BPNFCCG Bulletin 15

November 2026 – Prepared by Rowan Sprague

1. Group update - 2027 meeting dates

We will discuss possible meeting dates at our November meeting.

2. In memoriam

Bruce Hansen, a member of the BPNFCCG, sadly died on October 2nd after a brief illness.
A retired Presbyterian minister, Bruce had taken on the role of Finance Officer for the Maurice White Native Forest Trust (Hinewai Reserve) about ten years ago after a period of induction with Maurice White.

Bruce threw himself into every aspect of supporting native forest restoration on Hinewai. One particular challenge he took head on was to get to understand the processes and requirements of the carbon credit system. He was pivotal in managing funds to enable land purchases adjacent to the core of Hinewai so that the dream of spanning all habitats from the mountaintops to the sea - ki uta ki tai - could be realised.

He is greatly missed by Hugh and the other Trustees of MWNFT.

-Written by Tina Troup

3. In the news - Science, innovation, and conservation updates

Paula Jameson and John Clemens recently published a scientific article about the Port Hills fires and the resprouting ability of native plants following fire. Their research also found that non-native grasses can create a 'fire trap', locking an area into repeated cycles of wildfires because grasses burn so easily. Paula and John were also interviewed on RNZ about their research.

A warning about high feral deer numbers has been sounded by researchers, with a recent scientific article published in NZ Journal of Ecology. The rapidly rising numbers of feral deer are harming native forests, and coupled with climate change, these impacts could have a 'catastrophic' effect on native forests. There's also a Newsroom article about this research.

The latest newsletter from Agri Intel includes an analysis of carbon credit (NZU) prices on the secondary market as well as a summary of the political parties' positions on the ETS.

Related to this summary of political parties' views on the ETS, Newsroom published an article on the Labour and National parties' stance on the ETS and tree planting.

CarbonCrop wrote an article on key things to consider before applying to register for the ETS.

There has been a formal complaint lodged with the European Commission that New Zealand is not meeting its climate commitments in its free trade agreement with the EU. The European Commission will consider this complaint and if it is taken up, it will raise the issue with the NZ Government.

On The Conversation, Lincoln University's Dr Steve Urlich and Associate Professor Hamish Rennie discussed the new resource management reform. They argue that the new legislation will weaken protections for nature, which in turn will leave communities facing greater risks amid a changing climate and growing demand for housing and economic development.

RNZ's podcast The Detail recently had an episode about forestry in Tairāwhiti and the need to transition away from forestry in some areas.

4. Submissions lodged by the BPNFCCG

The BPNFCC group did not do any submissions over the past three months.

5. 17 November meeting

For our 17 November meeting, our speaker will be Larry Burrows, a member of this group and a Research Associate of the Bioeconomy Science Institute (formerly Manaaki Whenua-Landcare Research). Larry will talk with us about soil carbon and will answer our soil carbon questions.

6. Standing information

- BPNFCCG relevant documents, meeting minutes, and submissions are saved in our Google drive here.

Table 1 Group membership

Name	Organisation and role
Adrian Loo	Forever Forests Co-Founder & Director
Alice Shanks	Representing Hidden Valley Conservation Trust
Antony Johnson	Manager Oashore conservation project 540ha, landowner of Hukahukatuaroa in Western Valley
Bob Webster	Landowner Waipuna Bush, former Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Trustee
Brent Martin	Manaaki Whenua Senior Data Scientist
Bryan Storey	Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Geopark Trustee, former Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Trustee
Clayton Wallwork	Orion Sustainability Manager
Crystal Lenky	Lyttelton Port Company
Di Lucas	Lucas Associates Director, Landscape Architect
Erica Weblin	Environment Canterbury forester
Helen Greenep	Environment Canterbury Biodiversity Officer
James Wright	BPCT Farm Biodiversity Programme
Josh Foster	BPCT Farm Biodiversity Programme
Karen Banwell	Retired Whaka Ora Programme Manager
Kirsty Brennan	Lyttelton Port Company
Lan Pham	Green Party MP
Larry Burrows	Manaaki Whenua-Landcare Research Forest Ecologist
Maree Burnett	Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust Manager
Mark Nixon	Landowner with High Bare Peak group (500ha) in Little River, Tūpari (400ha) in Kaituna and Putaweta (40ha) above Akaroa
Morag Butler	ECAN Climate Change & Community Resilience leader
Nick Butcher	Carbon Crop Chief Technology Officer. Founder of Carboncrop
Nick Head	Christchurch City Council Senior Ecologist
Pam Richardson	BP Branch Federated Farmers, Former BP Community Board Chair and BP Conservation Trust Trustee
Paul Dahl	Landowner in Purau, Hidden Valley Trust in Purau and on Whaka Ora.
Paula Jameson	President Summit Rd Society
Penny Carnaby	Chair BPNFCCG, representative of Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust
Piper Pengelly	Representative from Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust
Richard Simpson	Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust Trustee and Landowner
Rowan Sprague	BPNFCCG Secretary, Science Knowledge Broker at Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research
Sam Mander	Agri Intel Carbon specialist
Sarah Helleur	Forever Forests Consultant. ETS consulting indigenous opportunities
Shelley Washington	Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust manager
Tasman Gillies	Te Ahu Pātiki Trust

Tina Troup	Maurice White Native Forest Trust Trustee (Hinewai), BPCT Covenanting committee