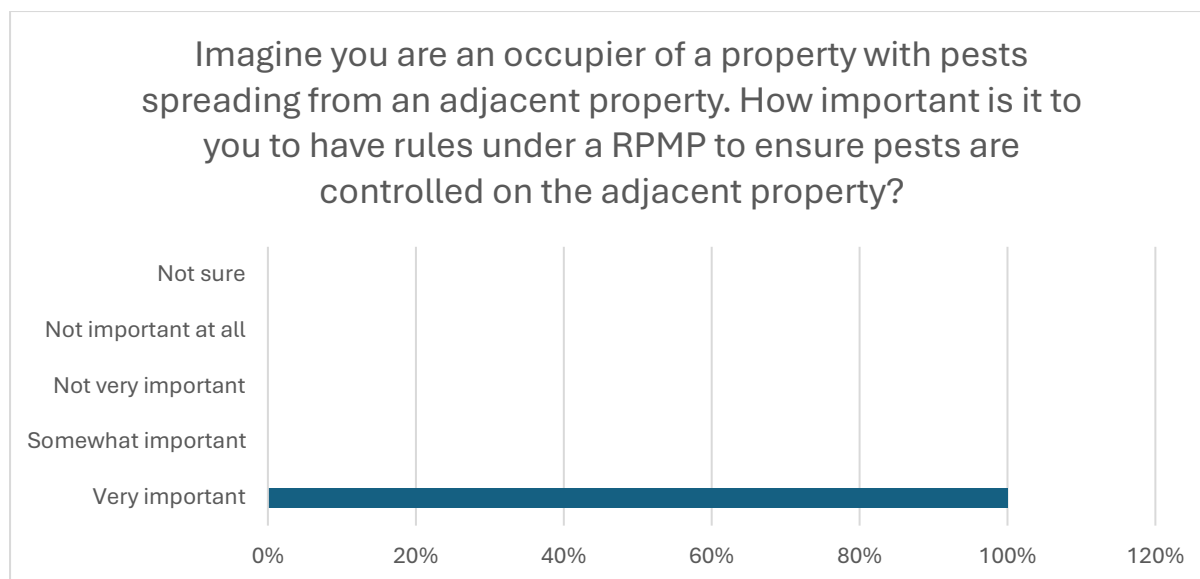
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Strongly agree	0%
Agree	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	0%
Disagree	66.6%
Strongly disagree	0%
Don't know	0%

Please explain your choice.

66.6% of submitters answered this question, both of whom responded "disagree". Both submitters considered more could be done by Horizons.

Imagine you are an occupier of a property with pests spreading from an adjacent property. How important is it to you to have rules under a RPMP to ensure pests are controlled on the adjacent property?



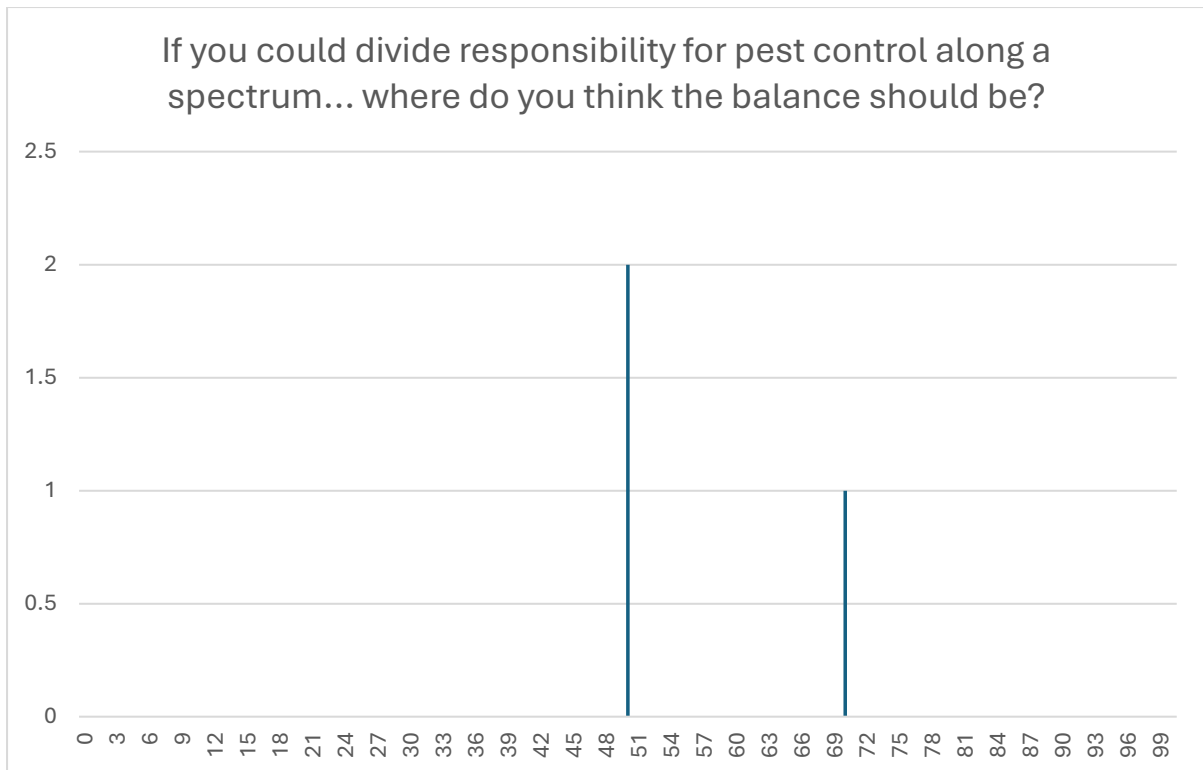
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Very important	100%
Somewhat important	0%
Not very important	0%
Not important at all	0%
Not sure	0%

Please explain your choice.

66.6% of submitters answered this question. Both submitters described individual landowner responsibility to prevent boundary issues.

If you could divide responsibility for pest control along a spectrum from 0% (occupiers do all control, Horizons provides advice/enforcement only) to 100% (Horizons does all the control, occupiers grant access to their land and assist with reporting), where do you think the balance should be?

