



Biodiversity Statement of intent.

New Zealand is rich in natural resources and intricate ecosystems which sustain thriving and diverse species, environments, and communities. It is one of the richest and most diverse areas of biodiversity in the world but also one of the most threatened.

Contact relies on many natural resources to generate electricity and we recognise that we have a responsibility to reduce our impact and add value to the resources that come under our control.

For us, protection of biodiversity means protecting those indigenous species and unique ecosystems which were present in the natural environment before our operations altered them. Contact do this by utilising a mitigation hierarchy (Avoid, Minimise, Restore, Offset). Contact will not operate in World Heritage Sites or IUCN Category I-IV protected areas, and will not work with suppliers who do so. Contact does not support deforestation, in situations where exotic trees need to be removed, we will rehabilitate with indigenous species.

Our goal is to have thriving and sustainable ecosystems within all habitats that we influence. We will achieve this by creating site specific management plans, engaging with local communities, and supporting community groups to achieve their biodiversity goals. Contact work with external partners and experts in biodiversity management to ensure best practice.

Contact's approach to biodiversity management is site specific with particular focus on ecosystems which are affected by our operational sites, or those which are of particular importance to tangata whenua and the communities we are a part of. Across all of our operational sites, our biodiversity impacts are wide ranging and of varying scales. The impacts are not always negative either. The site specific management plans are therefore targeted to the type of operation, the species identified and the specific risks and opportunities available to those species.