

NATURE WORKING GROUP



Post-Meeting Papers

Nature Working Group Meeting #2_2025

Thursday 12 June 12pm-1pm AEST / 2pm-3pm NZST

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StockWatch Report

Minutes

Item	Action required
1. Welcome (5 min) Co-Chairs – Claire Molinari (CareSuper) & Guy Williams (Ziranjiti) <ul style="list-style-type: none">OpeningAcknowledgement of CountryMinutes from last meetingPrinciples of Participation<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Highlighted: Not engage in or discuss competitively sensitive information. Working groups will at times involve discussions between competitors, or potential competitors. In accordance with competition law, working group members will not discuss competitively sensitive information nor enter into anti-competitive agreements, and will not share such information, specifically that which is not publicly available information. Competitively sensitive information includes information on pricing, sensitive financial information, non-public strategic information, negotiation or tender information, and information about voting intentions (takeover provisions).	Submit any amendments to the Minutes to Shelina Fernando (RIAA's Working Groups Officer)
2. Special Presentation and Q&A (30 min) Measuring nature by investors	To access the meeting papers, go on the RIAA website and select; "Membership" (top bar),

Claire Molinari (Head of ESG | CareSuper) & Terina Williams (Senior Investment Strategist | NZ Super Fund)

CareSuper – Nature as a Strategic Priority

Overview of CareSuper:

A superannuation fund with a diverse membership base.
Increasing focus on nature-related risks and opportunities within its investment strategy.

Heatmap Analysis:

- Utilised Encore data (publicly available) to extract a portfolio snapshot.
- Process involved:
 - Translating raw data into internal analysis.
 - Assessing impacts and dependencies across portfolio holdings.
 - Identifying hotspots of nature-related risk.
- Challenges:
 - Heatmaps are complex and not easily actionable.
 - Difficult to translate into decision-useful insights.
- Application:
 - Used to communicate risk and prioritise engagement.
 - Focused on red zones, particularly in the mining sector.
 - Shared with external managers to understand how they would apply the insights.
 - Acknowledged that heatmaps often look similar across portfolios but are a useful starting point.

NZ Super Fund – Systemic Approach to Nature

Overview of NZ Super Fund:

A sovereign wealth fund with a systemic view of nature-related risks.

- Emphasises that nature loss is a systemic risk requiring a systemic response.
 - Strategic management issue
 - Impact/Strengthen financial performance
 - Presents litigation, regulation, reputation risk
- Nature Strategy
 - Asset Selection
 - Asset Management
 - Stewardship
 - Internal systems
- Asset Selection
 - Strategic level: Asset class/Opportunity definitions
 - Operational level: Due Diligence
 - Learnings: structural and enduring diversifier, prevented loss.
- Asset Management – Establishing a baseline
 - Portfolio assessment: Heatmap exercise
 - Asset assessment: LEAP assessment for NZSF and KT
 - Learnings: Needed to exercise governance oversight.
- Insights
 - Methodologies: Internal/External response?
 - Metrics: 300+ metrics, 4 agreed metrics, what metrics to use?
 - Data: lack of data is an impediment, or lacks recognition?
 - Location matters.... Most times.
- Total Portfolio Approach:
 - Nature viewed as both a risk and opportunity.
 - Investments in sectors like timber to diversify and build resilience.