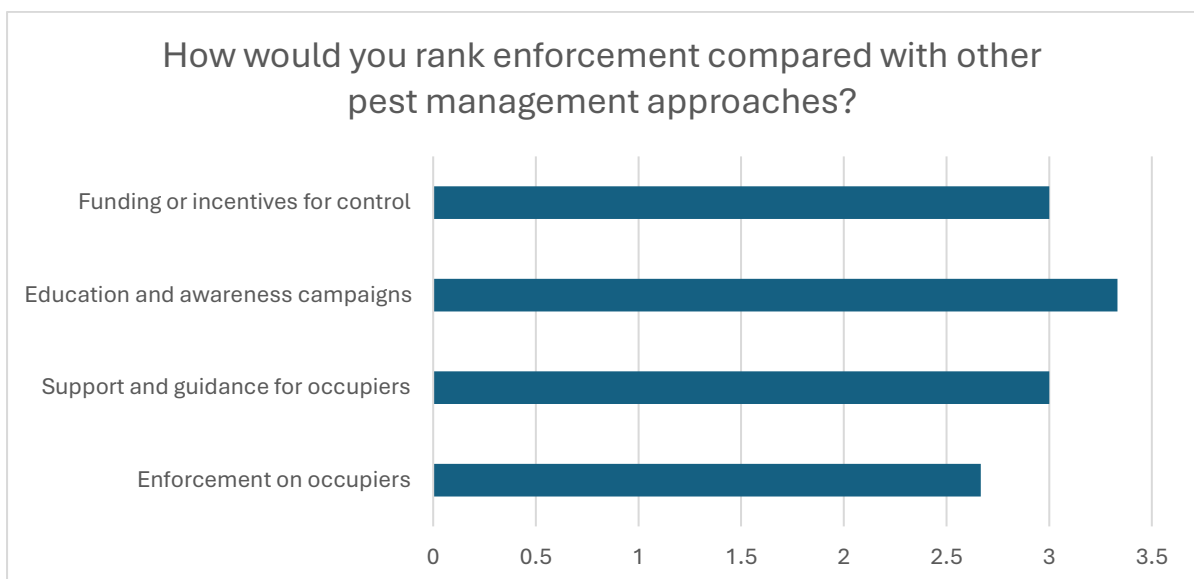


100% of submitters answered this question. The average of responses was 56.67%.

Why do you think the balance should be at this point on the spectrum?

100% of submitters answered this question. Two of the submitters emphasised the value of shared responsibility. Two of the submitters emphasised the importance of Horizons sharing knowledge and resources.

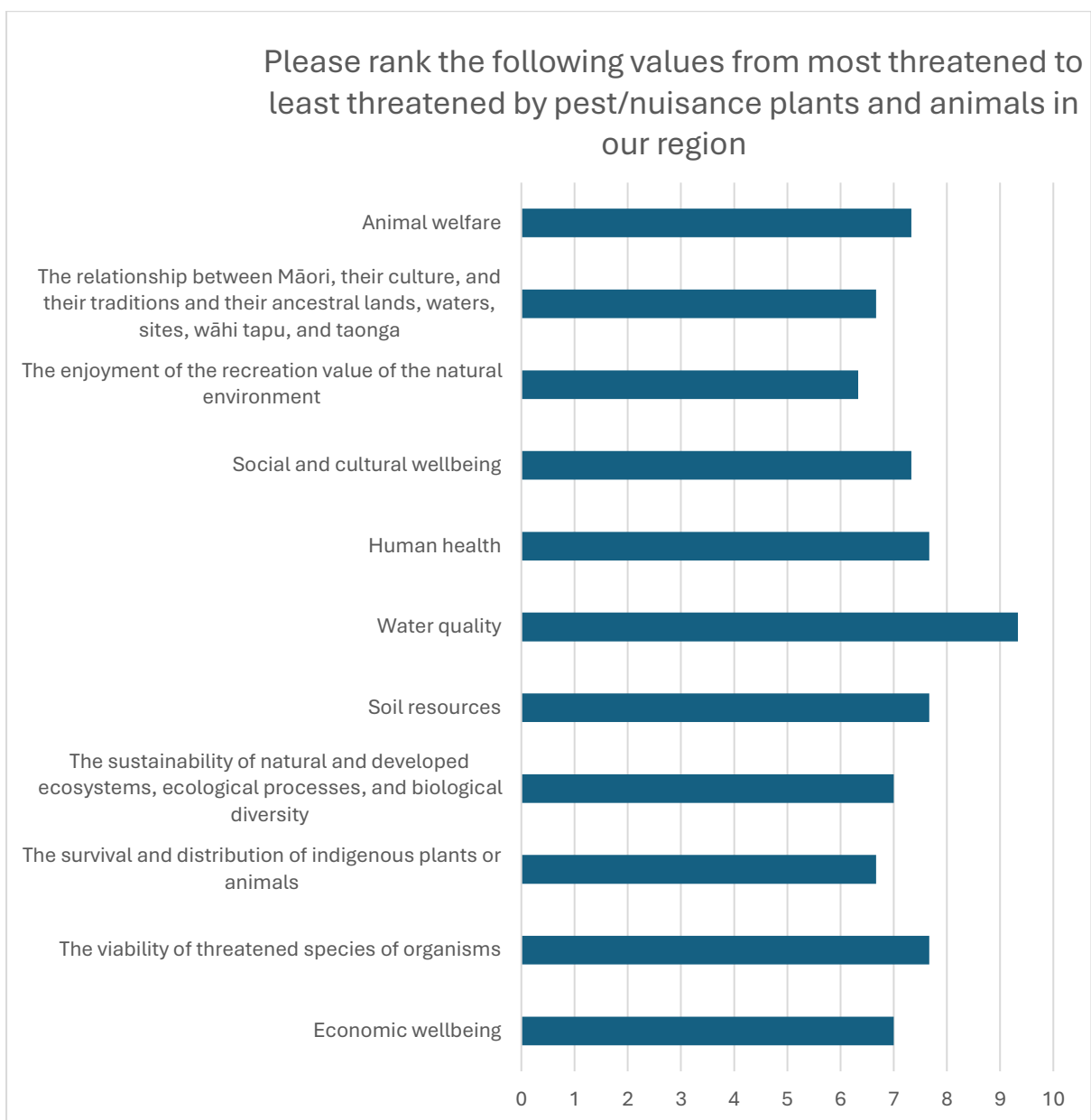
How would you rank enforcement compared with other pest management approaches?



