

## Initial ecological assessment of a translocation proposal

1. Overview of translocation project – plus title.
2. Explain why this species/population needs to be translocated (i.e. State the problem you are trying to fix, the purpose of the project).
3. What do you want to achieve. What is the desired outcome in 3 years time, 10 years, 30 years. What will the next generation see?
4. Was the species there before? If so, why did it die out and have the reasons for it dying out been addressed to prevent it happening again? (e.g. predators, forest clearance, competition).
5. Why is this translocation the best way to achieve your desired outcome.
6. Does this proposal involve any captive holding or breeding? If so, what will be done with the offspring and the individuals long term? Does the captive programme have an end point where all individuals will be released?
7. Describe how the release location meets the needs of the translocated species. (e.g. food, habitat, breeding requirements).
8. Think about long term impacts of the translocation on other species, and plans for future re-introductions. Will the translocation benefit other species or the site? Could the translocation have a major detrimental affect on other species or the site?
9. Context: Consider wider context of your proposal. Is it one of several transfers for this species (e.g. taking brown teal into captivity and ultimately releasing birds) or connected to other transfers (e.g. species transfers to mainland islands)?
10. Is the species likely to be available for translocation? Where might they come from?
11. Enquire with the Conservancy early on whether the Department might support the proposal in principle. Write an outline of the proposal (i.e. the considerations in this assessment), which the conservancy will take to the Recovery group if there is one for this species. Seek advice on who to talk to for advice, or check with DOC on the appropriateness of the people you have lined up for advice.
12. Be aware that the translocation process takes a long time and involves:
  - ❖ Contacting technical experts
  - ❖ Getting permits
  - ❖ Consultation (landowners, iwi, community groups)
  - ❖ Extensive planning and research
  - ❖ Obtaining funding