

WILDING PINES CONFERENCE 2025



DAY ONE – TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER – TWIZEL EVENTS CENTRE

Time	Session	Speaker
Welcome to Te Manahuna / Mackenzie Basin and the 2025 Wilding Pine Conference		
7.30am	Registration. Please be seated by 7.55am	
8.00am	Essential housekeeping and safety briefing	Jo Ritchie
8:10am	Mana whenua welcome Stories of Māori travel and significant sites	Mike McMillan, Arowhenua
8.30am	Local wilding control context	Robin Pieper, Environment Canterbury (ECan) Tim Bamford, DOC Ross Ivey, Wilding Free Mackenzie
9:30am	Positive land management under heavy seed rain	Julia MacKenzie, Braemar Station
9:45am	Governance Group update	John Walsh, Biosecurity New Zealand, Governance Group Chair
10:00am	<i>Question time with previous speakers</i>	
10:10am	Morning tea	
Innovation mindset		
10:40am	Potential use of virtual fencing technology with beef cattle to control wildings on extensive grazing lands	John Hellstrom
10:50am	Operations at Ferintosh Station	Zac Robinson, Zolve Environmental
11:05am	Federated Farmers perspective	Jim Ward
11:25am	High country farmer case study – impact of wildings and innovative solutions	Hamish Roxburgh, high country farmer, Amuri Range Tree Trust
11:40am	Wilding management and forestry	Zac Robinson, Zolve Environmental
11:55am	Building a better foundation for relationships with iwi	Jordan Taoho, Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa, Central North Island
12:10pm	<i>Question and discussion time with previous speakers</i>	
12.30pm	Lunch	
Innovation examples from around the National Programme		
1:40pm	Community group experience: From getting off the ground to on the tools	Rob Phillips, Chair Upper Clutha Wilding Conifer Group
1:50pm	Conifer to native shelterbelt transition project in Central Otago	Pete Oswald, Central Otago Wilding Conifer Group
2:00pm	Innovations for safety – mindset and tools	Willie and Paula Sinclair, Safe T Works
2:10pm	<i>Question time with previous speakers</i>	

DAY ONE CONTINUED

2.15pm	<i>Open Session – challenges and perspectives from contractors</i>	Chaired by Zac Robinson, Zolve Environmental
2:45pm	Afternoon tea	
3:15pm	Community group experience: Ōhau Conservation Trust – Post wildfire recovery	Viv Smith-Campbell, Ōhau Conservation Trust
3:25pm	Community group experience: Waimakariri Environmental Land Restoration Alliance	WELRA representative
3.35pm	Wilding Pine Network - the history, background, purpose of WPN; highlights from past year	Ket Bradshaw, Wilding Pine Network chair
3:45pm	National Wilding Conifer Control Programme update	Sherman Smith, Biosecurity New Zealand
4.00pm	<i>Question time with previous speakers</i>	
5:00pm	Wilding Pine Network Committee Meeting	



DAY TWO – WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER: FIELD TRIPS

Huge thanks to the programme partners in the Mackenzie for your input into field trips. The aim is to showcase the challenges of wilding management, solutions to issues; show a range of control and post-control solutions; and take you to the beautiful locations and landscapes around this part of the Canterbury Region.

For those not taking part in a field trip, we recommend taking in some sights (a walk around Twizel township is free!). If you have a car drive up Mt Cook Road or over to Tekapo and support local businesses. There are many walks and stunning landscapes to enjoy.

8:00am Assemble at Twizel Events Centre and collect packed lunch. 8:30am departure, 4:00pm return	
Field Trip Option 1: Mt Cook Road Host: Robin Pieper - ECan	Field Trip Option 2: Tekapo/Takapō Host: Rich Langley – ECan
Full Day	Full Day
This field trip is a visit to some iconic high-country stations. Visit Ferintosh, Pukaki Downs and Glentanner stations – see the work being done and challenges being faced across several land tenures as well as the tools and techniques used for control and post control management. This is a 4WD based trip with experienced drivers. Bring sturdy boots, outdoor clothing and a hi vis vest and be prepared for some short walks on various terrain with uneven footing.	This field trip is jam packed full of talks from a range of speakers in several locations including the Irishman/Wolds Conservation Area and the Takapō Regional Park. There will also be views over the Tekapo Military Camp and the Godley Management Unit. Challenges of controlling wilding pines on conservation, military and private land, revegetation and the effects of seed rain will all be covered.

6:00pm – 10:00pm

Dinner at Poppies Café – a showcase of local produce



DAY THREE – THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER – TWIZEL EVENTS CENTRE

Time	Session	Speaker
8:15am	Arrive at Twizel Events Centre	
Assessing new methods of control and management		
Fire as a control tool		
8:30am	Context of fire as a control tool	Adam Ross, Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ)
8:35am	Fire as a management tool beside the Naseby Forest	Paul Hart, Ernslaw One
Grazing as a control tool		
8:50am	Working group update and practical experience	DOC Twizel
Drones spot spraying		
9:05am	Drone introduction	Adam Ross, BNZ
9:10am	Summary from Scion drone workshop	Justin Nairn, Scion/Bioeconomy Science Institute (BSI)
9:25am	SPS Loganburn trial	Scott Spooner, SPS Automation
Making use of wildings and an emerging issue		
9:40am	Biochar - What’s it all about?	Raymond Dobbe, BiocharTP
9:55am	Douglas fir – The new wave of wildings taking over Southland	Jolie Hazley, Environment Southland
10:10am	Question time with previous speakers	
10:30am	Morning tea	
11:00am	National Wilding Conifer Management Strategy Refresh	Sherman Smith, BNZ
Land restoration post exotic conifers		
11:15am	District plan challenges e.g., intensification of land for grazing	Rob Young, Te Manahuna Consulting
11:30am	Grazing as a control tool	Duane Peltzer, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research/BSI
11:40am	Coronet Peak pines to native to recreation park	Brianna Pringle, Queenstown Lakes District Council
11:50am	Question time with previous speakers	
12:00pm	Sponsors’ spot	
12:20pm	Lunch	

DAY THREE CONTINUED

Time	Session	Speaker
Building the knowledge base for innovation – research updates		
1:20pm	Seed longevity and decay	Tom Carlin, Scion/BSI
1:30pm	Understanding reinvasion	Jan Dudenhoeffer, Lincoln University
1:40pm	Reducing herbicides rates for aerial applications: Refining TDPA to TD	Justin Nairn, Scion/BSI
1:50pm	Wilding perceptions survey summary	Tom Carlin, Scion/BSI
2:00pm	Programme Infestation Mapping update	Randall Milne, BNZ
2:10pm	Research Strategy progress	Jennifer Agaldo, BNZ
2:20pm	<i>Question time with previous speakers</i>	
2:30pm	Prizegiving and final comments	
3:00pm	Venue will close	

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