

New Zealand Conservation Authority

Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa

Meeting 2 & 3 June 2015

Agenda and meeting papers



Autumn colours- Arthurs Pass
Photo: Gerry McSweeney

NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (NZCA)
TE POU ATAWHAI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
2 & 3 June 2015

One hundred and forty third meeting, to be held at
Conservation House in Wellington, starting at 10.00am.

D means Decision required, A means Advice required, I means Information only

AGENDA				
<i>Item</i>		<i>#</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Pages</i>
1	Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction – Chair's overview	I	-	
2	Apologies – receive	A	-	
3	Conflicts of Interest for the Meeting – identify	A	-	1-2
4	Minutes		-	
	4.1 – approve minutes for the meeting held on 7 April 2015	D	J	3-8
	4.2 – approve “in-committee” minutes for the meeting held on 7 April 2015 (<i>expected to be taken “in-committee” with public excluded</i>)	D	J	9-16
5	Status report – note progress in actioning resolutions from the meeting held on 7 April 2015	I	J	17-18
6	NZCA work programme 2015-2017 – summary of planned elements	I	J	19-22
7	Director-General's report	I	E	23-42
8	Investment Strategy for Intermediate Outcome 2 (Historic Assets) – Tata Lawton		E	43-44
9	DD-Gs' Environmental Scan – P&RSG		E	45-46
10	Update on Stewardship land – Marie Long	I	C	47-54
11	Land Status Proposals		C	55-64
12	Members' Environmental Scan	I	E	
Lunch				
13	Possible Additions to Paparoa National Park		C	65-66
14	Management Planning update – Sarah Bagnall		A/B	67-78
15	Honey Bees: biodiversity issues and commercial opportunities – Beth Masser	I	F	79-86
16	Presentation from Ken Hughey, Chief Science Advisor	I	E	87-88
17	Briefing on DOC's role in IPBES and National Science Challenges – Geoff Hicks	I	F	89-90
18	Presentation on Predator Free NZ – Devon McLean and Mick Clout	I	F	91-92
19	Battle for our Birds: overview – Graeme Elliot	I	F	93-94
-	Meeting adjourn for the day	I	-	
Day Two				
20	Tourism research – Waikato CB request	A	E	95-96
21	Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment – Jan Wright	I	-	97-102
22	NZCA Approvals		C	103-164
23	Representation and liaison		-	

	23.1 Chair's report	I	J	165-166
	23.2 Conservation Board liaison reports	I	J	167-186
24	Correspondence – receive the inwards and approve the outwards correspondence	D	J	187-188
-	Meeting close		-	

Strategic Priorities

A	Conservation Management Strategies
B	National Park Management Plans
C	Land Status change e.g. Stewardship land
D	Treaty of Waitangi
E	Strategic advice to the Minister and DG in the context of conservation in today's economy and strategic advice on public policy documents and legislation
F	Game Changers for Conservation: Pest control/biosecurity
G	Marine
H	Rivers and Freshwater
I	Effectiveness of the Department's conservation management
J	NZCA's performance

Meeting timetable

Tuesday 3 June

10.00 Meeting starts (morning session taken in Committee)

12.30 – 1.00 Lunch

3.00 – 3.15 Afternoon tea

5.30 Meeting concludes for the day

Wednesday 4 June

8.30 Meeting starts

9.00 – 10.00 Meet with Jan Wright, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment

10.30 – 10.45 Morning tea

1pm Lunch Meeting concludes

**NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
REGISTER OF INTERESTS
and
IDENTIFICATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

For meeting on 2 & 3 June 2015

**Please use this form to update your register of interests and to note any
actual or perceived Conflict of Interest with regard to any agenda item
for this meeting**

Name	
Register of Interests update	
Identification of any actual or perceived conflict of interest with regard to any agenda item	
Signed (NZCA member)	
Date	

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Minutes from the NZCA meeting held on 7 April 2015**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA'S performance
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Approve the minutes of the NZCA meeting held on 7 April 2015 as a true and accurate record
Context	The draft minutes from the NZCA meeting on 7 April 2015 are circulated to members for comment by email on 17 April 2015. Members were given until 24 April 2015 to provide comments on the minutes. Once the minutes are approved at the June meeting they will be uploaded to the NZCA website.

UNCONFIRMED

New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA)

Te Pou Atawhai Taiao O Aotearoa

7 April 2015 meeting

142nd meeting, held at 10am, in the Level 4 Meeting Room,
Conservation House, 18-32 Manners St, Wellington

Draft minutes

Present:

Warren Parker, Chairperson
David Barnes
Jo Breese
Mark Christensen
Mick Clout
Waana Davis
Rauru Kirikiri
Jan Riddell
Mike Simm

Apologies:

Sandra Cook
Gerry McSweeney
Judy Hellstrom
Devon McLean

In attendance:

Rick McGovern-Wilson, Executive Officer, NZCA, Department of Conservation (DOC)
Dianne Parker (minutes), Statutory Bodies Advisor, DOC
Lou Sanson, Director-General, DOC
Barry Hanson, Acting Deputy Director-General Conservation Partnerships Group DOC (agenda item 8)
Astrid Nunns, Acting Director Integration, DOC (agenda item 8)
Geoff Ensor, Director - Commercial Partnerships, DOC (agenda item 8)
Jonty Somers, Chief Legal Advisor- Policy & Regulatory Services, DOC (agenda item 9)
Anne Bogle, Senior Solicitor, DOC (agenda item 9)
Spencer Clubb, Policy Manager, DOC (for agenda item 9)
Allan Ross, Director, Transformation and Threats, DOC (agenda item 13)
Andy Roberts, Director, Conservation Services – Eastern South Island, DOC (agenda item 14)

Karakia

Rauru Kirikiri welcomed Authority members and opened the meeting with a karakia.

Agenda item 1: Welcome and Chairperson's introduction

The Chair, Warren Parker, opened the meeting at 10am, and identified items that would be addressed over the course of the meeting, including:

- The D-G will provide the Authority with more information on the proposed SLT changes, and the Pilot Project
- The discussion on DOC's Investment Strategies for Intermediate Outcomes 4 (Community Engagement) and 5 (Commercial Partnerships)
- A presentation from Sir Mark Solomon, of Ngai Tahu and the Iwi Leaders Group Conservation Forum
- The Conservation Board liaison reports

Agenda item 2: Apologies

The NZCA resolved to accept the apologies received from Sandra Cook and Gerry McSweeney, Judy Hellstrom and Devon McLean

Jo Breese/Rauru Kirikiri/carried

Agenda item 3: Conflicts of interest

Warren Parker identified a conflict of interest with respect to agenda items 7 and 13.

- Item 7 – Scion is engaged in Kauri Dieback Research and Development.
- Item 13 – Scion is engaged in Rural Fire Research and Development and advice.

No decisions are required on either of these topics.

The NZCA resolved to note the perceived conflicts of interest brought to their attention.

Jan Riddell/David Barnes/carried

Agenda item 4.1: Approve minutes for the meeting held on 2 & 3 February 2015

The NZCA resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2 & 3 February 2015 as a true and accurate record.

Mike Simm/Mick Clout/carried

The NZCA resolved to move into committee with the public excluded for discussion on Agenda Items 4.2, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18 and 19.

Rauru Kirikiri/Jo Breese/carried

Agenda item 5: Status report

Rick McGovern-Wilson (Executive Officer) noted progress with items on the status report:

- Whitebait – Rick will discuss with John Whitehead, Chair of the Southland Conservation Board, some of the issues concerning the southern Boards.
- Conservation Board chairpersons conference will be an annual event to be held in late July (possibly) to enable planning around the Letters of Expectation to take place.
- Fiordland NP additions – need to clarify why the report is being held up and when the Authority can expect to receive it back again.
- Statutory management planning updates – as this is an ongoing item on the agenda; it can be removed from the status report.

Agenda item 6: NZCA work programme 2014-2017

The Authority discussed and updated the work programme including the fact that the Otago, Canterbury and Southland Conservation Management Strategies are all on track for presentation to the Authority at the June meeting. In light of this and other matters, the Authority will explore extending the June meeting to two days.

A Skype or video conference meeting will be required prior to the next meeting regarding the Pike River decisions to enable timeframes to be met.

Agenda item 10: Members Environmental Scan

No specific comments were made.

Agenda item 11: Sir Mark Solomon, Iwi leaders' Group Conservation Forum

Sir Mark Solomon spoke on the roles and structure of the Iwi Chairs Group and the Iwi Leaders Forums. Iwi want a louder voice in conservation and there is a need for better engagement/partnerships with iwi, particularly for the National Parks Policy. He discussed the need to create relationships and to connect with Iwi.

Agenda item 12: Management Planning Update

The report on management planning provided by Catherine Tudhope (Management Planning National Advisor, DOC) was taken as read.

The revocation of management plans consequent to the new CMSs being adopted for Auckland and Waikato was discussed. Rick is to send a letter to Auckland and Waikato Conservation Boards inquiring about progress.

The Authority requested feedback on what is now happening with the new National Park Management Planning model, especially what consultation has been undertaken with Ngai Tahu. Does the updating of the NPMP also require an update of the General Policy for National Parks in order to achieve larger improvements in planning processes?

Agenda item 13: Kauri Dieback

A briefing was given from Allan Ross, with apologies from Erik Van Eyndhoven (MPI). This is cross-government programme with MPI, as well as councils and iwi. They are now working on the second phase of the project, with additional government funding: MPI are leading the research programme, DOC the recreational/visitor work. This is the Minister's number one priority, as set out in her letter to the PM.

This is a very difficult science issue around understanding the disease and the vectors of the spread. The project focuses on kauri within its natural area, into South Waikato and the Kaimais. There is only limited funding available for private and iwi land owners, but MPI is the lead access point in Auckland for this.

The NZCA Chair requested an update to the Authority in December 2015.

Agenda item 14: Himalayan Tahr Management

Andy Roberts, Director Conservation Services spoke to the issues. The Department needs to reconfigure how they measure population numbers cost effectively. There is a large area to cover – with the northern and southern limits of the areas of most concern. The Tahr Management Plan is a statutory document signed off by the Minister, so the Department is bound by it. The team is planning to design new methodologies for monitoring over the next 6-9 months.

The NZCA Chair requested an update to the Authority in December 2015.

Agenda item 15: Grass carp introduction into Lakes Tutira, Waikopiro and Opouahi

The briefing documents originally provided to the Authority, and therefore the Grass Carp Committee, failed to mention that the eradication program was over 10 year period. The Committee considered the original advice remained relevant and expressed disappointment that the information provided had been incomplete.

The NZCA resolved to approve the release of grass carp into Lakes Tutira, Waikopiro and Opouahi; subject to the conditions recommended by NIWA; and ongoing monitoring of the effectiveness of grass carp in eradicating *Hydrilla* from these lakes; for a period of 10 years from the date of approval unless sooner revoked or varied.

Mick Clout/Waana Davis/carried

Agenda item 16: Briefing on DOC's role in IPBES and National Science Challenges (NSC)

This item has been postponed until the June meeting.

Item 20.1: Chair's report

The report by Warren Parker, NZCA Chair, was received.

Agenda item 20.2: Conservation Board liaison reports

Reports were received from the following members:

- Mike Simm (Northland Conservation Board meeting held on 13 February): he raised a concern that no local member of the Partnerships Group had attended the meetings.
- Devon McLean (Auckland Conservation Board meeting held on 18 & 19 February).
- David Barnes (Otago Conservation Board meeting held on 9 February).
- Mark Christensen (Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board meeting held on 13 February).
- Jan Riddell reported on the Ramsar Symposium held in Hamilton on 17-19 March. She encouraged the NZCA to pick this up, as wetlands are part of our nature and biodiversity plan.

The Chair requested the EO to extract issues identified within the reports to send in a letter to the D-G, so they could be followed up.

Agenda item 21: Correspondence

The NZCA resolved to receive the inwards and approve the outwards correspondence.

Waana Davis/Mick Clout/carried

Warren Parker closed the meeting at **4.05pm**.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **“In-Committee” minutes from the NZCA meeting held on 7 April 2015**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA'S performance
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Approve the “in-committee” minutes of the NZCA meeting held on 7 April 2015 as a true and accurate record
Context	The draft minutes from the NZCA meeting on 7 April 2015 were circulated to members for comment by email on 22 April 2015. Members were given until 30 April 2015 to provide comments on the minutes. Once the minutes are approved at the April meeting they will be uploaded to the NZCA website.