“Working Groups”
(bottom of drop-down menu), **“Nature Working Group”**, **“NWG 2025 Meeting #2 – Measuring nature by investors”**
(Scroll down to ‘Past meeting papers and presentations’)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data and Frameworks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasis on determining the right level of granularity in nature data for decision-making. - Using heatmaps to substantiate positions and guide engagement. 	
<p>4. Industry Updates (10 min)</p> <p>StockWatch Report (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jono Broome (Associate Director, Client Advisory APAC Sustainalytics) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Māori climate advocate Mike Smith is pursuing a landmark legal case in New Zealand against major polluters, including both private and public companies. The case aims to compel these companies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by applying tort law to hold them accountable for their contributions to climate change. Companies recently sought to expand the case to include all emitting companies, but the High Court declined the application. Despite this, the trial is set to proceed in April 2027, marking a significant moment in climate litigation. ○ See the slide deck for further information. <p>RIAA's Policy and Advocacy Work (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nayanisha Samarakoon (Head of Policy and Advocacy RIAA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RIAA is engaging with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DECCW) regarding the EPBC Act, ○ Discussions also underway around COP31. A key focus is ensuring that nature-based solutions are prominently included in the COP31 agenda, highlighting their role in climate mitigation and resilience. However, there are concerns that the event may prioritise grey infrastructure over ecological approaches, potentially sidelining the vital contributions nature can make to climate solutions. Efforts are being made to form a coalition to advocate for nature to remain central in COP31 planning and commitments. 	<p>For more information regarding the Stock Watch Report, please contact, Jono Broome (Sustainalytics)</p> <p>For more information on RIAA's Policy Work, please contact: policy@responsibleinvestment.org</p>
<p>5. Subgroup Update (15 min)</p> <p>Investor Practice (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saksham Malhotra (Senior Responsible Investment Associate HESTA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A summary of the most recent meeting was provided. ○ The discussion highlighted a range of positive developments, challenges, and gaps in integrating nature and sustainability data into decision-making. While diverse approaches are being used, many organisations working with the same datasets are arriving at similar conclusions. However, challenges persist, including the overwhelming volume of data, difficulties in rapid integration, and a lack of seamless tools despite data availability. There is a strong desire to identify and share examples of companies leading in this space, as many still treat sustainability as a compliance task rather than a value-adding, financially material strategy. Engaging company directors—drawing lessons from climate advocacy—was suggested as an approach, with a call to elevate the role of advocacy to drive meaningful change. 	<p>If you have any questions regarding the subgroups or would like to volunteer to lead them, please contact, Jess Rowe (Manager of Working Groups, RIAA)</p>

<p>Awareness and Education (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess Rowe (Manager, Working Groups I RIAA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The group will be focusing on – in line with the workplan – policy developments and the case study compendium. This will explore examples from listed companies who focus on nature risk as well as opportunities. <p>External Reference Group (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess Rowe (Manager, Working Groups I RIAA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A summary of the most recent meeting was provided. ○ Nature-related data is increasingly being viewed through an investor lens, as highlighted by Terina Williams from NZ Super Fund. Traditional financial metrics are no longer the sole basis for investment decisions, with ESG risks now being integrated into asset selection and management. However, translating nature data into financial terms remains a challenge due to its lack of granularity and the overwhelming volume of metrics. Investors are seeking scalable, governance-relevant data that can inform risk management and identify growth opportunities, such as land use and environmental conditions. Vanessa Keogh from WWF emphasised the importance of understanding data needs and applying consistent definitions, particularly in areas like deforestation. She advocated for shifting the mindset from compliance to resilience, viewing nature as essential infrastructure rather than an externality. ○ Further insights were shared by Lisa Bambic from the Department of Climate Change, who stressed the importance of using data that is “good enough” for action while acknowledging its limitations. The Environmental Information Australia dashboard and ecosystem accounts are tools to support this approach. Michael Honey from Wedgetail added a practical perspective, noting that nature data is inherently messy and often used to validate human decisions. He highlighted the potential of technology, such as AI for bioacoustics, and proposed a future model where nature is measured as “hectares × quality,” supported by ground-truthing methods. Together, these perspectives underscore the need for thoughtful, coordinated, and purpose-driven use of nature-related data in investment and conservation. 	
<p>6. Closing (2 min)</p> <p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, 4 September 2025 (12pm to 1pm AEST / 2pm to 3pm NZST) – Register here 	<p>Register here for the next meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2025 (12pm to 1:00pm AEST/2pm to 3:00pm NZDT)</p>

