

Definitions recommended to be amended or newly added through s42A report for Hearing Stream 11 Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity

Notified definitions to be amended

biodiversity compensation means a conservation outcome that meets the requirements in Appendix 3 – Biodiversity Compensation and results from actions that are intended to compensate for any more than minor residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity after all appropriate avoidance, minimisation, remediation, and biodiversity offsetting measures have been sequentially applied.

~~**biodiversity compensation** means a measurable positive environmental outcome resulting from actions in accordance with the principles of APP3 – Biodiversity Compensation that are designed to redress the residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity arising from activities after appropriate avoidance, minimisation, remediation and biodiversity offsetting measures have been applied. The goal of biodiversity compensation is to achieve an outcome for indigenous biodiversity values that is disproportionately positive relative to the values lost.~~

biodiversity offset means a measurable conservation outcome that meets the requirements in Appendix 2 – Biodiversity Offsetting and results from actions that are intended to:

- (a) redress any more than minor residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity after all appropriate avoidance, minimisation, and remediation measures have been sequentially applied; and
- (b) achieve a net gain in type, amount, and condition of indigenous biodiversity compared to that lost.

~~**Biodiversity offsetting** means a measurable positive environmental outcome resulting from actions in accordance with the principles of APP2 – Biodiversity Offsetting designed to redress the residual adverse effects on biodiversity arising from activities after appropriate avoidance, minimisation, and remediation measures have been applied. The goal of a biodiversity offset is to achieve no net loss, and preferably a net gain, of indigenous biodiversity values.~~

indigenous vegetation means vascular and non-vascular plants that, in relation to a particular area, are native to the ecological district in which that area is located.

~~Indigenous vegetation~~ means ~~vegetation or plant species, including trees, which are native to Wellington district. Indigenous Vegetation does not include "indigenous vegetation" as defined in and regulated by the NESPF.~~

restoration means the active intervention and management of modified or degraded habitats, ecosystems, landforms, and landscapes in order to maintain or reinstate indigenous natural character, ecological and physical processes, and cultural and visual qualities, and may include enhancement activities

~~Restored~~ means the rehabilitation of sites, habitats or ecosystems to support indigenous flora and fauna, ecosystem functions and natural processes that would naturally occur in the ecosystem and locality.

New definitions recommended

Buffer refers to a defined space between core areas of ecological value and the wider landscape that helps to reduce external pressures.

connectivity refers to the structural or functional links or connections between habitats and ecosystems that provide for the movement of species and processes among and between the habitats or ecosystems

ecosystem means the complexes of organisms and their associated physical environment within an area (and comprise: a biotic complex, an abiotic environment or complex, the interactions between the biotic and abiotic complexes, and a physical space in which these operate).

ecosystem function means the abiotic (physical) and biotic (ecological and biological) flows that are properties of an ecosystem

fragmentation, in relation to indigenous biodiversity, refers to the fragmentation of habitat that results in a loss of connectivity and an altered spatial configuration of habitat for a given amount of habitat loss

Habitat means the area or environment where an organism or ecological community lives or occurs naturally for some or all of its life cycle, or as part of its seasonal feeding or breeding pattern; but does not include built structures or an area or environment where an organism is present only fleetingly.

Indigenous biodiversity means the living organisms that occur naturally in New Zealand, and the ecological complexes of which they are part, including all forms of indigenous flora, fauna, and fungi, and their habitats.

mosaic means a pattern of two or more interspersed ecosystems, communities, or habitats that contribute to the cumulative value of ecosystems in a landscape

sequence means a series of ecosystems or communities, often physically connected, that replace one another through space

Threatened or At Risk, and **Threatened or At Risk (declining)** have, at any time, the meanings given in the *New Zealand Threat Classification System Manual* (Andrew J Townsend, Peter J de Lange, Clinton A J Duffy, Colin Miskelly, Janice Molloy and David A Norton, 2008. Science & Technical Publishing, Department of Conservation, Wellington), available at: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap244.pdf>, or its current successor publication