UNCONFIRMED

**NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (NZCA)
Meeting on 2-3 June 2015**

Status Report as at 13 April 2015

RESPONSIBILITY	TOPIC	REQUIRED ACTION	PROGRESS	STATUS
Actions arising from April 2015 meeting. <i>Previous actions which follow from resolutions taken at previous meetings on the same issue are retained and reported on under the meeting at which the issue first arose. e.g. Strategic advice on management planning; Kauri National Park proposal.</i>				
Andy Roberts - Director Conservation Services	Himalayan Tahr Management	To report back to the Committee in December 2015	Ongoing	Ongoing
Manager	Battle for our Birds data	To be released to the committee once it is available	Ongoing	Ongoing
Manager	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Report back when more information comes to hand	Ongoing	Ongoing
Manager	Article in Wilderness magazine	To draft a response	Ongoing	Ongoing
Manager	Loder Cup nomination	A nomination letter to be drafted	Ongoing	Ongoing
Jonty Somers Chief Legal Adviser Anne Bogle – Senior Solicitor	Guidelines for concessions in National Parks	To report back on the Chairs' suggestions to enable the committee to be able to make a decision by the May deadline	Ongoing	Ongoing
Mike Slater- Deputy Director- General Conservation Services (Acting)	Paparoa NP	Reporting on the feasibility study by December 2015	Ongoing	Ongoing
Actions arising from December 2014 meeting.				
1. Manager	NZ Whitebait fisheries	To investigate and report back to the NZCA on issues around the NZ whitebait fisheries including; trading, food safety and species survival.	Ongoing – report back to June meeting Talk to John Whitehead of SCB	Currently under investigation

Actions arising from August 2014 meeting.				
2. Manager	Department of Conservation Risk Management Framework	Request D-G Lou Sanson to report on DOC's risk management framework in response to random events and the effects on the budget		To be discussed during the DGs environmental scan at the April 2015 meeting
Actions arising from June 2014 meeting.				
3. Manager	Fiordland National Park land additions	Request DOC to undertake full consultation with iwi before the report is brought to the NZCA for approval		Awaiting response from iwi before paper can be presented to NZCA
Actions arising from April 2013 meeting.				
4. NZCA	Mokihinui River	Put on the NZCA agenda for the April 2014 meeting an item to further discuss the West Coast <i>Tai Poutini</i> Conservation Board request that a Section 8 investigation be instigated for the bed of the Mokihinui River and its catchment.	Letter received from WCTPCB advising DOC has advanced this and requests NZCA consider s8 sooner	Doris will update the Authority at the April 2015 meeting
5. NZCA	Mokihinui River	Recommend that the Department of Conservation seek the transfer of the bed of the Mokihinui River and any other Crown Land administered by LINZ within the boundaries of adjoining public conservation land to the Department and its classification as a conservation area.	Letter to DOC 6/5/13; progress reports and completion by April 2014 requested Interested parties advised of this action	No change Update received from DOC at August 2014 meeting

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 - 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **NZCA work programme 2015-2016**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA's Performance
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the attached work programme, and provide input on further directions
Context	This spreadsheet is a record of papers and other items projected that will be coming to the Authority over the next 12 months. It will be updated after each meeting, and is designed to give Authority members an overview of the proposed work flow. Members are requested to give consideration to items that they feel should be included for discussion, and researching where necessary.

Agenda paper type	2 June 2015	3-4 August 2015	5-6 October 2015	30 November - 1 December 2015	1-2 February 2016
	Wellington	Wellington	Gisborne	Wellington	TBC
Strategic	Briefing on the role of the CSA and relationship with NZCA	Receive Canterbury CMS	Report on the Tahr Management Plan for 2014-15	Update on Kauri Dieback	
	Stewardship land - paper outlining proposed mechanisms	Receive Otago CMS	Feedback on the Canterbury CMS	Update on Himalayan Tahr Management	
	Discussion on the Investment Strategy for IO2 (Historic Assets)	Receive Mainland Southland/West Otago CMS	Feedback on the Otago CMS		
	Discussion on Honey bees: biodiversity issues and commercial opportunities	NPS - Freshwater Management: the NZCA response	Feedback on the Mainland Southland/West Otago CMS		
	Briefing on DOC's role in IPBES and NSCs	Update on BFOB and Weeds (especially wilding pines)			
Review/Approve	Fiordland National Park additions	Review the draft Annual Report	Approve the NZCA's Annual Report	Approve the Canterbury CMS	
	Approve additions to Paparoa National Park	Review draft NZCA Charter	Approve NZCA Charter	Approve the Otago CMS	
				Approve the Southland CMS	
Information	D-G report and environmental scan	D-G report and environmental scan	D-G report and environmental scan	D-G report and environmental scan	D-G report and environmental scan
	DD-G P & RSG environmental scan	DD-G S & I environmental scan	DD-G S & I environmental scan	DD-G S & I environmental scan	DD-G S & I environmental scan
	Presentation on Predator Free NZ - DMcL/MC	Update on NZ marine reserves			
		Update on DOCs work with Historic Heritage			
Stakeholder Engagement	Meet with the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment	Meet with CE of Forest and Bird	Meet with East Coast/Hawkes Bay Conservation Board and Ngati Porou	Meet with Chair of the Game Animal Council	

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Lou Sanson (Director-General)

Subject: **Director-General's Report**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	Strategic advice to the Minister and DG in the context of conservation in today's economy, and strategic advice on public policy documents and legislation
Recommendation	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note this report by the Director-General
Context	This report by the Director-General brings to the Authority's attention a range of operational matters that have occurred in the April – May 2015 period. Topics discussed include: • Battle for our Birds update • Cave Creek Memorial • Kauri dieback • Threatened Species Ambassador • Sea Mammals • Cyclone Pam - Black Robin and Shore Plover census • Freshwater ecosystems: Ramsar Symposium 2015 • Hawke's Bay Biodiversity Strategy - City to Cape launch • South- East Marine Protection Forum • Partnership fund

REPORT

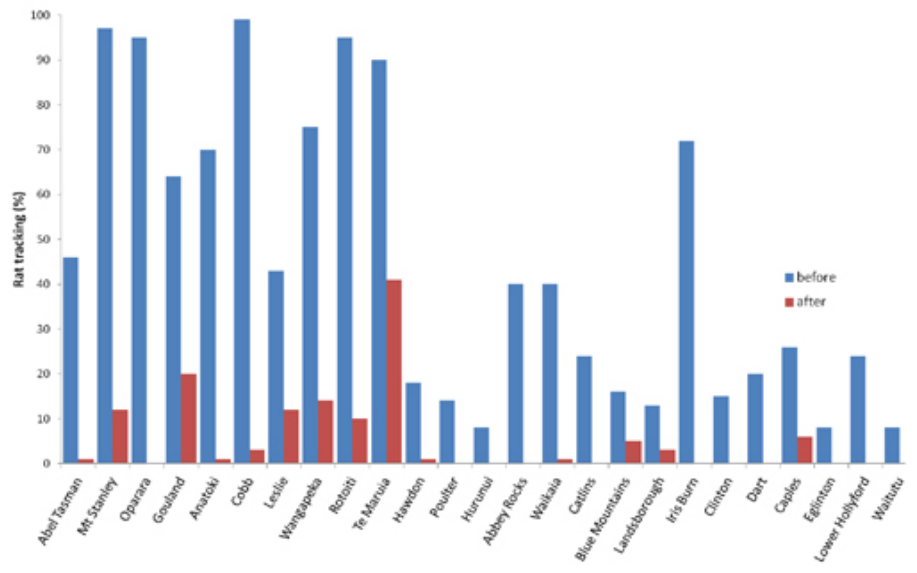
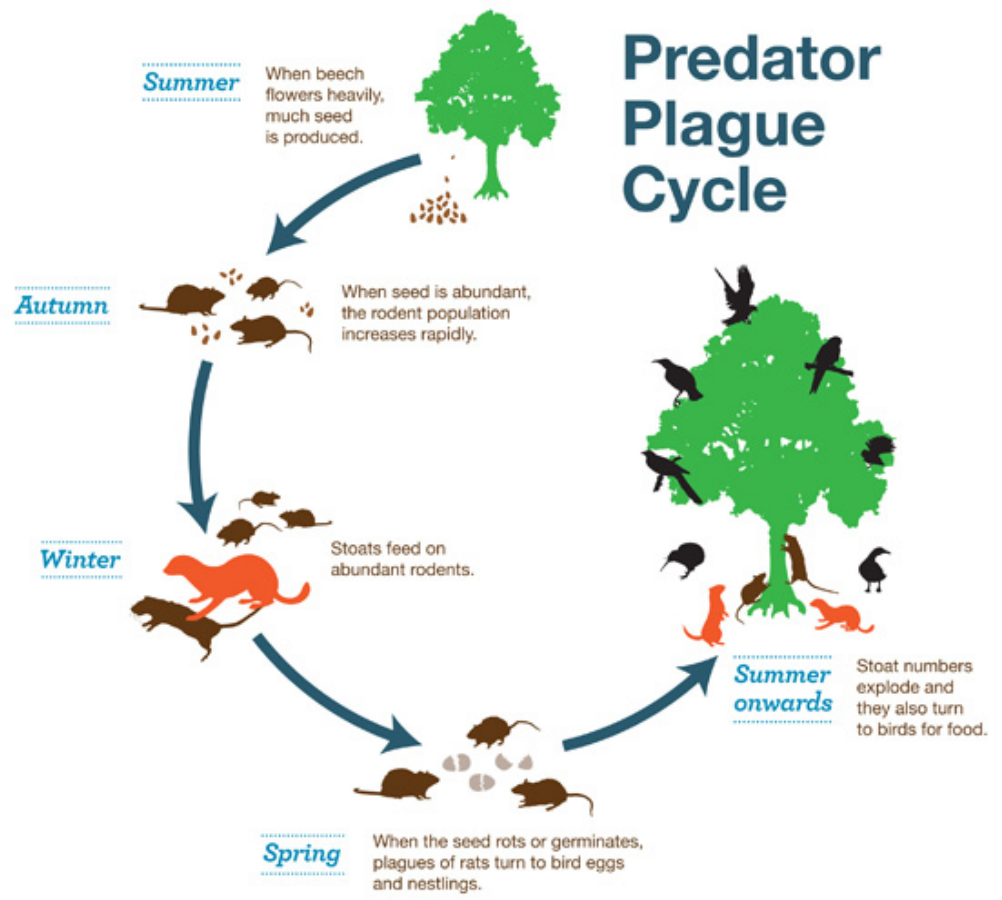
Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Lou Sanson (Director-General)

Subject: **Director-General's Report**

Pest Management	Battle for our Birds summary as at 20 May 2015 Last year's Battle for our Birds (BFOB) pest control programme was DOC's biggest yet. Nine months on from the first aerial 1080 drops it is being declared a success. Between August last year and February DOC staff planned and carried out an unprecedented 27 aerial pest control operations over more than 600,000 hectares in priority areas the length of the South Island to protect native species from the forecast predator plagues. In addition, six North Island operations over 94,000 hectares were undertaken. Together this was three times the area completed the year before. This work involved a large number of staff across the organisation including services and partnerships managers and rangers, scientists, biodiversity and RMA planners, lawyers, geospatial analysts and communications advisors. Poison bait stations and expanded trapping networks were also employed to combat the rising predator numbers fuelled by a once-in-15-year beech seeding event. Latest field monitoring results indicate DOC's recent large-scale pest control programme has successfully knocked back rats and stoats and helped protect vulnerable native species across large areas of South Island beech forest this summer. Report DOC's 2014/15 Battle for our Birds pest control programme was targeted to combat a seed-fuelled plague of rodents and stoats across large areas of South Island beech forests. Operations were designed to protect at-risk populations of mōhua/yellowhead, kākāriki/parakeet, kiwi, whio/blue duck, kea, kākā, rock wren, giant land snails and native bats. DOC monitors rat numbers using tracking tunnels before and after pest control operations to show their success and results are shown in the graph below. Stoats are only monitored once a year after they breed in the summer. Results from stoat tracking show stoat plagues were prevented at all 15 sites analysed to date. DOC is continuing to closely monitor key at-risk native bird and bat species (mōhua, whio, long-tailed bats, rock wren and kea) at a number of sites to
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gauge the on-going effects of pest control.



How are the pest control operations are judged a success?