Action Register

Ref.	Action	Delegation	Status
<i>New</i>			
10/25	Next Meeting – Thursday, September 4, 2025 (12pm to 1:00pm AEST/2pm to 3:00pm NZDT) - register here	All	Ongoing
9/25	Submit any amendments to the Minutes to Shelina Fernando (Working Groups Officer, RIAA)	All	Ongoing
8/25	To access the meeting papers, go on the RIAA website and select; “Membership” (top bar), “Working Groups” (bottom of drop-down menu), “Nature Working Group” , “NWG 2025 Meeting #2 – Measuring nature by investors” (Scroll down to ‘Past meeting papers and presentations’)	All	Ongoing
<i>Previous</i>			
7/25	Next Meeting – Thursday, June 12, 2025 (12pm to 1:00pm AEST/2pm to 3:00pm NZT) - register here	All	Closed
6/25	Submit any amendments to the Minutes to Shelina Fernando (Working Groups Officer, RIAA)	All	Ongoing
5/25	To access the special presentation, please log in to your Member Portal and select; 1. “LEARN” (top bar), 2. “Member Only Resources” (bottom of drop-down menu), 3. “Working Groups” (Yellow Tile), 4. “Nature Working Group” (Scroll Down, Blue Box), 5. “2024 Meetings And Special Presentations” (Scroll Down, Underneath Working “Group Details”) and then underneath the title: “4 – Thursday 28 November 2024” , you will find the recording of the special presentation, the Pre-meeting papers, and the Post meeting papers.	All	Closed
4/25	For more information on RIAA's Policy Work, please contact: policy@responsibleinvestment.org	All	Ongoing
3/25	For more information regarding the Aotearoa update, please contact, Terina Williams (NZ Super)	All	Ongoing
2/25	For more information regarding the Stock Watch Report, please contact, Jono Broome (Sustainalytics)	All	Ongoing
1/25	If you have any questions regarding the subgroups or would like to volunteer to lead them, please contact, Jess Rowe (Manager of Working Groups, RIAA)	All	Ongoing

Attendees (41)

	First Name	Last Name	Company
1	Desiree	Lucchese	Aware Super
2	Claire	Molinari	CareSuper
3	Hira	Sakrani	Cbus Super
4	Vanessa	Stevens	Craigs Investment Partners
5	Karen	McLeod	Ethical Investment Advisers
6	Emily	Davies	EY
7	Hugh	Garbutt	EY
8	Charlotte	O'meara	Fidante Partners
9	Sue Lyn	Stubbs	Fidelity International
10	Stephan	Gabadou	First Sentier Investors
11	Kana	Thorpe	Funds SA
12	Elyse	Weatherby	Future Group
13	John	Simon	Gottstein Trust Fund
14	Helen	Murray	Gottstein Trust Fund
15	Saksham	Malhotra	Hesta
16	Samantha	Hutton	IFM Investors
17	Soumya	Munagala	ISS ESG
18	Julia	Leske	ISS STOXX
19	Debaprasad	Sengupta	ISS STOXX
20	Lauren	Maccheroni	Macquarie
21	Jocelyn	Davison	Metrics Credit Partners
22	Grace	O'Hanlon	Milford Asset Management
23	Bonnie	Mappin	Minderoo Foundation
24	Sarah	Gaskin	MLC Asset Management
25	Jono	Broome	Morningstar Sustainalytics
26	Emily	Simso	New Forests
27	Kokila	Uma	Northcape Capital
28	Terina	Williams	NZ Super Fund
29	Murray	Ackman	Pendal
30	Harry	Agnew	Perpetual
31	Kar Mei	Tang	PRI
32	Briony	Doyle Galovic	RIAA
33	Jess	Rowe	RIAA
34	Nayanisha	Samarakoon	RIAA
35	Lorraine	Moore	S&P Global
36	Dianna	Enlund	S&P Global
37	Michelle	Davey	TelstraSuper
38	Rachel	Alembakis	U Ethical Investors
39	Rayne	van den Berg	Value Australia
40	Aleks	Georgieva	Westpac/BTNZ
41	Guy	Williams	Ziranjiti Pty Limited

RIAA's Nature Working Group

Meeting #2 - Thursday 12 June

With special thanks to our Principal Partner

ISS STOXX 



Responsible Investment
Association Australasia



Co-Chairs of RIAA's Nature Working Group



Guy Williams,
Founder at Ziranjiti



Claire Molinari,
General Manager of Responsible Investments at CareSuper

Principles of Participation

- Confidentiality
- No self-promotion
- Declaration of conflicts of interest
- Representation
- Collaboration between members
- Positive change in practice/policy
- Not to engage in or discuss competitively sensitive information
 - *Discussions in working groups may include competitors or potential competitors. In line with competition law, members must not share or discuss competitively sensitive, non-public information such as pricing, sensitive financial data, strategic plans, tender or negotiation details, and voting intentions related to takeovers, anti-competitive agreements (strictly prohibited)*
- Apolitical