100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average score
Enforcement on occupiers	2.67
Support and guidance for occupiers	3
Education and awareness campaigns	3.33
Funding or incentives for control	3

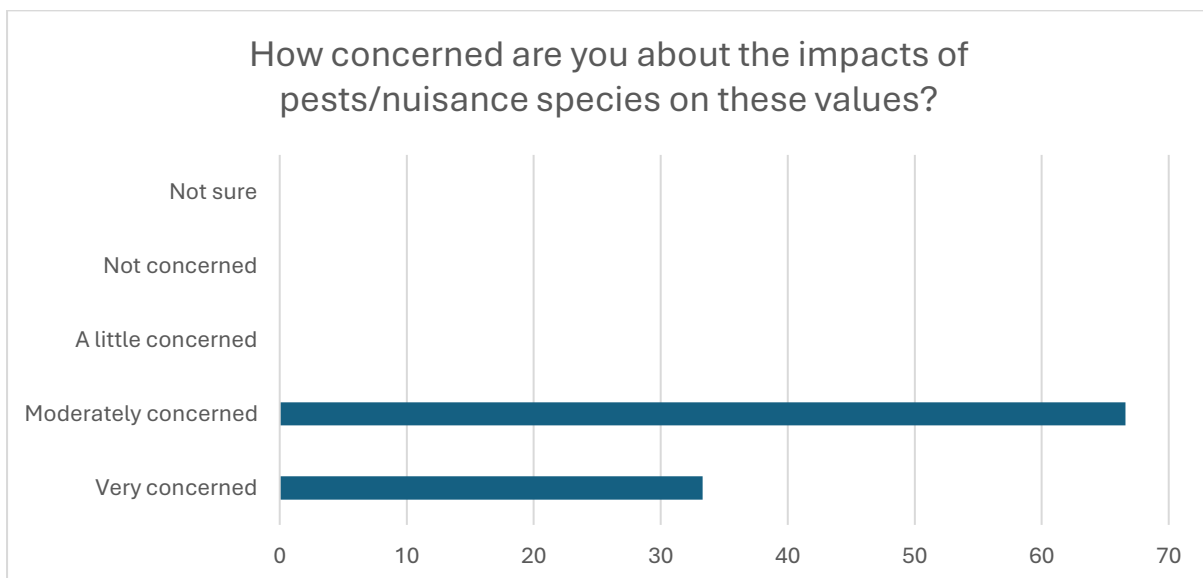
Please rank the following values from most threatened to least threatened by pest/nuisance plants and animals in our region.



100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average score
Animal welfare	7
The relationship between Māori, their culture, and their traditions and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu, and taonga	7.67
The enjoyment of the recreation value of the natural environment	6.67
Social and cultural wellbeing	7
Human health	7.67
Water quality	9.33
Soil resources	7.67
The sustainability of natural and developed ecosystems, ecological processes, and biological diversity	7.33
The survival and distribution of indigenous plants or animals	6.33
The viability of threatened species of organisms	6.67
Economic wellbeing	7.33

How concerned are you about the impacts of pests/nuisance species on these values?



100% of submitters answered this question.

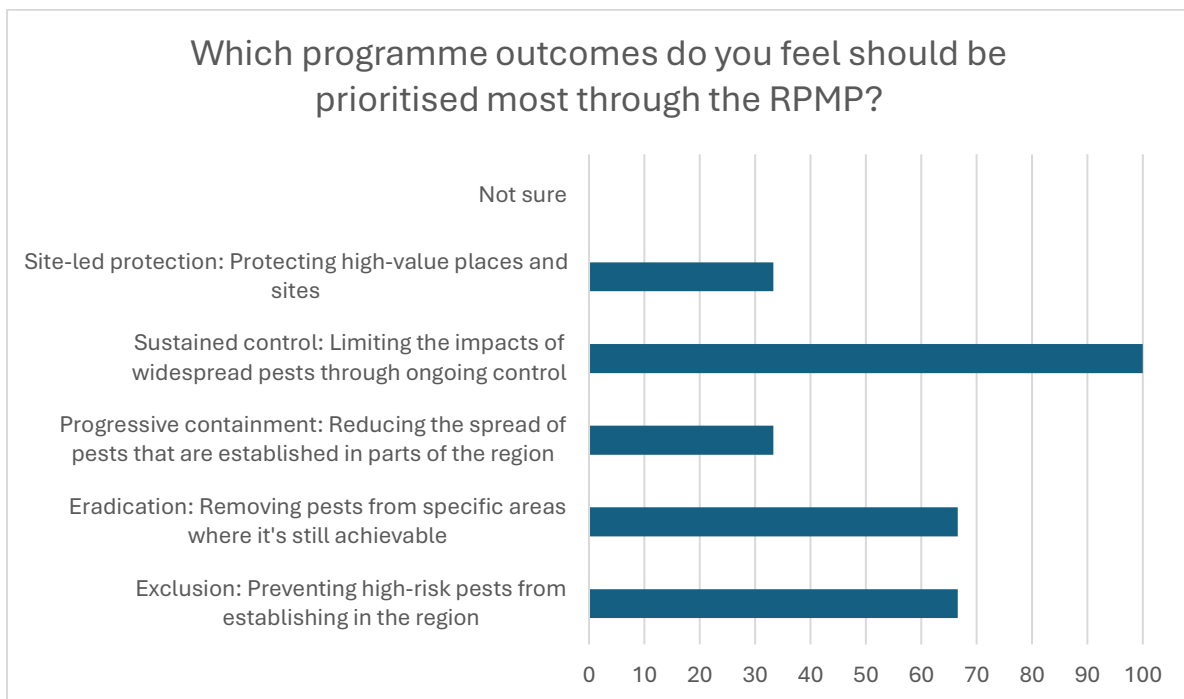
Answer	Percentage
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Very concerned	33.3%
Moderately concerned	66.6%
A little concerned	0%
Not concerned	0%
Not sure	0%

Please tell us why you chose this option.

