Action required from FOA/MPI Forest Biosecurity Workshop

Key Action items from workshop and suggested responsibility

Task	Who	Urgency
Ensuring FOA has resources to cope with demands of GIA	FOA	High
Key forestry sector personnel need to understand what governance and response management means in a GIA context	FOA	Medium
Continually reinforce that all GIA parties have the same goal and we need to share information and knowledge in a true partnership	FOA MPI	High
Need to have good information for GIA negotiations, i.e. pest impact, and need to have research to support "contingency" plans	FOA	Medium
Put plans in place to effectively deal with biosecurity risk from all nurseries	FOA MPI	Medium
Determine optimum design to ensure new pests and pathogens are rapidly detected and plans in place to enable eradication	FOA MPI	High
Run key response scenarios e.g., Fusarium circinatum (pine pitch canker) and a Lepidoptera in an urban environment	MPI FOA	High
Review how well relevant Import Health Standards are working	FOA MPI	Medium
Look to B3 to conduct research to fill some of the gaps around Import Health Standards	FOA MPI	Medium
Establish "PineNet" to ensure industry is better prepared for an incursion and to increase biosecurity awareness	FOA	Medium
Maintain awareness of new technologies to enhance biosecurity and keep industry partners informed	MPI	Medium
Ensure the correct chemicals are on hand and have the licences to use the chemicals in the event of an incursion	MPI	High
MPI to regain social licence to operate in urban environments	MPI	High
Determine the best way to implement "Citizen science" to enhance biosecurity	MPI FOA	Low
Improve information technology to ensure more effective incursion response operations	MPI	Medium

Research should focus on detection and treatment, preparing for potential trade restrictions (e.g., *P ramorum*), analysing and fixing "pain points" from previous incursion responses	MPI FOA	Medium
Forest Biosecurity Surveillance – continue redesign and roll out as planned; use the new FOA Comms person to assist with communicating the new system	FOA	Medium

Context for the workshop:

The New Zealand plantation forest sector has signed the Government Industry Agreement with MPI. What does this mean? Are we better prepared for pest and pathogen incursions that are a threat to radiata pine and other plantation species or do we need to do a great deal more? If a serious forestry pest was to establish in Auckland would we be able to eradicate it? The horticultural industries faced a major incursion of Queensland fruit fly last year, which has recently been declared successfully eradicated. Australia has faced a number of incursions in recent years, including the giant pine scale and myrtle rust. What did Australia do about those invaders and can we learn from both the NZ horticultural industries and our Australian counterparts? New technologies are constantly being introduced to science and operations, including smart phone applications. Are these applicable to forest biosecurity? The workshop will cover these topics and review what NZ forestry is doing to better prepare, and seek input on what we can do better.

Notes (unedited) from the workshop panel session as background to key action:

Ensuring FOA has resources to cope with demands of GIA including developing operational agreements, response plans, administrating the new FBS, managing Pinenet, transferring research knowledge, and participating in RSL as the need arises. It's important that some people in the forestry sector understand what governance and response management really mean in a GIA context. Need to have good information for GIA negotiations and need to have research to support response plans. E.g., good knowledge about the potential impact of high risk pests such as nun moth, *P ramorum, Heterobasidion annosum* etc. Knowledge is constantly improving and FOA and MPI need to keep up with this. Nursery surveillance is a component of GIA that is important to MPI and to the sector (as well as to other sectors). We need to continue to work with others to determine an optimum design to ensure new pests and pathogens are rapidly detected and that plans are in place to enable eradication. We (MPI and FOA) should also look at some "what if" legal scenarios to see how well prepared we are. KVH could teach us a lot in this space. Also, while there will be tension between MPI and the sectors in GIA, we need to continue to reinforce that all parties have the same goal and we need to share information and knowledge in a true partnership sense.

Some of the things we should be doing as part of the GIA partnership include running response scenarios and also investigating how well relevant Import Health Standards are working. There are "buckets of uncertainty" around many of these and B3 research could certainly focus on filling the gaps.

Pinenet needs to be established to both ensure industry is better prepared for an incursion and to increase awareness of biosecurity risks to the industry. As Angus Carnegie described, the Australian industry was caught unprepared, e.g., for giant pine scale, and it is important that we have key people that know what is going on, understand the roles and responsibilities of each organisation; have a terms of reference and know the role of people. We are currently vulnerable as the industry, including the log trade, does not really fully appreciate biosecurity risk, or what can be done to reduce it. PineNet needs to include a plan for training industry staff/workers.

MPI in particular needs to be aware of new technologies as they become available and to keep industry partners informed. CRIs and B3 can play a major role in this. In particular there is a need for better technology in forest surveillance. The diagnostics side is keeping up, but things haven't changed much in field surveillance, e.g., remote sensing, drones, new trap technologies, new lures etc

MPI in particular needs to ensure we have the correct chemicals either on hand or at least have the licences to use the chemicals in the event of an incursion.

MPI also needs to do more to get back its social licence to operate in urban environments. It can do a lot more with social media to raise awareness of the importance of biosecurity so that people are not totally freaked out when they get sprayed with insecticides. The media has certainly raised the issue of the Zika virus, and there are probably few citizens that would oppose aerial spraying to eradicate Zika mosquitoes. Something similar needs to happen in biosecurity.

Citizen science – it seems we already have this in place to some extent in the industry, but we need to work with MPI to determine what more can be done to raise awareness.

Information Technology needs to improve in a number of areas including in the operation of incursion responses (as pointed out for the QFF incursion).

Research efforts should focus on detection and treatment, preparing for potential trade restrictions (e.g*., P ramorum*), analyzing "pain points" from previous incursion responses and focus research to fix these.

FBS – continue as planned; use the new FOA Comms person to assist with communicating the new system.