Special Presentation: Investor insights – Metrics in practice



Terina Williams,

Senior Investment Strategist – Sustainable Investment at NZ Super Fund



Claire Molinari,

General Manager of Responsible Investments at CareSuper

Producing a nature-related heatmap for equities

Extract – an equity portfolio's exposure to some of the material ecosystem services (dependencies) for companies operating in each of the below sectors

GICS Sector	Solid waste remediation	Soil and sediment retention	Water purification	Water supply	Pollination	Storm mitigation	Rainfall pattern regulation
Consumer Staples	3.8	4.3	5.7	4.9	4.2	4.1	5.0
Materials	3.4	3.8	4.6	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.3
Energy	3.0	3.8	3.8	3.9	N/A	3.4	5.7
Consumer Discretionary	3.1	3.0	4.2	3.0	3.0	3.4	2.3
Industrials	3.5	2.9	3.9	3.0	2.0	3.3	3.1
Communication Services	2.0	2.6	2.0	2.4	N/A	2.8	2.0
Health Care	3.6	2.8	5.3	3.6	3.0	3.8	2.0
Information Technology	3.0	2.6	4.0	3.0	N/A	3.1	2.0
Utilities	4.0	3.8	4.2	4.7	N/A	2.8	4.7
Real Estate	2.0	4.3	4.0	2.7	N/A	3.3	6.0
Financials	N/A	2.0	N/A	2.0	N/A	2.0	N/A

Materiality rating	Score
VL	2
L	3
M	4
H	5
VH	6

Usefulness of heatmap exercise

- Starting point to identify material exposures to narrow focus for deeper assessment of company level data and geospatial analysis
- Sharing with external investment managers allows opening of dialogue on nature-related risk if not already commenced

Application of Nature Metrics

■ Asset Selection

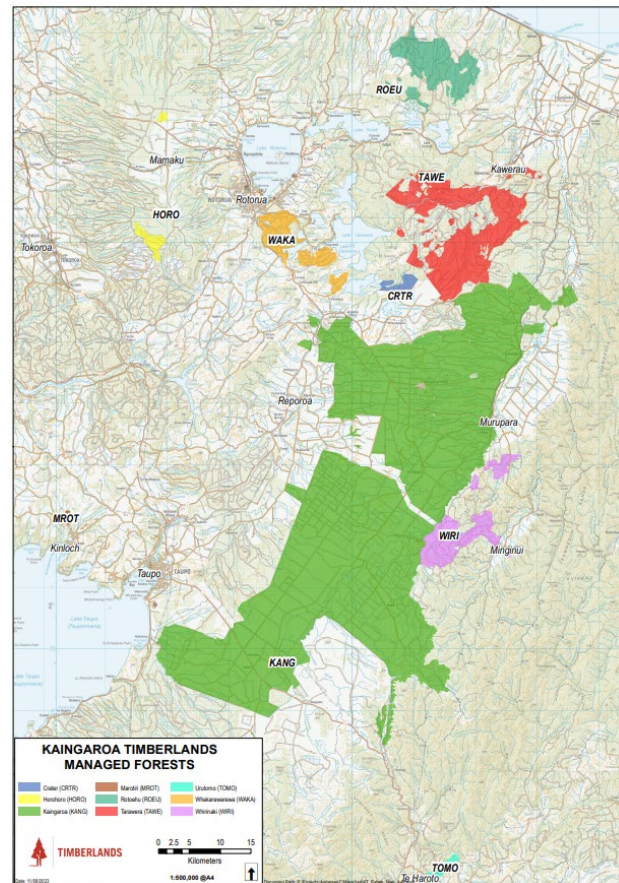
- Strategic level: Asset class/Opportunity definitions
- Operational level: Due Diligence
- Learnings: structural and enduring diversifier, prevented loss.

■ Asset Management – Establishing a baseline

- Portfolio assessment: Heatmap exercise
- Asset assessment: LEAP assessment for NZSF and KT
- Learnings: Needed to exercise governance oversight.