33.3% of submitters answered this question. The submitter discussed the devastating impacts that pest plants and animals can have.

Which programme outcomes do you feel should be prioritised most through the RPMP?

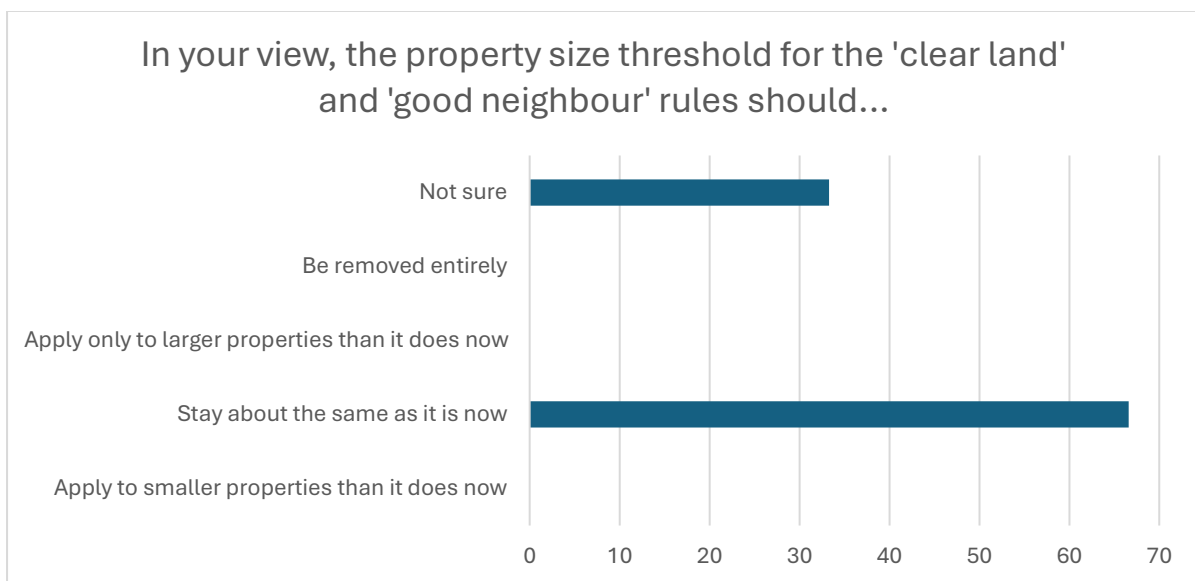


100% of submitters answered this question. Please note that submitters were able to choose all answers they felt applied.

Answer	Percentage
Exclusion: Preventing high-risk pests from establishing in the region	66.6%
Eradication: Removing pests from specific areas where it's still achievable	66.6%
Progressive containment: Reducing the spread of pests that are established in parts of the region	33.3%

Sustained control: Limiting the impacts of widespread pests through ongoing control	100%
Site-led protection: Protecting high-value places and sites	33.3%
Not sure	0%

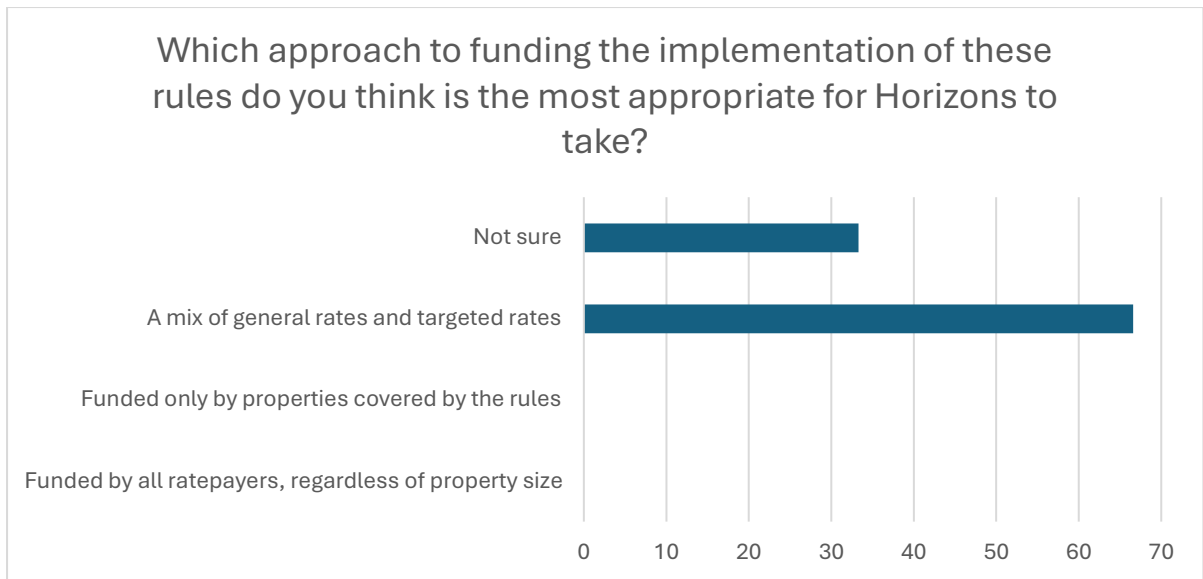
In your view, the property size threshold for the 'clear land' and 'good neighbour' rules should...



100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Apply to smaller properties than it does now	0%
Stay about the same as it is now	66.6%
Apply only to larger properties than it does now	0%
Be removed entirely	0%
Not sure	33.3%

Which approach to funding the implementation of these rules do you think is the most appropriate for Horizons to take?