Results from tracking rats before and after 25 Battle for our Birds aerial 1080 operations show that rat populations crashed following pest control. Even at

sites where rat populations had exploded to extreme levels, there was significant rat kill.

In addition, results from stoat tracking at 15 sites analysed to date confirm a stoat plague has been prevented at all these sites. Preventing high numbers of rats and stoats protects native bird and bat populations especially when they are breeding over spring and summer and are most vulnerable to attack.

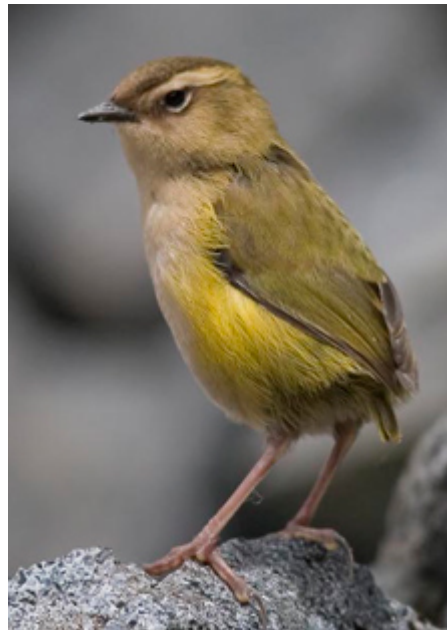
How do you know that native birds benefitted?

DOC is closely monitoring key at-risk native bird and bat species (mōhua, whio, long-tailed bats, rock wren and kea) at a number of sites to gauge the effects of pest control on their survival and breeding success. This work will continue through next summer to assess the ongoing effects of pest control, in particular of stoat suppression over an extended period of time.

Early results from this monitoring programme are summarised below:

Rock wren (below left)

In the Grange Range and Lake Aorere areas of Kahurangi National Park 85% of rock wren nests were successful compared to 30% in nearby areas that didn't have pest control. In these non-treated areas up to one third of adult females also went missing – probably preyed on by stoats. Results from other comparison sites without pest control in South Westland (Haast Range) and Fiordland (Lake Roe) were also poor with nesting success 17% and 20%, respectively.



Mōhua/Yellowhead (above right)

Close to 100% of mōhua nests monitored in the Dart and Routeburn valleys produced chicks and 97% of adults survived. All key mōhua populations received pest control last year so there were no non-treated areas monitored. However, previously nesting success without pest control in the Dart was 47% (2006).

Kea

Monitoring showed that nesting success of a small sample of kea was variable. Three broods laid prior to 1080 operations failed due to being preyed on by rats. No nests were detected for monitoring in the main study site in Kahurangi

after pest control but in another site in the Hawdon valley in Arthur's Pass National Park both nests monitored were successful, due to combined trapping and aerial 1080 control. However, the main focus for monitoring kea will be next spring when the effects of reduced stoat numbers should show in their breeding activity.

Robin and Riflemen

Robins were monitored at Mount Stanley in the Marlborough Sounds with nesting success of 50% registered in the treated area compared to 7% in the untreated area. Riflemen were also monitored at Mount Stanley where 100% of nests produced chicks in the pest control area compared to 29% in an area not treated with 1080.

Whio/Blue Duck



Whio/blue duck are being closely monitored in the Wangapeka valley in Kahurangi National Park where the most productive breeding in 11 years has been recorded (36 fledglings between 16 adult pairs). Aerial 1080 treatment and stoat trapping at this whio security site has helped to protect the birds from stoats.

Long-tailed bats

DOC is closely monitoring long-tailed bats in three pest control areas but results won't be available until next summer. However, results from long-term monitoring in the Eglinton valley show long-tailed bat numbers have increased four-fold over the last 15 years due to sustained pest control using a mix of traps, poison bait stations and aerial 1080.

Short-tailed bats

The short-tailed bat population in the Eglinton also appears healthy with a record number of 1731 bats emerging from a single roost tree this past summer. Results of monitoring before and after the aerial 1080 operation showed 99% survival of this species.

What about the rock wren that went missing last spring?

There is still no clear evidence as to why 22 rock wren being monitored in

	Kahurangi National Park went missing after unseasonable weather and snow and the pest control operation last spring. While some birds were probably lost to 1080, early counts indicate the high nesting success due to stoat control has already balanced this out with 61 birds estimated in the area after the operation was carried out compared with 49 birds beforehand. The full effects of aerial 1080 pest control on rock wren won't be known until the end of next summer when the birds have another chance of breeding with reduced stoat numbers. Why was the rat knock-down lower in some areas? The seed-fuelled mast conditions prompted extreme rat population levels at some sites – levels that DOC had not attempted to control before. DOC is still closely analysing results from each operation to determine the factors that might have affected its effectiveness at killing rats. These factors include rat population levels, timing of operations, sowing rates and the effect of exclusion areas. The lessons learnt from last year's beech mast response campaign will help improve predator plague responses in the future. What about the stoat results? Stoats are not monitored as frequently as rats and mice because they only breed once a year and therefore their numbers do not rise in the same way that rodents do. Results from stoat tracking at 15 Battle for our Birds sites after summer breeding showed no evidence of stoat plagues. Results showed that 13 sites had very low stoat tracking of less than 10%; the other two sites showed tracking of more than 10% but still at considerably lower than plague levels. At six of these sites trapping contributed to the pest control effort. Will Battle for our Birds continue? Assessment of beech trees in a number of South Island areas shows no evidence of seeding this autumn. With no beech mast in sight, there will be no need for a repeat of last year's major coordinated pest control effort to combat associated predator plagues. However, DOC will continue its regular pest control work under the Battle for our Birds banner. DOC is planning to carry out aerial 1080 pest control over about 250,000 hectares this year about 50,000 hectares more than normal – to protect vulnerable native species from pests. This is an extension of DOC's regular pest control work to protect the most at-risk native animals and plants. Ground control methods such as poison bait stations and traps will also be used as key components of this programme.
Cave Creek	Cave Creek Tragedy - 20 year Anniversary This year marks 20 years since the Cave Creek tragedy. On 28 April 1995, 13 students from Tai Poutini Polytechnic and a DOC staff member were killed when the viewing platform collapsed into a ravine in the Cave Creek area of the South Island's West Coast. Four other students who were on the viewing platform survived the 30 metre fall. Those who lost their lives were: students Catherine McCarthy, Abram Larmour, De-Anne Reid, Paul Chisholm, Scott Murray, Alison Blackman, Anne-Marie Cook, Jody Davis, Peter Shaw, Bary Hobson, Matthew Reed, Kit Pawsey, Evan Stuart; and DOC officer Stephen O'Dea.



A memorial of the tragedy sits in a clearing not far from the Cave Creek walk. The stones are placed there by visitors returning from the creek bed.
[Photographer: Shellie Evans]

On 21 April at DOC National Office, we held a service to mark the event. This was led by Reverend Peter Beck, and Honourable Minister Maggie Barry gave a reading.

Mike Slater spoke on his time when he became West Coast Conservator soon after the tragic event. He reflected on the past 20 years working with the families of those that died and were injured. He acknowledged Shirley Slater who was one of the first on the scene of the tragedy.

On 28 April, Te Tai Poutini Polytechnic held a commemoration service with Cave Creek families in Greymouth. The Director-General spoke for DOC at the service.

DOC Director-General Lou Sanson says, "Our thoughts on this anniversary are with the families and friends of those who lost their lives at Cave Creek, and the survivors.

20 years on DOC's commitment is to supporting the families, and remembering the lessons we learned from this tragedy.

The safety of visitors and staff is a primary priority for the Department. We maintain a clear focus on ensuring we never experience another incident like Cave Creek."

	 A memorial service for the victims of the Cave Creek tragedy was held in Greymouth.
Kauri dieback	The scientific name for the organism causing kauri dieback has now been formalised by the researchers and changes from its interim name, <i>Phytophthora</i> 'taxon <i>Agathis</i>', to <i>Phytophthora agathidicida</i> (which essentially means 'kauri killing phytophthora'). The common name 'kauri dieback disease' will continue to be used and the new name will be used whenever the scientific name is required. <u>The Department's kauri dieback recreation project</u> The current focus is to finalise the programme of track upgrades for year one of the three-year project. Track upgrades in the first year will focus on areas of high relative recreation value, where their upgrade would eliminate the risk of spread of kauri dieback quickly and where there is wide support to keep the tracks open. Years two and three will address the less straightforward areas where strategic discussions with the joint agency Kauri Dieback Programme, communities and tangata whenua are required to ensure that we have the right treatment (i.e. closures or upgrades) in the right set of circumstances. An adaptive approach to upgrades and maintenance will ensure that we are mitigating the risk of further spread in the best way with current knowledge.
Threatened Species Ambassador	DOC Threatened Species Ambassador The Minister has announced the creation of a new DOC Threatened Species Ambassador role, which will be a powerful new voice dedicated to raising public awareness of our threatened species and the efforts needed to conserve them. The Threatened Species Ambassador will be based in National Office and will report directly to the Deputy Director-General, Strategy and Innovation. The role description is being developed and will be advertised soon. This is an exciting new awareness and advocacy role, which will have a high public profile. The Ambassador will work alongside our Partnerships Group,

	Communications team and others to engage and educate new audiences in the plight of our threatened species and start a wider conversation about how we can all work together to protect our nature. They will work collaboratively across sectors, including with iwi, conservation groups, regional and local government, schools and businesses. Air New Zealand is supporting the role for two years as an expansion of our partnership deal.
Sea mammals	New Zealand sea lion - risk assessment panel - NZ sea lions are endemic to New Zealand, thought to number around 10,000 with a 10-year decline in pup production recorded at the main breeding site, the Auckland Islands. - DOC and MPI are jointly working to schedule to provide the Minister for Primary Industries advice, in mid 2016, on the potential make-up of a threat management plan (TMP) for the sea lions. - As part of the TMP development process, officials held a risk assessment workshop with invited international experts (from the United States, Australia and the United Kingdom) from 28 April to 1 May. This was the first part of a two stage risk assessment. The second workshop will take place the first week of September and the results will feed into the development of potential management options for consultation. - Management of sea lions has attracted negative media attention in the past. A communications plan is in place to manage any media attention in the risk assessment process. This will highlight the current measures to protect the sea lions, and the government intention to establish, in 2016, a fully integrated threat management plan, based on the best available scientific information, to recover all sea lion populations.
Threatened species work	Black Robin and Shore Plover census (Chatham Islands) after Cyclone Pam - A census has been completed on both Rangatira & Mangere Islands of the remaining shore plover and black robin populations to determine the impacts of Cyclone Pam. - There has been a 30% decrease in numbers of adult and a 50% loss of juvenile shore plover. They were once widespread throughout New Zealand but introduced predators confined the last remaining population in the wild to Rangatira Island, a pest-free nature reserve in the Chathams group. Later re-introductions placed birds on nearby Mangere Island Nature Reserve and in captive programmes in New Zealand. - Although this is an unfortunate event for shore plover, it is thought that their breeding capacity had been reached given the limited habitat, so it is hoped that numbers will return in a few seasons. Prior to the weather event, there were approximately 160 adults comprising 48 pairings on Rangatira. Shore plover are extremely vulnerable to rats and cats, with the impact being disastrous and swift. - Black robin appear to be down in general by 30-40%. Unique to Rangatira and Mangere, the birds were already weak as a result of the long, dry summer but have been particularly affected by the cyclone with juveniles down in numbers from 80 to 29 on Rangatira Island.

