

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

NATURAL SOLUTIONS – MARINE & TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGISTS LTD

(TRADING AS: NATURAL SOLUTIONS & FLIGHTWORKS)



NATURAL SOLUTIONS
Planning & Policy Ecologists



FLIGHTWORKS
drones ecology geospatial

WHO WE ARE

Natural Solutions is a consultancy that specialises in ecological planning, and the development of science-based policy. Flightworks provides aerial drone services with an ecological and geospatial focus.

VISION

We champion quality and innovative solutions to ensure the sustainability and resilience of indigenous biodiversity values, while ensuring our own business and personal ecological footprint is contained within sustainable boundaries.

PRINCIPLES

Our approach to business is guided by commitments to the following principles: Leadership, Transparency, Integrity, Stewardship and Continuous Improvement. Fundamental to the way we operate is the sustainable practices of our business including ecological, social, economic and cultural considerations. We subscribe to the GenLess lifestyle (www.genless.govt.nz).

IMPORTANT ISSUES

Natural Solutions has prioritised the following as the most important issues that we can address in our business approach to greater sustainability:

- **Climate change**
- **Community engagement**
- **Biodiversity**

OUR ABILITY AND DUTY TO ACT

We believe in using the earth's resources wisely and promote this with our business activities and purchases.

Our attention to environmental, social and economic sustainability requires us to be patient and resolute in our business actions, and to demonstrate leadership on the issues that are important to us and our clients.

SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

In our professional and personal lives, we commit to the following:

1. The efficient use of resources

We will prioritise renewable resource use, and minimise environmental impacts by:

- a) Reduce and reuse paper, and otherwise recycle it. Largely use recycled, FSC accredited paper and timber product supplies.
- b) Compost biodegradable food scraps.
- c) Recycle used batteries.
- d) Use biodegradable laundry and cleaning products.
- e) Minimise water use.
- f) Electricity use: Only turn on lights when required. Do not leave computers running overnight unless required. Enhance natural lighting and solar heating and only use active heating as required. Choose electronic equipment with good environmental credentials and power efficiency ratings.
- g) Travel: Ensure multiple purposes where possible e.g. multiple jobs undertaken; add personal holiday to work trip. When purchasing vehicles ensure they have low CO2 emissions and are fuel efficient. Have video meetings where possible.
- h) Buy locally-produced consumables and food where possible.
- i) Operate under a co-operative model with other consultants who also share our sustainability values and to maximise opportunities, share resources and maintain low overheads and infrastructure.
- j) Keep informed of sustainable business practices through sources such as the Sustainable Business Network.

2. Community Engagement

We will help engage communities towards sustainable practices by volunteering expertise and donating resources to the value of >\$6,000 per annum including free ecological advice and management.

3. Ecological Restoration

We will create approaches to ecological restoration that minimise negative environmental impacts, provide solutions to intractable natural resource-hungry problems, and integrate positive social elements into project outcomes.

Review of Sustainability Policy

Review Date	By whom	Sections UPDATED						NOTES
		Vision	Principles	Important Issues	Ability & Duty to Act	Objectives		
6/2/2014	MG	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Version 1	
9/3/2015	MG	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Minor amendments	
1/6/2016	MG	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Minor amendments	
3/3/2017	MG					✓	Minor amendments	
8/5/2018	MG					✓	Add 'Who we are'. Add to Objectives – composting, water use. Add in 'Monitoring' heading and separate monitoring table to Appendix.	
21/10/2019	HK	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Editing to simplify the policy without losing any meaning.	
13/4/2020	HK/MG					✓	Rewording to all sections including clarifying that policy including personal as well as business actions. Added 'Carbon off-setting'. Calculated business and personal carbon footprint and carbon sequestration by Waipipi forest.	

Acknowledgements: This document is based on a template provided by MeetGreen®