

The Eco-index: A tool to guide investment in biodiversity restoration

Mō tātou, ā, mō ngā uri ā muri ake nei
– For us and our children after us

A better approach is possible

New Zealanders value their unique natural environments, but national and regional reporting shows that our native biodiversity is degraded and continuing to decline. To reverse this trend, we are developing a new approach alongside land managers and experts from a broad range of fields. We are bringing fresh thinking to the restoration of ngā taonga katoa o te ao tūroa (our natural heritage).

Informing biodiversity investment

We are creating both a national Eco-index and tailor-made eco-indices for different land management sectors. Our objective is to link current investment in biodiversity with the impact being achieved on the ground and to identify the best investment opportunities for reversing biodiversity decline.

The Eco-index will guide land managers toward incremental investments that can cumulatively create intergenerational impact. In time, the Eco-index will indicate our country's biodiversity performance, much like GDP indicates economic performance.

Thinking long term

To guide long term change, the Eco-index team have developed a 100-year bicultural vision for biodiversity restoration. This vision sets a national benchmark for flourishing native biodiversity and is informed by a framework that maps the targets, perspectives and strategies of biodiversity stakeholders, including iwi, business, community, NGOs, industry and governmental organisations.

Enhancing provenance

Within our shores and beyond, many people seek out products with a positive environmental footprint. We believe that advances in remote surveillance, the world of big data, and artificial intelligence mean that Aotearoa New Zealand and its producers will reap reputational rewards from demonstrating positive land stewardship through an objective, respected and recognised index. The Eco-index will enhance performance reporting and help industry keep pace in a changing market.

Learn more at eco-index.nz | [@EcoindexNZ](https://twitter.com/EcoindexNZ)  

About us



We have expertise in Aotearoa New Zealand ecology, economics, sustainable development, land management systems and environmental restoration. Our 2020-2024 programme is a \$3.1 million investment from the government-funded National Science Challenge "New Zealand's Biological Heritage - Ngā Koiora Tuku Iho" which partners with all of Aotearoa New Zealand's Crown Research Institutes and universities.

The Eco-index team is led by Dr John Reid (Ngāti Pikiao, Tainui, JD Reid Ltd.) and Dr Kiri Joy Wallace (Te Pūtahi Rangahau Taiao - Environmental Research Institute, University of Waikato).



Get in touch

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National
Science
Challenges

NEW ZEALAND'S
BIOLOGICAL
HERITAGE

Ngā Koiora
Tuku Iho

