

Brainstorming workshop sessions

Conflict Resolution

Facilitator: Andrea Goodman (KCT)

Time and date: Sunday 30 April 10.45pm – 12noon

Attendees list: (please add your name)

Discussion outcomes:

The key conflict messages are: At the moment it appears the messages are all the 'DO NOT's' (i.e. do not feed kea, do not harm kea...). We need to frame these in a positive way. The reasons for conflict need to be more accessible and become second nature in kea country. Another key message to get out, is, that kea are not confined to alpine areas. They are equally (and legitimately) at home in lower altitude environments. It is really important to get these messages out to visitors who may not speak English. See a need for signage and interp in other languages. Hailey offered to create some key kea messages/information in Mandarin.

Who are the community stakeholders: Everyone! – Iwi, DOC, schools, ski fields, property owners (farming, business and private), local government, forestry sector, KCT, F&B, FMC, Ecological/Environmental groups, watching eye, tourism industry.

What role can they play: Play a role in advocacy and education and general eyes and ears about. There is caution in over expectation from community groups (FOFF, Cobb, APWT, FOR...). They may have small communities and the same people are on every local organization! There was a feeling within our brainstorming group that DOC may take the partnerships for granted and there is a fear of burnout (lack of time, money and expertise). Great to see the forestry sector stepping up and putting policy in place to mitigate for conflict at harvest sites. More effort needed to tap in to the visitor market through accommodation providers, bus operators...

How can functional stakeholder relationships be facilitated: Communication through advocacy and education. Information being accessible – KCT website is often the first port of call for kea information. DOC. Open pathways and transparency. Iwi engagement was considered best at a local level (particularly



when local projects proposed). Perhaps local KCT contact should be working with rununga in their area. Contacts: Klinky – Otago, Tamsin – Southland, Kilash – West Coast and Andrea – Upper North.

What tools and avenues are there to more effectively deliver conflict resolution messages/programmes: Limited people resources in small communities arose again. The KCT road trip (advocacy tour) seen as a good way to get the messages out. Need to get the word out to the transient population (fruit pickers, hospitality workers, working visa community: seen as futureproofing. Maybe the KCT could have a document to give out to workers in these areas (i.e. Arthurs Pass Store, Wobbly Kea, Ski fields...), also have them available at i-sites (who pays?). Tapping in to other cultures/language with key messages important (Hailey to liaise with Andrea). Important to get the messages of risk to habituated kea to ski fields etc. Erecting signs has previously been put forward by the KCT (and signs designed by a volunteer) but the idea was not supported by Arthurs Pass community or the NZTA at that time. Areas such as Murchison, who are having kea visiting regularly now, look to Arthurs Pass as a model of a community living with kea. Paradise Valley Springs mentioned they might be able to put together a small kea clip that could be used in advocacy (at visitor centers etc.). Marian Milne suggested working with local Community Boards and Councils about local kea issues. Marian is going to talk with the Golden Bay Community Board.

Strategies to put in place to encourage kea proofing database use (uploads and searches): Communication- letting people know it is there. In the 'top of the south', when contacted re kea conflict, the DOC front desk staff direct the person to the KCT website and kea conflict page (as well as giving Andreas contact details). Need to promote this as first port of call. Also need to encourage people living with kea to put their great ideas in to the kea-proofing database.

Conflict situations that result in kea injury or death need to be effectively communicated between stakeholders and dealt with in legislation. How to overcome any barriers: At present there is a lack of communication between stakeholders. Fostering key relationships, so that KCT and others are included in any kea discussions. The issue was also bought up for karearea. A look at the Wildlife Act (Damian O'Connor and Andrea) to see if any changes could make it more favourable for kea is happening at present.

What are the barriers to implementing conflict resolution strategies and how can these be positively managed: lack of time, money, knowledge, transient populations all contribute to barriers.

Where to next: need some punchy take home messages to highlight kea conflict and to try and prevent it. Suggestion of engaging an artist/cartoonist to draw some catchy posters i.e 'don't let it end in tears'. Marian will contact Tim Galloway re this.