	Great spotted kiwi / roroa translocation • A wild-to-wild kiwi translocation of six great spotted kiwi (GSK) / roroa from the Hawdon Valley (Arthur's Pass National Park) to the Nina Valley (Lake Sumner Forest Park) was successfully carried out over 15-16 April. It was attended by approximately 40 people, including 25 students. • It follows six years of work by the Hurunui College's Nina Valley Restoration Group (NVRG) to set up and manage a comprehensive predator control programme in the Nina Valley in order to establish a self-sustaining population of GSK. • There are nine known and monitored GSK in this area. They were released by DOC in partnership with NVRG through the BNZ Operation Nest Egg (ONE) programme between 2010 and 2012. • The ONE programme for GSK was less successful than that for other kiwi species (e.g. the North Island brown kiwi), so this is a first to recover adult monitored GSK from an intensively managed site for relocation into the Nina Valley. • The NVRG has been extremely successful in generating support from a wide range of external parties / partnerships including BNZ Save the Kiwi Trust (now Kiwis for kiwi) for the initial ONE work, Air New Zealand's <i>Kids restore New Zealand</i> programme and, most recently, the Ministry for the Environment's Community Environmental Fund to cover the cost of the translocation. • Lincoln University has committed to undertake the translocation monitoring for two years. • DOC was involved in the translocation application and approval process; logistics of the GSK capture and release, using external contractors where possible; liaison with other groups; ongoing technical support; and overseeing NVRG and Lincoln University work. • There was excellent media coverage of the event through TV3 and in the local newspapers – see Great spotted kiwi released in Canterbury and www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/67814340/spotted-kiwi-released-thanks-to-students-efforts. Whio release • 11 captive bred whio were released on the Kaiwhakauka (2 birds) and Retaruke (9 birds) rivers last week. These are tributaries of the upper Whanganui River. • A celebration was held at the release site on the Retaruke River which was attended by local iwi, land holders, Regional Council, the local school, community and DOC staff. The Retaruke River is part of a national Whio Security Site supported by Genesis Energy and the Kia Wharite Biodiversity Project.
Freshwater ecosystems	<u>Freshwater ecosystems:</u> Our Global Wetlands – New Zealand Ramsar Symposium 2015 • The symposium resulted from collaboration between DOC's Arawai Kāikāriki Wetland Restoration Programme and National Wetland Trust. • It provided a platform for learning about the management of our important

	wetlands, by bringing together 93 key delegates from across New Zealand: DOC 36; Oceania Ramsar secretariat 1; MfE 1; regional councils 21; iwi 2; NZCA 1; industry 4; community groups and trusts 18; NGOs 7; tertiary institutions 2. • DOC described: 1. its proactive and strategic approach to Ramsar implementation for all wetlands; 2. the progression of at least one new site for nomination in the next 12 months; 3. improving our monitoring and reporting of Ramsar sites, and seeking opportunities for involving iwi and community in wetland monitoring, using citizen science; 4. our stretch goal of restoring 50 freshwater ecosystems across New Zealand. The knowledge gained from Arawai Kākāriki will be used at other important wetlands, lakes, rivers and estuaries; 5. the need to increase advocacy in the community for wetlands. • The symposium promoted the DOC Arawai Kākāriki Programme to a national audience. (Presentations are available on the National Wetlands Trust website. • Six interactive workshops were held to improve wetland and Ramsar site management. • <u>Feedback and evaluation</u> – 98% of responses rated the symposium as excellent or good (most being excellent). • <u>Key actions delegates took away</u>: Network/educate/advocate re wetlands; Ramsar applies to all wetlands, not just Ramsar sites; ensure Ramsar influence on policy; integration into policy and regional wetlands, stakeholder involvement; promote/increase awareness of Ramsar; multi-agency collaboration; promote Southland coast as a flyway site; improve Ramsar site management. • <u>Key actions for Department of Conservation to progress</u>: - o Give more emphasis to the Ramsar principle: <i>Wise use of wetlands</i> - o Need for more effective between-agency and within-agency information sharing - o Improve Ramsar site assessment (trends in ecological character) - o Increase public awareness of, participation in and accessibility to, wetland conservation, through partnership with National Wetland Trust, iwi, community groups and other agencies.
Hawkes Bay Biodiversity Strategy	Cape to City launch in Napier 30 April • This world-leading programme aims to achieve a predator free Hawke's Bay. It will focus on ultra low cost, large-scale predator control across 26,000 ha of farmland between Waimarama and Havelock North with the aim to restore native species and plants. It is supported by Hawkes Bay farmers.

	• The project is a partnership between the Hawke's Bay Regional Council, the Department, Landcare Research, Cape Sanctuary and Aotearoa Foundation, private business and other Crown Research Institutes. It represents a significant investment over five years for both Cape to City and a sister project, Poutiri Ao ō Tāne of more than \$6 million. • The launch included an education component to assist local school children and their teachers to understand the value of biodiversity through NZ and Te Marautanga Curriculum-linked programmes. It is delivered through interactive place-based education, working with Cape Sanctuary. The Project Ambassador, Ruud Kleinpaste, works closely with the education stream and the younger generation. • This project also enhances the value of the Hawke's Bay Regional Biodiversity Strategy in the aim of restoring biodiversity across the region
Forums	South-East Marine Protection Forum • The South-East Marine Protection Forum met in Owaka, on 14 March, with an open public session. Over 80 people attended this session, with a mix of fishing and environmental interests apparent. This is the fourth time the Forum has included a public session at the end of its Forum meetings, this one having by far the largest turnout. This was not unexpected, due to the previous attempts at establishing a marine reserve at Nugget Point, which have been met with public opposition. The following article was published in the Otago Daily Times following the meeting: http://www.odt.co.nz/regions/south-otago/336415/feelings-run-high-over-marine-reserve-proposal • The Forum is currently in the information gathering stage – from the local communities and sector groups, including scientific data on the region. It expects to begin drafting recommendations in August. • The South-East Marine Protection Forum met again on 18 April. This meeting followed a science workshop held at the Otago University Marine Science Department, involving presentations about the region by a number of independent scientists, and offering their continued assistance. A second workshop is being planned for July. • About 90 people attended the public session of the Forum meeting, representing a range of perspectives. Associate Minister, Hon Nicky Wagner attended the Forum meeting, and was able to hear what engagement had been undertaken by each Forum member during the previous month. Support staff are currently engaging with the office of Hon. Peter Dunne to schedule a time for him to attend the May Forum meeting, in Timaru.
Te Urewera	Joint workshops with the Department and Tuhoe • Workshops between on the ground DOC Services staff with Tuhoe Waikaremoana Tribal staff have progressed well over the last three weeks. • These workshops have looked at joint business planning and many ideas are being shared regarding how the two teams can better integrate with each other. • Te Urewera Board held its first Management Planning workshop on 1 May. Discussions focussed on the likely shape of the framework for the new Te

	Urewera Plan. Themes included: natural features; beauty of Te Urewera; integrity of indigenous ecological systems; use of Te Urewera; stakeholders; and cultural and historical heritage.
Partnerships Fund	Community Conservation Partnerships Fund - The Department received over 300 applications as part of the Expression of Interest (EOI) process. - The regional/national application breakdown was as follows: Northern North Island 41; Auckland 25; Central North Island 60; Lower North Island 63; North West South Island 54; South East South Island 62; National 29. - The financial support applied for significantly exceeds the available funds. - Assessment of EOIs has been completed and applicants will be advised in mid May whether they have been unsuccessful or whether a full application has been requested.
Education	Education Update The cross-government initiative between DOC, The NEXT Foundation, MfE and MoE in Advancing Environmental Education (EE) in NZ has progressed in the following ways: - A Cross-sector Advisory Group is meeting monthly to accelerate and oversee progress of the Advancing EE Project. - Project Manager (Davina Hunt) has been appointed to support this work, including overseeing the development of an EE Summit. - Draft discussion paper for the proposed EE Summit approach is with the CEs of the agencies for approval. - The purpose of the Summit has been affirmed as “a catalyst to bring together key stakeholders and decisions-makers to generate a positive step change for EE in NZ”. - NZ Council of Educational Research is assessing the current state of EE in NZ. A progress report has been received by the Steering Group with a final report by end May to feed into the Summit.
Compliance matters	Cumberworth Deer Farm Notice to De-Stock - Mr Allan J Cumberworth is the occupier of a 41ha property at Waitaanga in Northern Taranaki, which backs onto the Waitaanga Conservation Area. Mr Cumberworth farms fallow deer and undertakes safari park activities on his property in a regulated deer farming area. His property does not meet the required fencing standards under the Wild Animal Control (WAC) Act 1977. - The Department has attempted to work with Mr Cumberworth since 2007 to get the fencing up to standard, but has not been successful. - The Department issued a letter to Mr Cumberworth on 24 November 2014, instructing him to de-stock the property of all deer by the end of March 2015. - Between November 2014 and 8 April 2015, the Department has continued to encourage Mr Cumberworth to update his fences to the legislative requirements. On 8 April 2015, a final inspection was carried out and the

	fences were again assessed as not meeting the standards set out in the WAC Act. - On 28 April 2015, correspondence was sent to Mr Cumberworth confirming the Department's intention to begin a process to have the deer removed under Section 16 of the WAC Act as his fences still did not meet the required standards. - Mr Cumberworth is currently a member of the Taranaki/ Whanganui Conservation Board. Separate legal advice has been obtained regarding the removal of Mr Cumberworth from the Board Membership. The Department has briefed the Chair of the Board, who has spoken directly to Mr Cumberworth regarding his resignation.
Westport tourism initiatives	Introduction Westport is a community facing decline. Recently announced layoffs at Solid Energy's Stockton Mine (151 jobs) on top of the loss of 189 jobs last July and the closure of Holcim's cement manufacturing plant at Cape Foulwind likely in the second half of 2016 (120 jobs) is already starting to have an impact. Seeking alternative opportunities to sustain the community is essential if we are to stem the loss of a skilled workforce relocating to other centres in search of work along with the consequential loss of support services such as health, education and small businesses. DOC is the biggest provider and investor in tourism facilities within the district. We are a key figure in providing, managing and leading tourism opportunities on the public conservation estate. And that estate is unique in that it encompasses 84% of the district land mass. As a first initiative DOC is a key governance member of the newly formed "Advance Northern West Coast" tourism group. This group is made up from across the business sector and a key part of its core purpose is to build a stronger visitor industry and work to contribute more widely to the regional economy. Our Investments 1. Old Ghost Road National Cycleway. In 2009 the NZ Cycleway project was born to develop cycle trails throughout the country to capitalise on the domestic and international cycle tourism market and stimulate economic activity. This initiative lifted the potential scale and feasibility of the Old Ghost Road project. DOC became a key partner with the local Mokihiui – Lyell Backcountry Trust and this multi day cycle or tramp 85km trail was born. DOC's role has been many faceted. We are a significant funding provider, technical advisor, environmental monitor, marketing supporter and publicist and we also maintain 37km of the trail. In addition we maintain a campsite at the Lyell end of the trail which is the main launch point for those cycling or tramping. In the past 3 years camp site growth has grown considerably as we raise the profile through articles in publications such as RV Magazine and Wilderness Magazine. Day visitor use over the past 3 years has grown from 4500 visitors to over 10,000 visitors while overnight camping has increased from 1600 in 2010 to 2958 last year.

