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OVERVIEW OF PFNZ REPORT

Transforming community conservation funding in New Zealand



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RESEARCH BACKGROUND AND APPROACH

Growing alarm at the state of our biodiversity (particularly ongoing decline)

Rising public engagement at practical and political levels

Discontent in the sector was clear and change likely needed

Evidence-based analysis, include social science methods

Solutions to be developed



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DATA COLLECTION AND THEMES

Literature review

Survey of community conservationists

Key informant interviews

Side analyses

Significant overlap and many common themes



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KEY ISSUES

Leadership – a lack of leadership in conservation creates confusion as to roles and responsibilities, with knock-on effects.

Strategy – there is no plan that covers all the players and makes clear what the objectives are and how everyone can help

Funding - funding is messy, hard to get and only weakly aligned with conservation priorities

Outcomes – the public value of community conservation is not clearly demonstrable and the extent of ecological contribution is often highly questionable



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish a nationally and regionally-linked institution that will provide visibility, strategic advice and practical support to community conservationists including landowners.

Develop a national strategic conservation plan to coalesce and prioritise conservation effort across all players and places.

Align public funding of conservation activities with conservation need, to maximise the difference made by that investment.

Enhance the funding system by reorienting allocation and distribution to focus more stringently on outcomes and streamline processes to reduce transaction costs while enhancing accountability.



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QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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