■ Insights

- Methodologies: Internal/External response?
- Metrics: 300+ metrics, 4 agreed metrics, what metrics to use?
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Special Presentation: Investor insights – Metrics in practice



Terina Williams,

Senior Investment Strategist – Sustainable Investment at NZ Super Fund



Claire Molinari,

General Manager of Responsible Investments at CareSuper

Industry Updates

- **StockWatch Report**
(Jono Broome, Sustainalytics)
- **Policy and Advocacy work**
(Nayanisha Samarakoon, RIAA)

Subgroup Updates

- **Investor Practice**
(Saksham Malhotra, HESTA)
- **Awareness and Education**
(Jess Rowe, RIAA)
- **External Reference Group**
(Jane Hutchinson, Pollination Foundation)

Working Group Member Portal

All Working Group meeting minutes and recordings are uploaded to the RIAA Member Portal. Access the portal using your [Blue Up credentials here](#):



Upcoming Working Group Meetings

Aotearoa Collaborative Working Group #2,

Thursday 19 June - 2pm–3:30pm NZST/12pm–1:30pm AEST
Hybrid event, Auckland & online

First Nations Peoples' Rights Working Group #3,

Thursday 31 July - 12pm–1:30pm AEST / 2pm–3:30pm NZST

Human Rights Working Group #3,

Thursday 7 August 12pm–1:30pm AEST / 2pm–3:30pm NZST

Nature Working Group #3,

Thursday 4 September 12pm–1pm AEST / 2pm–3pm NZST

View full list of [RIAA's events here](#).



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Responsible Investment
Association Australasia

RIAA Nature Working Group

Monitoring Nature Related Controversies

June 2025

Z Energy Ltd (Ampol Ltd), Channel Infrastructure NZ Ltd, Genesis Energy Ltd., New Zealand Steel (BlueScope Steel Ltd.), Bathurst Resources Ltd (BT Mining), Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd.

Various – New Zealand
Emissions, Effluents and Waste – Cat 1

RNZ – 23 April 2025

In early 2024, New Zealand's Supreme Court ruled that a lawsuit filed by activist Mike Smith against seven companies, including Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd., can go to trial. The lawsuit was initially filed in 2019 over allegations that the companies polluted the environment and harmed the local community. The lawsuit sought an injunction compelling the companies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. According to media outlets, a court of appeals dismissed the lawsuit in 2021, however, the Supreme Court unanimously allowed the appeal and reinstated Smith's claim. Since the ruling, six of those companies have taken an application to the High Court, making a case to "join third parties", meaning more companies would be included in the case given the seven companies aren't solely responsible for contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. This would increase the complexity of the claim. In April 2025, this application was declined. The hearing is scheduled to go ahead in April 2027.

Glencore Plc, South32 Ltd., Rio Tinto Ltd

Diversified Metals Mining – Australia
Emissions, Effluents and Waste – Cat 2
NGO report highlights Oriximiná mine impact on riverine communities

Mongabay.com - 9 May 2025

A new report from the Mining Observatory found that Mineração Rio do Norte's (MRN) Oriximiná mine in Brazil had environmental and social impacts on the Quilombola and riverine communities. According to the report, the aforementioned communities that were living near the Oriximiná mine reported water contamination from the mine's extensive network of tailings dams. MRN reportedly declined to comment on the environmental impacts of its Oriximiná mine. Mineração Rio do Norte is 22% owned by Rio Tinto, 33% owned by South 32, and 45% owned by Glencore.

Alcoa Corp. and Alumina Ltd.

Aluminium – Australia

Land Use and Biodiversity – Category 2

NGO report reveals Indigenous opposition towards mine expansion

The Allegheny Front - 19 May 2025

A report published by nonprofit investigative journalism PublicSource highlighted the environmental and cultural impact of Alcoa Corp.'s mining operations in Australia's Northern Jarrah Forest on the Noongar people, the Indigenous inhabitants of the area. According to the report, the Noongar people raised concern about the company's impact on the Jarrah Forest and opposed the expansion of Alcoa Corp.'s Huntly mine. According to the report, the expansion would affect sensitive ecological zones, including the Dwellingup Discovery Forest, which is part of the Northern Jarrah Forest, a region known for its unique biodiversity and is culturally significant to the Noongar people, the Indigenous inhabitants of the area. Alcoa Australia is 60% owned by Alcoa Corp. and 40% owned by Alumina Ltd.