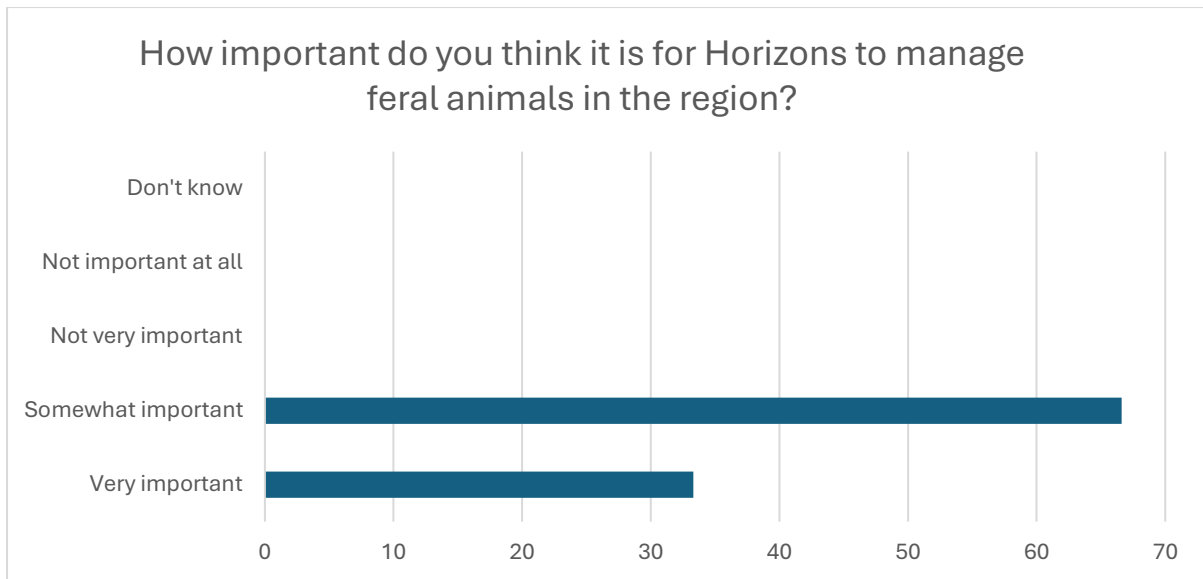
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Funded by all ratepayers, regardless of property size	0%
Funded only by properties covered by the rules	0%
A mix of general rates and targeted rates	66.6%
Not sure	33.3%

Tell us more about your answers on property size and how these rules should be funded.

33.3% of submitters answered this question. The submitter expressed that they were unsure of how to answer the question.

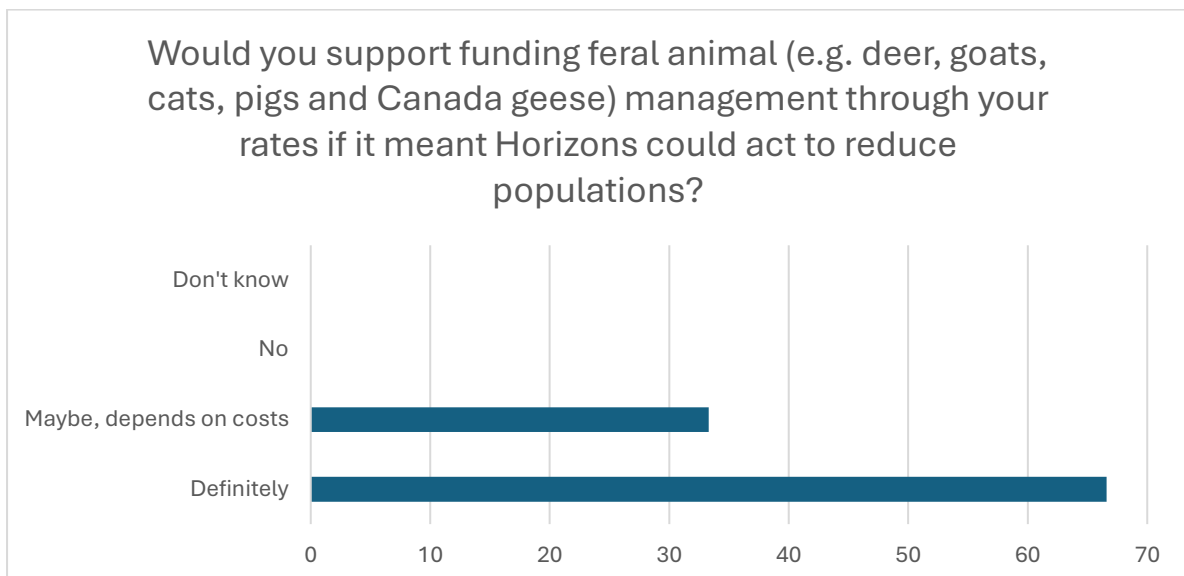
How important do you think it is for Horizons to manage feral animals in the region?



100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Very important	33.3%
Somewhat important	66.6%
Not very important	0%
Not important at all	0%
Don't know	0%

Would you support funding feral animal (e.g. deer, goats, cats, pigs and Canada geese) management through your rates if it meant Horizons could act to reduce populations?