	Although not quite completed the trail is already displaying steady incremental growth with 5635 users on the Lyell section last year up from around 1200 the previous year. Prior to 2009 less than 100 visitors ventured onto the Lyell Valley section of the OGR. 2. Heaphy Great Walk: This 78km track has benefited from considerable investment over the past 5 years. Three new huts have been constructed, suspension bridges have replaced the old Forest Service wire bridges, the track surface (western side) has received considerable upgrade and seasonal mountain biking has been introduced. In addition the Heaphy Valley is now an intensely managed biodiversity site funded by Bathurst Resources as part of their Escarpment Mine compensation package. This is the place visitors can expect to see Great Spotted Kiwi, Powelliphanta snails and at dusk Long Tailed Bats. The track is part of the Air NZ Great Walks campaign and along with publicity provided by the mountain bike fraternity is starting to show growth. Heaphy Hut use since 2010 has shown a steady increase from 2230 users to last years 6303. Additionally DOC also provide a campsite at the Kohaihai River, the western side start point for the track. In 2010 use was recorded at 6241 compared to 2014 with 10,754 users. Many of these campers use the coastal section of the track for a day walk experience. During the 3 year mountain bike trial period Karamaea businesses were benefited in their traditional off season by the presence of bikers staying overnight thus providing an economic boost to the community. Presently work is underway to package opportunities by integrating accommodation and transport with mountain biking both the Heaphy and Old Ghost Road. 3. Denniston: The historic mining settlement of Denniston is where DOC has chosen to celebrate NZ early coal mining heritage. Significant investment with partners under the umbrella of Denniston Heritage Trust (Buller District Council, Development West Coast, Solid Energy, Friends of the Hill, DOC) plus numerous local businesses has provided a \$3.5m investment resulting in a world class tourism destination. Denniston Heritage Trust was the Regional and then Supreme winner of the 2011 Trust Power Community Awards recognising it's work within the community at Denniston. DOC then went on to receive the 2012 Parks Forum "Excellence in Parks – Cultural" Commendation award for its efforts in promoting the cultural landscape at Denniston through interactive displays,apps and QR codes along with static displays and interpretation plus audio visual presentations. Prior to these investments visitor use at Denniston was a low 4000pa. Today over 30,000 people visit the site and participate in the Denniston experience which includes the early Incline Brake Head site plus a guided commercial opportunity to visit the Banbury tourist underground coal mine along with a train ride on the former Banbury rope road. For Westport, this investment has resulted in additional overnight stays as
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	people explore the early mining sites on the Denniston plateau. 4. Tauranga Bay / Cape Foulwind: Tauranga Bay is the locality of a NZ Fur Seal Colony and an important visitor destination for the northern West Coast second only to Punakaiki. A cliff top walking track links the bay with Cape Foulwind and is a popular half day return walk. DOC has made considerable investment at both ends of the walk. New car parks are in place along with upgraded toilet facilities. The walk has been substantially improved and a new viewing platform constructed above the seal colony replacing the previous two which had become crowded. In addition new interpretation has been installed covering the history and seal population. Use has continued to grow. In 2012 use was 140,028 visitors. In 2014 it was 147,792 visitors. In February 2015 visitor use was 10,000 visitors up on the same time the previous year. The majority of these visitors are FiT's and the added economic benefit they bring is to nearby cafes and camp sites. 5. Punakaiki: Punakaiki is best associated with the nearby "blow holes" situated at Dolomite Point. This is a significant visitor destination with growth increasing from 314,991 visitors in 2011 to a steady rise to 341,147 in 2014. For the 2015 year we are expecting an 8% growth on the previous year. DOC continues to invest considerably at this site. The public toilet system has received considerable investment, carparks at either end of the village upgraded, day walks in the Pororari and Punakaiki Valleys vastly improved through new suspension bridges, track surfacing and safety structures. DOC also maintains a visitor centre and i-Site at Punakaiki. Working with Punakaiki Promotions (the local business group) we are focusing on marketing the Pororari – Punakaiki loop track as the best half day walk on the West Coast. Already we are seeing growth in use from 5186 users in 2014 to 10,269 for the first 4 months of 2015. By keeping people just a little longer enables the business to extract that additional cup of coffee or a meal. In addition we have upgraded the Pororari car park and enabled self contained over night freedom camping which further contributes to the use pattern. Conclusion The primary focus of our efforts is to sustain and grow tourism opportunities within the Buller District. We are working closely with key agencies to seek partnering investments and to ensure that our work aligns with community needs. And we intend to keep promoting the message of DOC being an essential part of community prosperity and that the relevance of DOC's investments are critical to the future of the district.
Milford Sound tourism issues	The 2014/2005 tourism season saw visitor numbers to Milford Sound bounce back to beyond previous highest levels in 2006. Visitor numbers to Milford are estimated to have been 530,000 for year ending 31st March 2015. This season was also the highest number of camp site "bed nights" along the Milford Road that the Department has experienced with 36,000 bed nights. The effects of the increased numbers, from the Department's point of view, mainly centred

	around parking at Milford Sound itself from between 10.30am through to 2pm when the highest number of visitors were in Milford Sound. These are the peak cruise times especially for those independent travellers who choose to travel from and back to Queenstown. Normally over the past 6 years there has been a peak of 10 days over the New Year period that parking becomes full, this year this carried on through into March. To manage the parking in Milford this season the Department used volunteers to assist visitors find car parks and keep traffic flowing. This did result in vehicles parking in non designated areas such as on concessionaries lease areas of grass and at times along the roadside. To manage this over the coming years while a longer term option is being worked through Milford Sound Development Authority is applying to the Department to use an area of land off Deepwater Basin Road as overflow car parking, this area will hold 60 cars and it is not an area that can be built upon at anytime in the future so it is suitable as an overflow car park. Volunteers again will be used and managed by Milford Development Authority to direct and assist parking through the peak time from New Year to mid March and Milford Development Authority will be running a shuttle bus to transfer visitors to the Visitor Terminal from the overflow car parking area. The longer term proposal is to encourage independent travellers to take advantage of lower priced cruise fares offered by cruise companies early morning and late afternoon. At present there is a lack of accommodation in or close to Milford Sound and the Department has commissioned a report looking at current campsites and potential campsites along the Milford Road that bring campers closer to Milford Sound to encourage people to visit Milford in the shoulder times of the day. The Department is also working with the tour operators to find ways to encourage better uptake of these shoulder cruises as well. Encouraging tourist to stay in Te Anau or Manapouri the night before or following a trip to Milford would also assist in shifting the peak times in the middle of the day when Queenstown based tourist arrive in Milford. The changes have come about by two influences – the first being New Zealand has experienced a big up surge in tourism following the Global Economic Crisis and Tourism New Zealand has been marketing independent touring of New Zealand to the Chinese market. The uptake of independent travelling from this market has been immediate which was unexpected, it was considered that it would take about 5 years for this market to be comfortable travelling independently.
Tongariro Crossing	Before the Tongariro Alpine Crossing (TAC) season started the Department held an Operators Hui. This was used to discuss volcanic risk, issues around public safety and was an opportunity to get feedback from operators on what things we could do better. We also have an end of season hui to review how things went and use any learnings to improve our systems. With regards to general safety on the crossing, there were approximately 100,000 visitors to the crossing, 1.2 million visitors to the park and between 45 and 50 SAR ops for the financial year. This season there has been approximately a 30% increase in users of the Tongariro Alpine Crossing. This has generated a number of risks/ issues; • Traffic management of the roads –to minimise this risk the Department have put a side path on the Ketatahi road end to ensure walkers are off the road. We have also implemented a cyclic resurfacing plan on both roads to ensure that the roads can withstand the increased traffic.

	• On long weekends we have implemented a programme of traffic management and car park monitoring by field staff. • We have had an increase in sewerage being transported off with a significant increase in costs to the department. • After long weekends the Department do litter control work on the track. • Having trained and paid hut wardens this year has assisted significantly with the management of the TAC. We have installed a new weather centre at Te Maari crater which gives us live data, which enables the Department to perform adverse weather monitoring. If we have a weather trigger day, which is when there is a 60 km/ hr wind factor in conjunction with a weather event, this then informs the Department as to whether or not operators should be operating. If we have adverse weather, monitoring is done via hut wardens and field staff who monitor road ends to advise transport operators not to operate and to help catch individuals who do not go through operators. We have also implemented a policy that operators do not transport after 8 am once daylight saving to prevent people getting caught in dark at the road end. We estimate the set of tools we use for volcanic risk reduction has reduced volcanic risk by 80-99% in TNP. The two most important tools are 1) GeoNet system and 2) the real-time public warning system. That is we estimate that 1) EQC-owned GeoNet system, associated research and the Volcanic Alert Level system plus GNS-DOC communication reduce 75% of the risk; while 2) specifically DOC's Eruption Detection System and the lights on the TAC reduce the risk by a further 80%. Our survey last year of the effectiveness of the lights showed that 98% of visitors saw the light signs and 90% understood the message (first language had no statistical influence of comprehension). The survey suggested that 83% would have complied (i.e. turned back) or waited for more information.
Ulva Island - royal visit	HRH Prince Harry visited Ulva Island on 10th May as part of his tour of New Zealand. This was the only interaction with DOC and the New Zealand Conservation story during this tour. Prince Harry appreciated looking at some of New Zealand's rarest birdlife on Ulva Island during his visit at the week, especially Stewart Island robin. The prince scuffed leaf litter at the edge of the path and was fascinated the robin immediately hopped in beside his shoe. He also saw kākāriki/parakeet, brown creeper/pīpī, rifleman/tītipounamu and weka at close range, pointed out by DOC manager Brent Beaven and ranger Kate Richardson as they led him through the island's unspoilt rainforest and along its pristine golden beaches. Brent said the prince was remarkably well informed about conservation in New Zealand and internationally. He showed genuine interest in the work by the Department of Conservation, Ulva Island Trustees and the Hunter family, who own a portion of the island, to create and maintain this sanctuary for threatened species, asking them and DOC rangers about their roles in island conservation management. The media interest was beyond belief with stories going immediately all around the world. The staff involved had two key simple messages: 1) the impact of introduced predators and the value of islands; 2) conservation underpins tourism contributing to the economy. These messages were clearly picked up in both national and international media reports. Ulva looked great, the staff looked professional, the messaging was clear. All in all, a successful 2 hours.

In addition, DOC leant strong support to the police operation and Department of Internal Affairs for the royal visit to Stewart Island. This involved full use of resources including vehicles, boats and staff. This was truly an all-of-government approach.

See also: <http://intranet/news-summary/doc-notice-summary/prince-harrys-visit-behind-the-scenes/>



Prince Harry talking to DOC staff Kate Richardson and Brent Beaven

New Zealand Conservation Authority Meeting No. 143	Agenda Item: 143.8
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REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Tata Lawton, Deputy Director-General Kaupapa Atawhai Tumuaki,
Kahui Kaupapa Atawhai

Subject: **Briefing for Intermediate Outcome 2 (Historic Assets)**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA: Strategic advice to the Minister and DG in the context of conservation in today's economy, and strategic advice on public policy documents and legislation
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the presentation from Tata Lawton (Deputy Director General Kaupapa Atawhai Tumuaki, Kahui Kaupapa Atawhai) on the Strategy for Intermediate Outcomes 2 (Historic Assets)
Context	The D-G has asked the individual DD-Gs to present their investment strategies, for the Intermediate Outcomes that they are leading, to the Authority. This discussion will raise the 3 biggest opportunities and the 3 biggest challenges – what's highest on their mind to make DOC do better to grow conservation? This presentation focuses on IO2 –Historic Assets.

New Zealand Conservation Authority Meeting No. 143	Agenda Item: 143.9
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REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Lucy Alcock, Acting DD-G, Policy and Regulatory Services

Subject: **DD-G P&RSG Environmental Scan**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA: Strategic advice to the Minister and DG in the context of conservation in today's economy, and strategic advice on public policy documents and legislation
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the environmental scan from Lucy Alcock (Acting DD-G, P&RSG)
Context	As part of her environmental scan, the Acting DD-G P&RSG will discuss the following issues: • Guidelines for Concessions in NPs – an update on progress on the preparation of the guidelines • An update on the Marine Protected Areas programme

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Marie Long, Director Planning Permissions and Land

Subject: **Stewardship land reclassification**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	Stewardship land reclassification is a priority for DOC in 2015/16 and outyears
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper b) Provide advice on possible criteria for prioritising stewardship land reclassification candidates
Context	The PCE's report highlighted stewardship land as being in need of reviewing and reclassifying. DOC has several reclassification pieces of work underway or planned for 2015/16. DOC seeks NZCA advice on possible criteria to identify priorities for reclassification effort in the next 3-5 years.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Marie Long, Director Planning Permissions and Land

Subject: **Stewardship land reclassification**

Background

1. Stewardship land became a category of public conservation land when the Department of Conservation was created in 1987. The Conservation Act requires that stewardship land is managed so that its 'natural and historic resources are protected.'
2. Stewardship land makes up 30% of public conservation land (2.5 million hectares). 80% of this is in the South Island. In early 2014 there were 3354 separate parcels of land, with many being comparatively small areas. The 1000 smallest areas total about 570 hectares.
3. The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment published a report in August 2013 titled: Investigating the future of conservation: The case of stewardship land. In this report the Commissioner raised concern that stewardship land with significant conservation values does not have adequate legal protection, and recommended DOC identified areas of stewardship land that are clearly of significant conservation value and reclassify them in accordance with that value.
4. The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment suggested "that the Department should prepare a national strategy for the reclassification of stewardship land with significant conservation value, setting out revised reclassification priorities, and a plan and timetable for implementation." The Commissioner acknowledged "that it would be prohibitively costly to embark on a programme of reclassification of all stewardship land."

