



## AT's TNFD journey: Building resilience through integrating nature into transport infrastructure design

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The significance of nature as a means for reducing emissions and adapting to climate hazards is typically undervalued and frequently overlooked. Transport services and activities that emphasise the protection and restoration of ecosystems can strengthen and improve infrastructure resilience to climate impacts, while also contributing positively to biodiversity.

Auckland Transport (AT), like many other transport agencies in Aotearoa, currently lacks comprehensive data across our various activities to fully understand our impact on nature and nature's impact on our business operations. To comprehend the interface with nature, AT piloted the Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) framework. This global initiative provides an integrated risk management and disclosure framework that articulates the nature-related risks and opportunities.

TNFD identified the physical impacts of AT's work on nature, such as weed control, stormwater runoff from the road network, and the effect of LED lights on the breeding cycles and navigation of insects and birds. Opportunities to mitigate or eliminate these impacts were assessed, which included the use of iwi-run nurseries for eco-sourced plants, iwi-led maintenance of vegetation within green infrastructure in the network, and tree planting to positively improve biodiversity, reduce heat stress and improve habitat values. This effort led to the development of ecological corridor maps for the Auckland region, outlining priority areas for street tree planting in collaboration with the Auckland Council. Although TNFD is not currently mandatory, AT recognizes that proactively adopting this framework facilitates the discussion around environmental and transitional risks. Moreover, it can greatly enhance Auckland's liveability by integrating nature into transport infrastructure design, building future resilience.