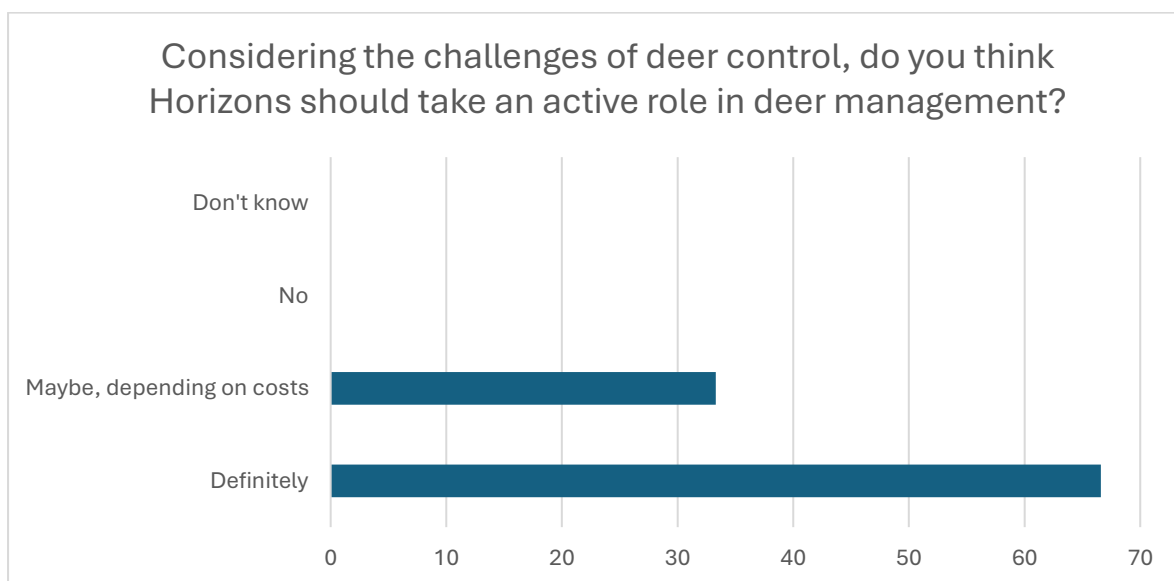
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Definitely	66.6%
Maybe, depends on costs	33.3%
No	0%
Don't know	0%

Please explain your answer to the last question.

33.3% of submitters answered this question. The submitter expressed concerns about the cost of living and additional rates burdens. The submitter expressed willing to contribute time and skills to pest control efforts rather than a financial contribution.

Considering the challenges of deer control, do you think Horizons should take an active role in deer management?



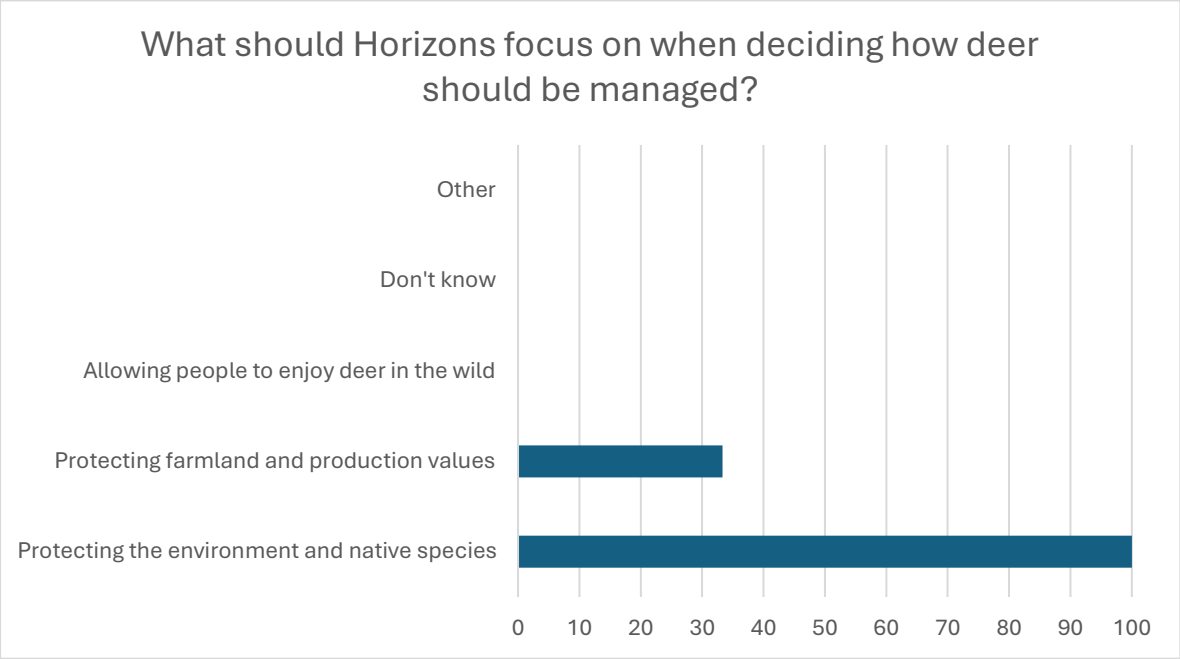
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Definitely	66.6%
Maybe, depending on costs	33.3%
No	0%
Don't know	0%

Please explain your answer to the last question.

66.6% of submitters answered this question. One submitter suggested Horizons work alongside DOC to control deer, particularly in the Ruahine Ranges. One submitter expressed the belief that Horizons are capable of assisting with deer control.

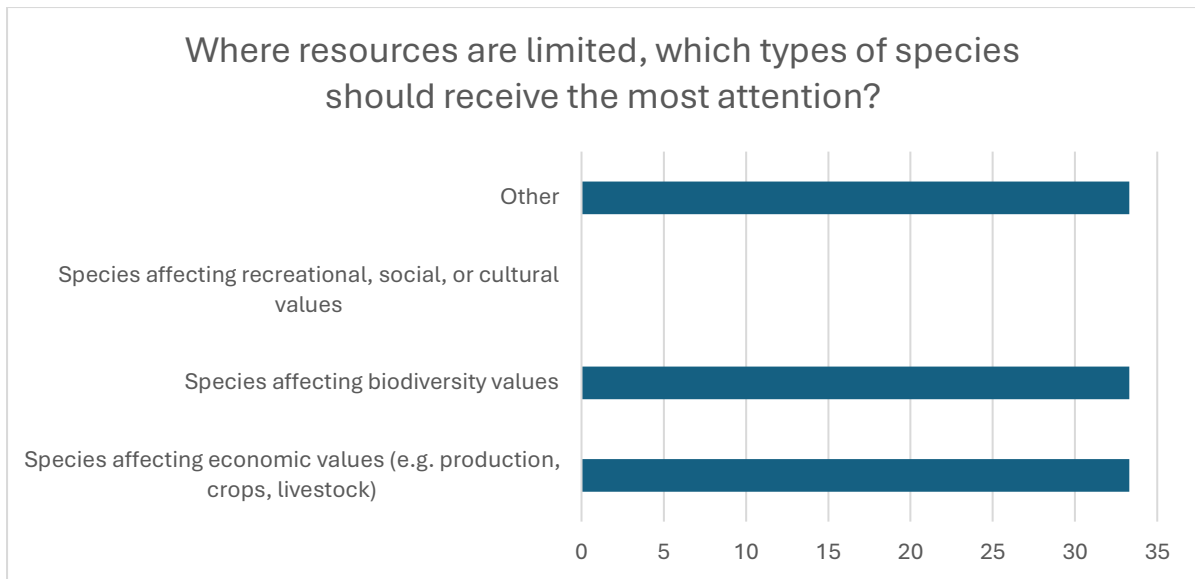
What should Horizons focus on when deciding how deer should be managed?