Details

5. In its initial thinking about priorities for reclassifying public conservation land the Department found the most significant opportunities in the North Island could conflict with Treaty negotiations and considered that these would be better approached in later tranches of work.
6. In identifying priorities for reclassifying stewardship land in the first tranche, the Department considered the following factors:
 - a) the desirability of avoiding complicating Treaty negotiations and recent settlements. This effectively rules out immediate action in the North Island;
 - b) significant conservation values based on analysis of the Department's priority setting systems for management of natural heritage and recreation;

- c) Conservation Management Strategy and National Park Management Plans, significant previous proposals and some other authoritative sources;
 - d) Nature Heritage Fund purchases identified as priorities by the Fund;
 - e) avoiding conflict with other Crown interests, such as mineral potential and high country tenure review;
 - f) economies of scale eg geographical packages to streamline consultation, large land parcels to reduce the number of statutory actions required.
7. Based on the factors above, the Department concurred with the Parliamentary Commissioner that good candidates for reclassification in the first tranche included:
- a) Saint James Station (79,439 hectares of stewardship land) including the Poplars NHF purchase and some adjoining stewardship land (an additional 8592 ha). The package covers about 3.5% of all stewardship land;
 - b) the Mokihinui River catchment and adjoining stewardship land above the Buller River (54,800 ha of stewardship land) - about 2% of all stewardship land. This does not include the coal areas at Denniston, Stockton and Waimangaroa.
 - c) Te Waahipounamu - South West New Zealand World Heritage Area (540,000 hectares of stewardship land). This covers about 22% of all stewardship land;
8. The Department could progress two of these packages as part of the first tranche, over the next eighteen to thirty months.
9. In addition, the Department identified a further fifteen priority areas for reclassification of land purchased by the Nature Heritage Fund (23,959 hectares, much of it stewardship land). Four of these require public consultation.
10. A current picture of progress on these pieces of work is attached in Appendix One

Section 4 Conservation Act

11. Consultation with relevant iwi about reclassification is a standard step in the reclassification process.

Next steps

12. A project to develop a 5 Year Stewardship Reclassification Plan has been put forward as part of business planning for 2015/16. Large reclassification projects take considerable resources and time to complete so having a plan to focus effort will be valuable. When completed, this Plan will guide work on reprioritisation through to 2020/21, enabling focus on areas of significant conservation value.
13. The initial factors have been helpful in identifying the first tranche of reclassification work. I welcome advice from the NZ Conservation Authority about criteria for prioritising future reclassification efforts that could be used to progress this work
14. The advice from conservation boards about priority reclassification sites, requested by the Minister of Conservation, is also expected to contribute to the Plan.

Appendix One – Current reclassification progress

Mokihinui River catchment (Buller)

15. This package includes stewardship land in the Mokihinui catchment above the township, the Mokihinui Forks Ecological Area and adjoining stewardship land above the Buller River (up to 54,800 ha of stewardship land).
16. Investigation of the Mokihinui River for addition to Kahurangi National Park was requested by the West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board and others in 2012. This work is underway. In 2013 the Authority resolved to reconsider the proposal once the Mokihinui river bed in the area had been transferred to the Department. Work has been underway on the acquisition of the riverbed and the proposed additions to the Park.
17. The Department has recently sought NZCA advice about whether to advance the reclassification of the stewardship land separately from the acquisition and reclassification of the riverbed. This item is on the NZCA's June agenda.
18. It is proposed that these area(s) be investigated for addition to Kahurangi National Park. The package will require pre-approval by the New Zealand Conservation Authority and will follow the process set out in sections 7 and 8 of the National Parks Act.
19. It is estimated that reclassification would take between twelve and eighteen months to complete. There is likely to be significant public interest.

Pike River – addition to Paparoa National Park

20. Work is currently underway on addition of the Pike River area to Paparoa National Park. The survey plan is underway and discussions with LINZ about survey requirements have occurred. There is a requirement for some survey field work where the SE boundary meets private land.

Saint James Station and The Poplars

21. Saint James Station was purchased for the Crown by the Nature Heritage Fund. It covers an area of 79,439 hectares. The nearby Poplars Station was also bought by the NHF and is also one of its priorities for reclassification. The Poplars and some adjacent stewardship land cover another 8592 ha.
22. Assessment on the simplest on most appropriate land classification is indicating towards a new conservation park. Reclassification will require public consultation under the Conservation Act. The process is expected to take approximately nine months to a year and cost an estimated \$200,000 to \$230,000 in staff time and operating budget. The work is proposed for funding in the business planning for 2015/16.
23. The New Zealand Conservation Authority and affected Conservation Boards will need to be consulted as this is an area of national importance.
24. There is likely to be multiple iwi interest in the reclassification process. There is likely to be significant public interest.

Te Waahipounamu - South West New Zealand World Heritage Area

25. Work on this significant reclassification project has not yet started. This package includes all stewardship land currently in the World Heritage Area and could include some contiguous stewardship land and reserves: over 540,000 hectares in total.
26. It is proposed that some of this land is added to the Westland, Mount Aspiring and Fiordland National Parks as outlined in their management plans. Other areas will be investigated for reclassification as specially protected areas eg ecological, wildlife management and amenity areas. There are over 30 priority Biodiversity Management Units on stewardship land in the World Heritage Area.
27. The package would require pre-approval by the New Zealand Conservation Authority. Public consultation will be required under the National Parks Act, Conservation and Reserves Acts. Significant national park additions will follow the process set out in sections 7 and 8 of the National Parks Act. Processes will be concurrent.
28. It is estimated that reclassification would take thirty months to complete and cost an estimated \$0.8 to \$1.0 million in staff time and operating budget. There is likely to be a high level of public interest from Ngai Tahu, local communities, and conservation and recreation groups as well as the relevant Conservation Boards, Fish & Game and the Game Animal Council.
29. Note that the proposed Haast to Hollyford road would pass through the Te Waahipounamu - South West New Zealand World Heritage Area (including stewardship and, potentially, national park lands).

Other Nature Heritage Fund Purchases

30. Fifteen areas purchased by the Nature Heritage Fund, covering 23,959 hectares in total have progressed towards final classification in the last year.
31. Five sites have been completed to national park status in the last 12 months:
 - a) Jefferies, Oweka, Inangahua (West Coast - Paparoa National Park);
 - b) Waiho River (West Coast - Westland Tai Poutini National Park);
 - c) Hunt R & S, Landsborough Valley (West Coast - Mt Aspiring National Park);
 - d) Landsborough Valley (West Coast - Mt Aspiring National Park);
 - e) Cowan, Haast Pass (West Coast - Mt Aspiring National Park);
32. The proposed conservation park status of 3 Canterbury sites is indicated in the draft Canterbury CMS, namely
 - a) Castle Hill, Porters Pass (Canterbury - Craigieburn & Korowai Torlesse Tussocklands Conservation Parks);
 - b) Hakatere Station (Canterbury - Hakatere Conservation Park);
 - c) Tarnbrae, Ashburton Lakes (Canterbury - Ahuriri Conservation Park);
33. Reclassification of the three Canterbury sites and Canaan Downs at Takaka Hill will require public consultation under the National Parks Act, Conservation and Reserves

Acts, and will take up to twenty four months to complete as part of the current work plan. These sites cover 20,958 ha.

34. Three Nelson and three Southland sites are proposed for national park additions and are at iwi consultation stage. These are:
- a) Gavin, Westhaven, Whanganui Inlet (Nelson - Kahurangi National Park);
 - b) Harwood, Kahurangi Point (Nelson - Kahurangi National Park);
 - c) Big River, Kahurangi Point (Nelson - Kahurangi National Park);
 - d) King DT & Co, Borland Mire (Southland - Fiordland National Park);
 - e) O'Brien, Westend Station, Monowai (Southland - Fiordland National Park);
 - f) Wang/Morgan, Cromarty (Southland - Fiordland National Park).
35. These sites could be added to national parks without public consultation, with the approval of the NZ Conservation Authority. The three Southland sites were considered by the NZCA in June 2014, who recommended iwi consultation be completed.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Land status proposals**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA Priority C: Land status change
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper b) Provide feedback on the two issues contained within this paper
Context	This paper brings to the Authority two matters in the area of changing land status that require their consideration and response: • A proposal from the Senior Land Advisor (Hokitika) on how to move forward on the issue around the land within the Mokihinui River Catchment, which has been before the Authority on a number of occasions since 2013 • A request from the Minister to provide guidance around the issue of “net conservation benefit” in relation to land exchanges

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Land status proposals**

Background

1. This paper serves as an introduction to two matters in the area of land status changes that require feedback from the Authority. They include:
 - The Mokihinui River Catchment land additions into the Kahurangi National Park – an area of approximately 67,000 hectares of conservation land
 - Guidance on the principles and processes to be used in making decisions on “net conservation benefit”.

Mokihinui Land Catchment

2. In July 2012, the West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board and the Buller Conservation Group Inc. requested the Authority initiate a Section 8 investigation into the suitability of the Mokihinui River catchment for addition to the Kahurangi National Park
3. The proposal sought to capitalise on the investment in information gathering and expert testimony already made by the Department (and others) in opposing the now withdrawn resource consent applications by Meridian Energy to dam the main stem of the river for hydro-electricity generation purposes.
4. The request was considered by the Authority at its August 2012 meeting, and in order to be able to consider the request the Authority resolved to:
 - a) ask the Department for a briefing on the Mokihinui River and the Mokihinui River catchment, to include information on known values, the land status(es) and levels of protection thereby provided, the options for the better protection of (1) the Mokihinui River main stem and (2) the Mokihinui River catchment and identification of conservation gains from each, and the projected costs and benefits and duration of each of the options
 - b) ask the Department to enquire of the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment whether there are any significant known minerals deposits within the area which could mean the Minister for Crown Minerals would oppose national park status.
5. The Authority received a part response from the Department in time for its December 2012 meeting. While sympathetic to the Department’s workload and the pressures facing departmental staff the Authority resolved to reiterate its

previous request to the Department of Conservation for information on the Mokihinui River and its catchment.

6. The Authority received a briefing from the Department at its April 2013 meeting, at which the Authority resolved:
 - a) to recommend that the Department of Conservation seek the transfer of the bed of the Mokihinui River and any other Crown Land administered by LINZ within the boundaries of adjoining public conservation land to the Department and its classification as a conservation area.
 - b) to put on the NZCA agenda for the April 2014 meeting an item to further discuss the West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board request that a Section 8 investigation be instigated for the bed of the Mokihinui River and its catchment.
7. The Department wrote to the Authority again in March 2014 explaining why limited progress had been had been made on the matter.
8. The attached letter of 12 May 2015 from the Department proposes a new approach to the reclassification. The suggestion now is that the issues around the riverbed are 'parked' until discussions with LINZ have been completed, but we proceed with the land within the river catchment.
9. It is possible that a full s8 investigation may not be warranted given the amount of research that has already been conducted into the ecological values of the land in question, but with an area of 68,000ha it may be too much for a s7 addition.
10. The Department is seeking the Authority's advice on this matter.

Section 4 Conservation Act

11. The Mokihinui catchment falls within the Ngāi Tahu rohe. Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu has been advised of the request from the West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board and Buller Conservation Group Inc. received, and the Authority's request for the Director-General to transfer the Mokihinui River bed and any adjoining Crown land managed by Land Information New Zealand within the boundaries of public conservation land to the Department for classification as a conservation area.
12. Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu will be kept informed of developments.

Our File: PAN 07-02-01

12 May 2015

RECEIVED
15/5/15

NZCA
File Reference:

SBA - 13-08

SBA - 09-05-08

Rick McGovern-Wilson
Executive Officer
New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10420
WELLINGTON 6143

Dear Rick

PROPOSED ADDITION TO KAHURANGI NATIONAL PARK

I refer to our telephone conversation today regarding the proposal to add approximately 66,580 hectares of conservation land that forms the Mokihinui River Catchment, into Kahurangi National Park. The current status of the land is part North-West Nelson Forest Park, conservation area (part Lyell-Radiant Range CA) and the vast majority of the Mokihinui Forks Ecological Area. The area proposed for addition is shown on the attached map.

Both the West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board and the New Zealand Conservation Authority are known to be very supportive of this proposal.

The question on my mind is which process the NZCA would want us to follow in adding this land to the Park. On the surface this proposal is very well known with there being considerable support for the land to be added to Kahurangi NP, not just from the NZCA and the WCCB but local conservation groups and the public in general probably, given the publicity surrounding the now defunct Meridian Hydro Dam Proposal. The only potential hiccup is the Ministry for Innovation, Business and Employment who have an interest from the mineral exploration point of view. My understanding is that there are a few permits affecting parts of the land. I am currently waiting for MBIE comment on our proposal to add this land to Kahurangi NP.

As you are aware there is a mountain of ecological information available on the Mokihinui River Catchment and I suppose we can thank the Meridian application for that. It would seem to be pretty clear from the work done on the ecological, historic, landscape and freshwater values identified in the Meridian investigation that the land has the values worthy of it being added into the national park.

