

## COVER SHEET

<b>3.17 New Zealand School of Applied Bio-Diversity Project PGF EoI/ Application</b>		<b>For: Approve</b>	
<b>Tier:</b> 1 - Regional	<b>Sector:</b> Feasibility Study		
<b>Background &amp; context:</b>		<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	
<p><b>Applicant Organisation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next Foundation</li> </ul> <p><b>Location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taranaki</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility study funding to assess the viability of establishing a bio-diversity research and teaching institute based in Taranaki</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding Sought:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total project value: \$ <small>Commercial Information</small></li> <li>PGF Funding: \$95,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Background:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taranaki is an environmentally diverse region extending from coastal to alpine environments.</li> <li>The focus of the research institute would be to undertake restoration projects enhancing the return and maintenance of natural biodiversity in Taranaki.</li> <li>Potential spin offs include creation of new enterprises and job creation, greater understanding of the natural environment (and associated modelling) , foreign investment, tourism and medical opportunities.</li> </ul>		<p><b>We recommend that the SRO:</b></p> <p>a) Consider the application.</p> <p>b) Note that <b>Commercial Information</b> will be allocated to the cost of employing <small>Commercial Information</small></p> <p>c) Approve \$95K from the PGF fund towards the project subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Commercial Information</b></li> </ul>	

<b>PGF criteria that this proposal supports:</b>		
<b>PGF Criteria</b>	<b>Assessment Commentary</b>	<b>Rating (1✓ to 5✓)</b>
<b>Link with fund and government outcomes</b>		
Creates permanent jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential to be determined via feasibility study</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Delivers benefit to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly aims to provide benefits to the community</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Increased utilisation and returns of Maori asset base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unclear – to be determined. It appears the project is supported by local iwi as an important stakeholder</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Enhanced sustainability of natural assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a primary objective (restoration and enhancement)</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Mitigation of climate change effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likely to be an outcome (restoration of natural habitat, greater awareness)</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
<b>Additionality</b>		
Adding value by building on what is already there	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Builds on Taranaki's diverse environment and</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Acts as a catalyst for productivity potential in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potentially</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
<b>Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks</b>		
Alignment with regional priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation is a key deliverable of the feasibility study</li> </ul>	✓✓✓
Support from local governance groups (inc. Councils, Iwi/Hapu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters of Support from <small>Commercial In</small> and <small>Commercial Information</small></li> </ul>	✓✓✓
<b>Governance, risk management and project execution</b>		
Robust project management and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reliance on Project Leader and Next Foundation governance</li> </ul>	✓✓✓

governance systems									
Risk management approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal during feasibility study stage</li> </ul>	✓✓✓							
Future ownership / operational management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>								
<b>The purpose of this briefing is to consider recommending/ declining PGF funds to the project</b>									
<b>Risks Issues:</b> <i>Key risks identified (with mitigations)</i> <i>Access to stakeholders/ consultation - regular communication</i> <i>Contractor pricing - transparency</i>									
<b>Eligibility points of note:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Due diligence:-</i> Full due diligence is to be completed. It is a condition of approval that due diligence is to be to the satisfaction of the Head of PDU Investment team.</li> <li><i>Conflict(s) of interest:-</i> Based on the information provided no conflict of interest is evident noting that full due diligence will inform this item further.</li> <li><i>Illegal Activity:-</i> Based on the application information provided and feedback from other agencies there is no indication that the applicant or project has been involved in, or associated with illegal activity.</li> <li><i>Alignment with Regional development plans:-</i></li> <li><i>Commercial funding availability:-</i> Given the nature of the project which is to undertake a feasibility study, access to commercial funding is not considered a feasible option.</li> </ul>									
<b>Consultation undertaken or implications:</b>									
Legal	N/A	HR	N/A	Finance	N/A	MBIE policy	N/A	Other	
<b>Supporting proposal:</b> Yes									
<b>Appendices:</b> Yes - Applications <b>Commercial Information</b>									
<b>Sponsor(s):</b> N/A									
<b>Manager/Author of paper:</b> DVZ /MC Investment Team									