100% of submitters answered this question. Please note that submitters were able to choose all answers they felt applied.

Answer	Percentage
Protecting the environment and native species	100%
Protecting farmland and production values	33.3%
Allowing people to enjoy deer in the wild	0%
Don't know	0%
Other	0%

Where resources are limited, which types of species should receive the most attention?

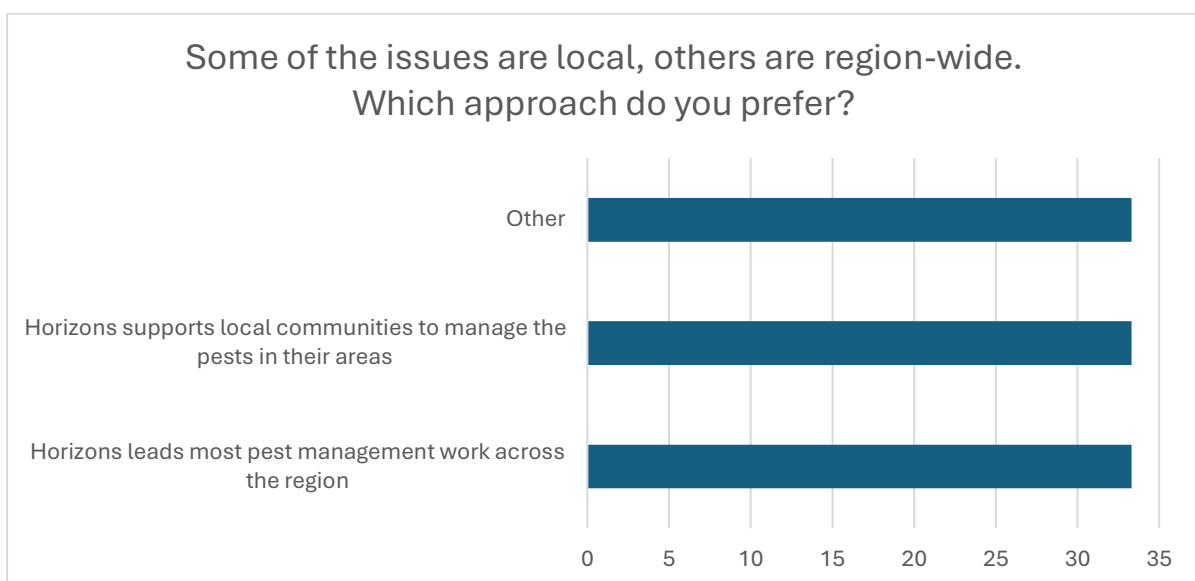


100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Species affecting economic values (e.g. production, crops, livestock)	33.3%
Species affecting biodiversity values	33.3%
Species affecting recreational, social, or cultural values	0%
Other	33.3%

The submitter who responded "other" thought that species affecting biodiversity, ecosystems, and cultural values should receive the most attention.

Some of the issues are local, others are region-wide. Which approach do you prefer?

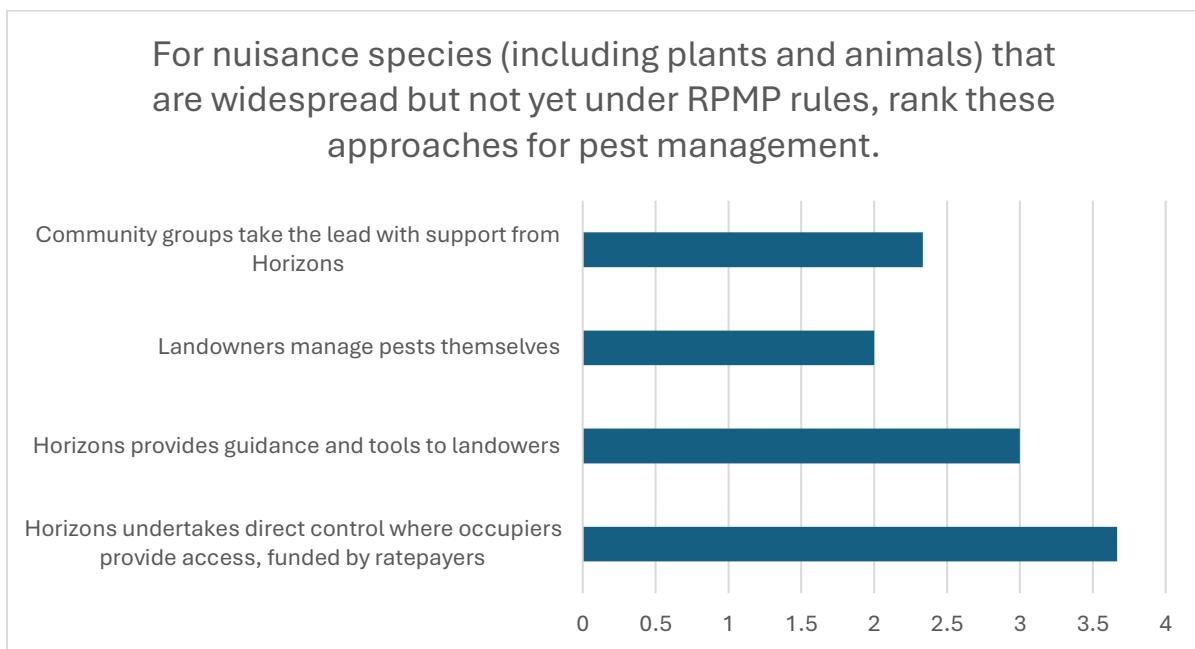


100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Horizons leads most pest management work across the region	33.3%
Horizons supports local communities to manage the pests in their areas	33.3%
Other	33.3%

The submitter who responded "other" thought a 50/50 approach should be undertaken but expressed concerns about rates increases.