It is possible that a full Sec 8 investigation and public notification might not be warranted but on the other hand this is a large area that has always been in Crown ownership so it might be stretching the parameters of a normal Sec 7 addition.

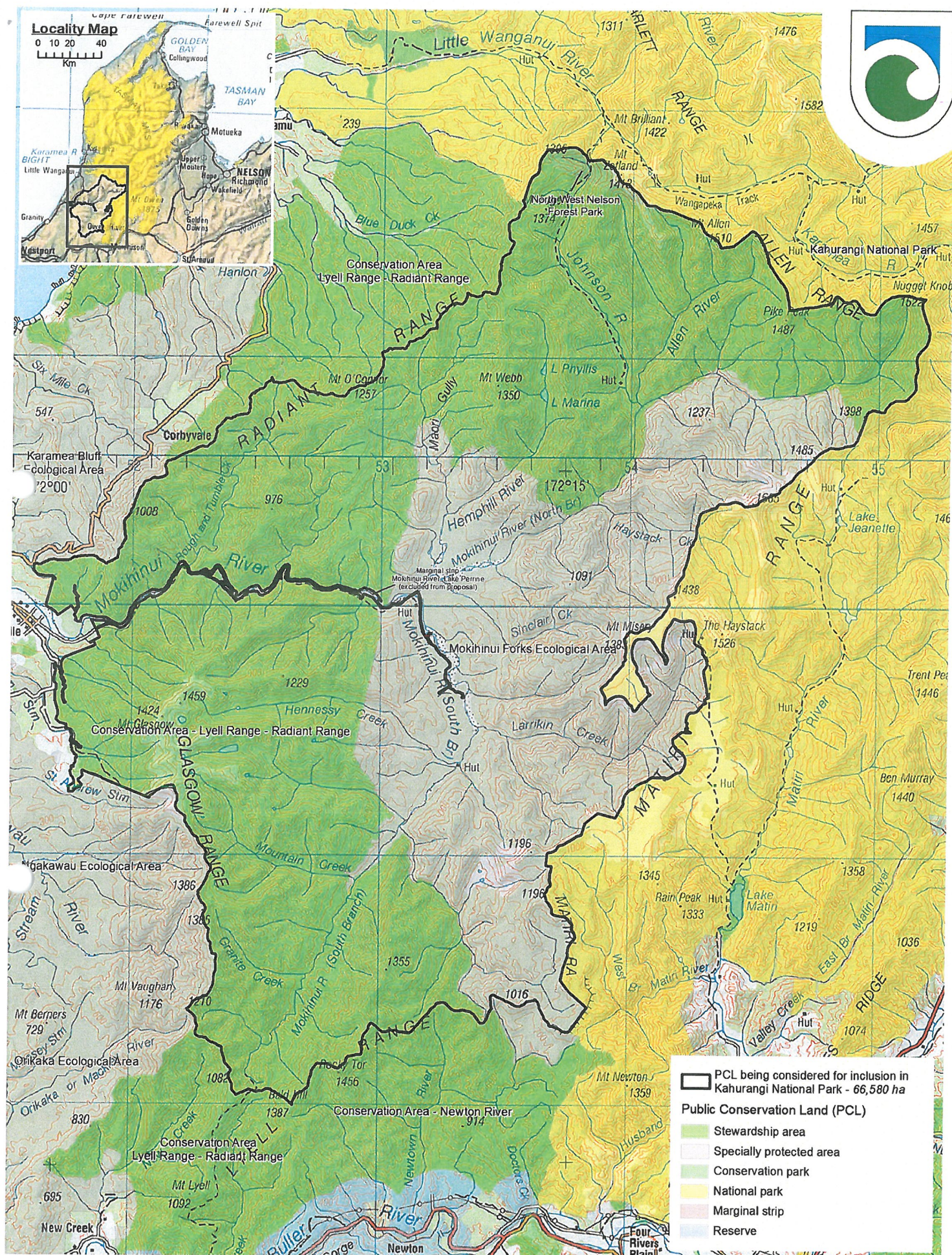
I would appreciate you bringing this up at the next NZCA meeting in June and seek the Authority's advice on my behalf as to what sort of process they would recommend we follow in order that this addition can be completed in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully



Ron Hazeldine
Senior Land Advisor
Hokitika Shared Service Centre

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**Public conservation land being considered for inclusion in
Kahurangi National Park - Mokihiu**

Crown Copyright Reserved.
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: NZGD 2000
Map prepared: 20/04/2015 by Geospatial Services, DOC
File path: \\wscosvr1\gis\GIS\Projects_2015\67107...
New Zealand Government

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Kilometres



**Department of
Conservation**
Te Papa Atawhai

“Net Conservation Benefit”

13. In April the Authority received a letter from the Minister (attached) regarding the exchange of stewardship land, and how to address shortcomings the PCE had identified in the way the Act and the CGP addresses the matter.
14. The Minister is seeking the Authority’s advice to provide “guidance on the principles and processes that should be used when making decisions on net conservation benefit.”
15. The PCE’s report highlighted a number of matters in relation to this guidance. It is proposed that the Authority has a discussion to begin formulating its advice to the Minister and PCE on how to assess the values of land to be exchanged, whether net conservation benefit should be of consideration, and the degree of public input.
16. Having formulated some initial thinking around the subject – either as a collective exercise, or by establishing a committee to progress it – consideration should then be given to engaging with both the Department and the PCE’s office.



Office of Hon Maggie Barry ONZM

MP for North Shore

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Minister of Conservation

Minister for Senior Citizens

RECEIVED
18/4/15

- 2 APR 2015

Dr Warren Parker
Chair, New Zealand Conservation Authority
Box 10-420
WELLINGTON 6011

NZCA

File Reference:

SBA-10-03

Dear Warren

In August 2013, the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment released a report entitled "Investigating the future of conservation: The case of stewardship land."

In this report, the Commissioner found shortcomings in the way the Conservation Act and the Conservation General Policy address the exchange of stewardship land. The Commissioner recommends that I seek the Authority's advice to provide "guidance on the principles and processes that should be used when making decisions on net conservation benefit."

The report highlights a number of matters under this heading. They include:

- how to consistently assess the values of land to be exchanged, to facilitate evaluation of the net conservation value of proposals
- whether this calculation should address the benefits to conservation, rather than to the public conservation estate managed by the Department of Conservation
- whether there should be public consultation on significant land exchanges.

The report raises some interesting issues and I would welcome the Authority's views on any matters relating to the Parliamentary Commissioner's recommendation.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Honourable Maggie Barry ONZM
Minister of Conservation

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Possible additions to Paparoa National Park**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	This sits under Priority C – Land Status Change
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper b) Provide feedback the contents of this paper, and a recommendation to the Acting Minister, Hon Nick Smith
Context	The Government is considering a request from the families of the Pike River miners to: • Add the land of the Pike River mining licence to Paparoa National Park • Adapt the buildings at the mine site for a memorial and educational purposes • Create a Great Walk style track to connect Pike River and Punakaiki The Acting Minister of Conservation for Pike River Matters, Hon Nick Smith, has sought the views of the NZCA on this proposal. The Authority has undertaken an analysis of the proposal, and consulted with affected parties (as set out in the GPNP), in order to make a recommendation. The report that has been prepared is confidential to the NZCA and has been sent by separate post. Discussion at the meeting will finalise a recommendation to the Acting Minister.

New Zealand Conservation Authority Meeting No. 143	Agenda Item: 143.14
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REPORT

Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Sarah Bagnall, Management Planning National Advisor

Subject: **Management Planning Update**

NZCA Strategic Priority	Conservation Management Strategies National Park Management Plans
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this report.
Context	The purpose of this paper is to keep the NZCA informed of progress with management planning processes being undertaken by the Department. The first page of the paper contains an overview of progress on various plans and documents since the last NZCA meeting. The management planning unit is also responsible for formal investigations to extend or change protection regimes. For this reason an update on the south-east New Zealand Marine Protection Forum's process has been included. The overview also updates progress on the development of guidance on exceptional circumstances as discussed by the NZCA at its last meeting

New Zealand Conservation Authority Meeting No. 143	Agenda Item: 143.14
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REPORT

Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Sarah Bagnall, Management Planning National Advisor

Subject: **Management Planning Update**

Background/Introduction

1. The NZCA approves all national park management plans and conservation management strategies. Conservation management plans (CMP) are approved by either conservation boards alone or jointly with a Post Settlement Governance Entity if the CMP is a commitment in Treaty settlement legislation.

Comments – summary of progress since the last update

Second generation Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) progress

2. The Canterbury, Otago, and Southland Conservation Boards have written to the Minister seeking an extension on their 6 month timeframes in which to refer the CMS to the NZCA. Due to an oversight, final consultation with Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu was not completed in time for the CMSs to be referred to the June NZCA meeting. The extension sought for all three CMS is until the August NZCA meeting.

National park management plans

3. The planner has met with the Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board to discuss matters that need addressing in the review of the Aoraki Mount Cook Management Plan. A meeting with Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu is being arranged for the same purpose.
4. The decision has been made to review the Westland National Park Management Plan in conjunction with the review of Aoraki /Mt Cook, with the intention of providing better integrated management. An initial discussion has been held with the Westland Conservation Board to discuss this proposal, and a meeting with Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu is being arranged.

Conservation management plans

5. The greater part of the draft Whirinaki Conservation Park Conservation Management Plan (excluding the authorisations section) has been given to Ngati Whare and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board for comment. Meetings to discuss their views have been delayed at their requests. Meetings are now scheduled for June. The Department is working towards notifying the draft plan for submissions in August/September 2015.
6. Te Hauturu-o-Toi/Little Barrier Island (Nature Reserve) Conservation Management Plan. Pre-consultation meetings with stakeholders are currently being undertaken. Plan drafting has begun.

Revoking management plans

7. The Department is currently working with the Auckland Conservation Board to revoke management plans covered by the operative Auckland CMS.
8. Revocation of management plans identified in the Northland and Waikato CMSs, will follow the Auckland revocation work, and confirmation of the process.

Marine Protected Area Policy – south east South Island process

9. The South-East Marine Protection Forum is continuing its community engagement and is working towards submitting recommendations to Ministers in mid 2016.

Section 4 of the Conservation Act

10. All management planning processes include consultation with tangata whenua. Those plans prepared under Treaty settlement legislation are developed closely with the Post Settlement Governance Entity.

Exceptional Circumstance Guidance

11. The Department has been consulting Conservation Boards for the development of the exceptional circumstance guidance that is being prepared in response to the Ombudsman's report into the Routeburn guided walking concession decision.
12. The current emphasis is on the development of guidance within the existing planning framework rather than amendments to that framework (for example, changes to general policy).

Progress report on status of CMS and management plans

There are only two updates to the December report (tracked).

1. Conservation Management Strategies

Table One outlines when each conservation management strategy was approved and progress with their review.

Table One Timelines for review of Conservation Management Strategies

Conservation Management Strategy	Date approved	Action	Expected date to NZCA
Northland CMS	8/09/2014	Operative as of 29/09/2014	
Auckland CMS	9/10/2014	Operative as of 17/11/2014	
Waikato CMS	8/09/2014	Operative as of 29/09/2014	
Canterbury CMS	14/06/2000	Departmental process complete. With the conservation board	August 2015
Otago CMS	15/08/1998	Departmental process complete. With the conservation board	August 2015
Mainland Southland/ West Otago CMS	10/07/1998	Departmental process complete. With the conservation board	August 2015
Subantarctic Islands CMS	16/07/1998	This is being combined with the Mainland Southland/West Otago CMS.	
Nelson/ Marlborough CMS	12/09/1996	Project planning for review begun.	tba
Chatham Islands CMS	12/08/1999	Work will commence in 2016.	tba
Wellington CMS	13/03/1996	In first stage of review process.	Eta mid-2016
Hawke's Bay CMS	19/10/1994	In first stage of review process. This is being combined with East Coast as an East Coast/Hawke's Bay CMS.	Eta mid-2016
Bay of Plenty CMS	4/12/1997	Review not currently scheduled within next 5 years.	tba
East Coast CMS	14/10/1998	In first stage of review process. This is being combined with Hawke's Bay into an East Coast/Hawke's Bay CMS.	Eta mid-2016
Wanganui CMS	9/04/1997	Part review (Rangitikei/Manawatu) has commenced as part of the revised Wellington CMS. Review of the rest of the CMS not currently scheduled within next 5 years	Eta mid-2016 tba
Tongariro-Taupo CMS	30/05/2002	Review not currently scheduled within next 5 years.	tba
West Coast CMS	April 2010	Operative. Heli-hunting amendment not scheduled. Game Animal Council Act 2013 has relevance.	tba

Conservation Management Strategy	Date approved	Action	Expected date to NZCA
Stewart Island/Rakiura CMS	9/02/2011	Operative.	n/a
Te Hiku CMS	To be prepared	Treaty settlement requirement. Scheduled to begin early 2016.	tba
Ngati Porou (Nga Whakahaere Takirua: part of East Coast/Hawke's Bay CMS)	To be prepared	Treaty settlement requirement. To be prepared as part of the East Coast/Hawke's Bay CMS. Work has commenced	Eta mid-2016

2. National Park Management Plans

Review timetable

Table Two outlines when each national park management plan is due for review. The only review currently scheduled is a whole review of the Aoraki Mount Cook National Park Management Plan.