For nuisance species (including plants and animals) that are widespread but not yet under RPMP rules, rank these approaches for pest management.



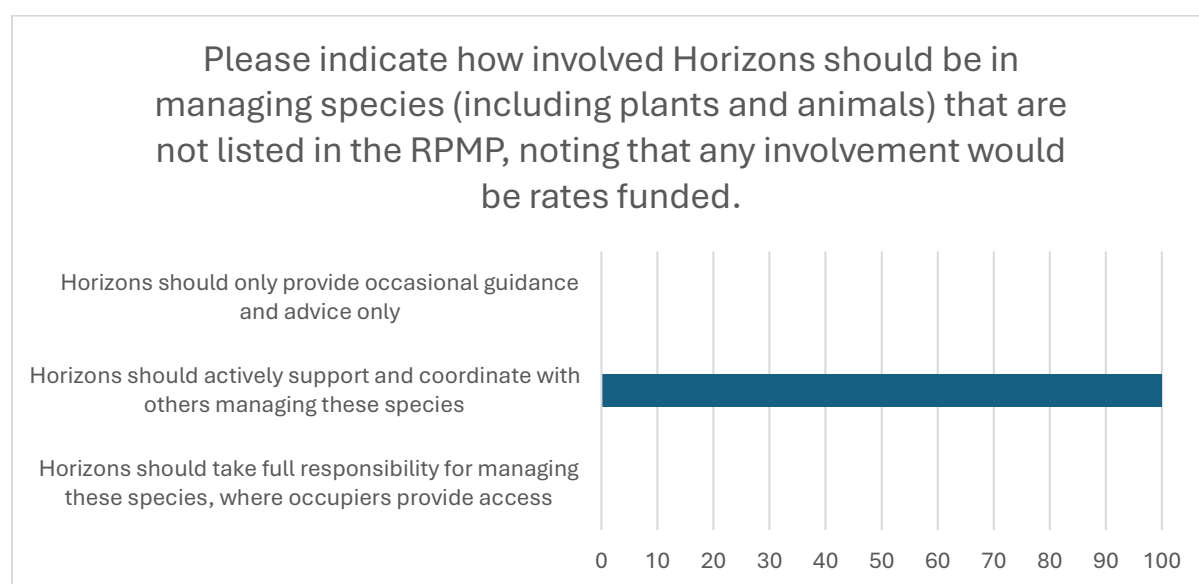
100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Average score
Horizons undertakes direct control where occupiers provide access, funded by ratepayers	3.67
Horizons provides guidance and tools to landowners	3
Landowners manage pests themselves	2
Community groups take the lead with support from Horizons	2.33

Do you have suggestions for how Horizons could work with iwi, hapū, community groups, or industry to manage species not included in the RPMP?

66.6% of submitters answered this question. Both submitters expressed a desire for shared upskilling and for opportunities for pest management contracts. One submitter expressed concerns about access to culturally significant and sacred sites and noted that, despite this, iwi possess extensive knowledge of the whenua and have a long history of management.

Please indicate how involved Horizons should be in managing species (including plants and animals) that are not listed in the RPMP, noting that any involvement would be rates funded.



100% of submitters answered this question.

Answer	Percentage
Horizons should take full responsibility for managing these species, where occupiers provide access	0%
Horizons should actively support and coordinate with others managing these species	100%
Horizons should only provide occasional guidance and advice only	0%

Do you have a pest management experience, positive or negative, that you would like to share with us?

66.6% of submitters answered this question. Both submitters shared positive experiences about the pest management they have undertaken on their whenua and its impact on their knowledge, and on the regeneration of natives.

Please tell us anything else you would like to know about pest management, biosecurity, or the issues covered in the discussion document.

66.6% of submitters answered this question. Both submitters expressed a desire for more collaboration and shared work in pest management.

List of species from all submissions

The following is a list of all species that were mentioned at least once in submissions as pest/nuisance species.

Plants	Animals
African club moss	Alpine newt
Agapanthus	Big-headed ant
Arum lily	Brown bullhead catfish
Bamboo	Canada geese
Banana passionfruit	Cats (feral, stray, and domestic were all mentioned as causing issues)
Barberry	Deer (feral) (Sika, red, fallow, rusa, sambar)
Bathurst bur	Dogs (stray/roaming)
Blackberry	Ducks
Blue morning glory	Eastern water dragon
Broom	Ferrets
Bush-killer vine	Giant willow aphids
Californian thistle	Goats (feral)
Cabomba caroliniana	Golden orfe
Chilean flame creeper	Hares
Chilean myrtle	Hedgehogs
Convolvulus	Koi carp
Darwin's barberry	Magpies
Deadly nightshade	Mice
Field horsetail	Mosquito fish
Giant reed	Peacocks
Gorse	Pea weevil
Great willow herb	Pheasants
Heather	Pigs (feral)
Ivy	Possums
Japanese honeysuckle	Quail
Karaka (pest: <i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>)	Rabbits
Kiwifruit (wilding)	Rats
Nassella tussock	Red eared slider turtle
Old man's beard	Rooks
Pampas	Rosella
Phoenic palm	Southern black backed gull
Phragmites karka	Stoats

Pink ragwort	Ticks
Purple loosestrife	Wallabies
Ragwort	Wasps (including Australian, Asian, German, and common)
Sea spurge	Weasels
Skunk vine	
Thistles	
Tradescantia	
Velvetleaf	
Water celery	
Wattle (including Sydney golden)	
Wild ginger	
Wilding conifers	
Wild onion	
Woolly nightshade	
Yellow lupin	