Table Two **Timelines for review of National Park Management plans**

National Park	Status	Action	Expected date to NZCA
Kahurangi National Park Management Plan 2001-2011	Approved 13 June 2001. Due for review by June 2011.	Due for review. Partial review approved by NZCA December 2010. Full review on hold until CMS review completed.	
Tongariro National Park Management Plan 2006-2016	Approved 12 October 2006. Due for review by October 2016.	Partial Review approved 13 October 2011. WT National Park report released November 2013.	
Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park Management Plan 2004-2014	Approved 12 August 2004. Due for review by August 2014. Amendments approved by the NZCA at the June 2012 meeting.	Review initiated	December 2016

National Park	Status	Action	Expected date to NZCA
Arthur's Pass National Park Management Plan 2007-2017	Approved 13 December 2007. Due for review by December 2017.	Current Amendment approved by the NZCA at the June 2012 meeting.	
Paparoa National Park Management Plan 1992-2002	Approved 18 November 1992. Due for review by November 2002.	Due for review. One third of park not covered by the Plan as it was added subsequent to its approval.	
Nelson Lakes National Park Management Plan 2003-2009	Approved 10 October 2002 as a 7-year plan expired October 2009.	Due for review. On hold until other current planning processes completed.	
Westland <i>Tai Poutini</i> National Park Management Plan 2001-2011	Approved 21 December 2001. Due for review by December 2011. Amendments approved by the NZCA at the April 2014 meeting.	Being reviewed in conjunction with Aoraki	December 2016
Egmont National Park Management Plan 2001-2011	Approved 14 February 2002. Due for review by February 2012.	Due for review. On hold until CMS reviews completed. Treaty negotiations due to begin end 2013.	
Te Urewera National Park Management Plan 2003-2013	Approved 13 February 2003. Due for review by 2013.	The national park management plan remains in force until it is replaced by a new management plan to the extent that it is not inconsistent with sections 111 and 112 of Te Urewera Act 2014.	The bed and lakeshore of Lake Waikaremoana are excluded from the Act and decisions have yet to be made about its future management (currently managed under a lease expiring 30 June 2017 as national park and covered by the NPMP).
Fiordland National Park Management Plan 2007-2017	Approved 21 June 2007. Due for review June 2017.	Current. Notified draft CMS proposes some amendments to FNP objectives.	n/a

National Park	Status	Action	Expected date to NZCA
Abel Tasman National Park Management Plan 2008-2018	Approved 9 October 2008. Due for review October 2018.	Current.	n/a
Rakiura National Park Management Plan 2011-2021	Plan approved 9 February 2011.	Current.	n/a
Mt Aspiring National Park Management Plan 2011-2021	Approved 23 June 2011.	Current.	n/a
Whanganui National Park Management Plan 2012-2022	Approved 9 August 2012.	Current.	n/a

3. Conservation management plans (prepared under the Conservation Act and the Reserves Act)

Review timetable

Table Three outlines when each management plan is due for review and when the conservancy anticipates undertaking the review.

Table Three **Timelines for review of Conservation management plans (prepared under the Conservation Act and the Reserves Act)**

Conservation Management plan	Status	Comments
Molesworth Recreation Reserve Management Plan (Required by lease)	CMP approved by Nelson/Marlborough Conservation Board on 9 October 2013. Replaced previous plan under Land Act.	Current.
Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve (enables management of commercial activities on foreshore below the National Park)	Approved by the Management Plan Approval Committee on 25 June 2012.	Current.
Te Waihora Joint Management Plan	Approved 10 December 2005. Due for review by December 2015.	Current. In initial stages of review.
Pukenui Forest Management Plan 2006-2016	Approved December 2006 by Whangarei District Council and Northland Conservation Board. Due for review by December 2016.	Current Charitable Trust formed and meeting monthly to develop website, promote hapu & community interest & source funding.

Conservation Management plan	Status	Comments
North Head Historic Reserve CMP 1999-2009	Approved September 1999. Due for review by September 2009.	Remains in force until replaced by Nga Mana Whenua o Tamaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 management plan for all the volcanic cones; to be prepared by the Auckland Council.
Leigh Reserves Complex CMP 2002-2012	Approved June 2002. Due for review by June 2012.	Intention is to revoke this plan once the Auckland CMS is approved. ACB is decision-maker
Coromandel Peninsula Conservation Land Management Plan	Approved 2002. Due for review by 2012.	Intention to revoke this plan now Waikato CMS has been approved. WaiCB is decision-maker See also Hauraki Collective AIP below.
JM Barker (Hapupu) Historic Reserve 1998-2008.	Approved in 1998. Due for review by 2008.	Intention to revoke this plan once Chatham Island CMS review completed.
Kaimanawa Forest Park 2007-2017	Approved 15 June 2007. Due for review by June 2017.	Current.
Loch Katrine Recreation Reserve	Approved September 1998. One-term plan, not to be reviewed.	Provisions to be taken into the reviewed CMS, consistent with CMS national issues regarding private accommodation – intention is to revoke CMP once CMS operative. DGC is decision maker
Various CMP's for reserves in Canterbury (4 Scientific; 2 nature; 2 Historic; 1 Recreation)	These are the remaining CMPs in Canterbury following a wider revocation/withdrawal action in 2004. All approved in 1980's and still operative in part.	All likely to be revoked once Canterbury CMS reviewed and management issues covered where necessary by the CMS. Minister is decision maker
Ruahine Forest Park Conservation Management Plan 1992-2002	Approved in 1992. Due for review by 2002.	Intention to revoke this plan once the Hawke's Bay CMS review is completed. ECHBCB is decision-maker
Farewell Spit NR/Puponga Recreation Reserve	Approved in December 1990. Due for review by 2000.	Intention to revoke this plan once Nelson/Marlborough CMS review completed. DGC is decision-maker
Te Waikoropupu Springs Management Plan	Operative. Approved by Nelson/Marlborough Conservation Board in April 2009.	Current.

Conservation Management plan	Status	Comments
Te Tapui Tokotoru Conservation Management Plan. It includes Moutohora Wildlife Management Reserve, Ohope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pa Scenic Reserve.	Approved October 2008. Developed by the joint management committee established under the Ngati Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005.	Current
Pukekura Reserves (Taiaroa Head) Management Plan)	Operative. Approved April 2012 by Otago Conservation Board for Taiaroa Head Nature Reserve and Taiaroa Head Foreshore Wildlife Sanctuary. Approved May 2012 by Dunedin City Council in respect to the other reserves. Otago Conservation Board has a statutory role in the approval of the draft plan pursuant to Sections 6M(b) and 17G(1)–(3) of the Conservation Act 1987, as a result of the inclusion of the Taiaroa Head Nature Reserve and Taiaroa Head Foreshore Wildlife Sanctuary.	Current Developed by the Korako Karetao Trust, Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, Department of Conservation and the Dunedin City Council.
Te Hauturu o Toi Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Ngati Manuhiri Treaty Claims Settlement Act 2012. Preliminary discussions with Ngati Manuhiri underway.	NZCA is consulted at the pre-approval stage – early 2016.
Whirinaki Te Pua Tāne Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Ngati Whare Treaty Claims Settlement Act 2012.	Drafting at advanced stage. Consultation with Ngati Whare and BOPCB <u>January/February</u> . Working towards notification in March/April 2015. NZCA is consulted at the pre-approval stage.
Rangitoto, Motutapu, Motuihe, and Motukorea Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Nga Mana Whenua o Tamaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014.	Scheduled to begin February 2015.
Wairau (Boulder Bank and Te Pokohiwi) Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Ngāti Kuia, and Rangitāne o Wairau Claims Settlement Act 2014	

Conservation Management plan	Status	Comments
Kapiti Island Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Ngati Toa Rangatira Claims Settlement Act 2014.	Not scheduled.
Coromandel (excl. Moehau) Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Hauraki Collective Treaty Settlement (AIP).	Not scheduled.
Moehau Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Hauraki Collective Treaty Settlement (AIP).	Not scheduled.
Nga Motu/Sugarloaf Islands Conservation Management Plan	Requirement of Te Atiawa and Taranaki Treaty Settlements (AIP).	Not scheduled.
Urupukapuka and Waewaetorea islands Management Plan	Approved 1984	Intention to revoke with approval of revised Northland CMS

4 Other

Te Urewera Plan	Requirement of Tuhoe settlement.	If requested by Te Urewera Board to prepare or contribute. NZCA is consulted at the pre-approval stage – mid 2016.
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5. Marine Reserve management plans

Review timetable

Table Five outlines when marine reserve conservation management plans are due for review and when the conservancy anticipates undertaking the review.

Table Five **Timelines for review of Marine Reserve management plans**

Marine Reserve	Status	Management Plan (if needed)
Cape Rodney-Okakari Marine Reserve.	Leigh Reserves Complex Conservation management plan covers this reserve. Approved June 2002. Due for review 2012.	Intention is to revoke once revised Auckland CMS approved. ACB is decision maker
Kapiti Marine Reserve	Conservation Management Plan approved 1998. Due for review in 2008.	Intention to revoke this plan once Wellington CMS review is completed. WgtnCB is decision maker
Te Whanganui A Hei (Cathedral Cove)	Incorporated as part of Coromandel Peninsula Conservation Land Management Plan. Approved 2002. Due for review 2012.	Intention to revoke this plan now revised Waikato CMS approved. WaiCB is decision maker

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2-3 June 2015

Prepared By: Beth Masser

Subject: **Honey Briefing**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	<i>Where this 'fits' strategically for the NZCA and/or DOC?</i> IO1 The diversity of our natural heritage is maintained and restored IO5 Conservation gains from more business partnerships
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper
Context	<i>NZCA have requested a briefing paper regarding how DOC proposes to manage honey with respect to conservation. Key topics of interest to NZCA relate to protection of conservation values and leverage of economic potential.</i> The honey industry is going through a high growth phase driven by escalating prices and associated high value product development – primarily associated with high activity manuka and kanuka honey. There is significant economic potential to NZ and DOC and a need to ensure beekeeping activities (both on and off PCL) does not adversely affect conservation values. Iwi have a strong interest in these opportunities. With demand exceeding supply, there are problems with compliance, local and national pressure and political implications. DOC proposes to take an integrated approach to the honey industry and is undertaking work to establish national guidelines, instigate a science monitoring levy, investigate more extensive use of allocation models and investigate the potential for Manuka regeneration/plantation models. In addition work is required to address non-compliance issues.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Beth Masser, Commercial Partnerships Unit

Subject: **Honey Briefing**

1. Background

The honey industry is going through a high growth phase driven by escalating prices attracted particularly from high quality (active agent) manuka and kanuka honey and a range of associated products including in the food and pharmaceutical industries.

Due to the economic potential, the NZ Government has invested considerable resources into developing the honey market via the MPI Primary Growth Partnership Fund. MPI is the lead agency but other agencies including Landcare, TPK and Landcorp have an active interest. The High Performance Manuka Plantations programme is one avenue to increase the value of the manuka honey industry from an estimated \$75 million towards \$1.2 billion per annum by 2028 (KPMG field notes Sept 2014).

The honey sector is of particular interest to the regions with regional economic development reports highlighting the opportunity in Honey to drive economic growth. The Tai Tokerau Growth Study (February 2015) noted the opportunity to develop the Manuka honey industry in Northland.

Iwi, hapu and whanau have indicated their interest and aspiration within the honey sector. There are a large number iwi honey collectives and businesses. Marae based honey training schools have been developed and several have indicated honey as a business area they wish to target. Further iwi have highlighted their customary connection to Manuka.

In summary this is a small high value sector with significant opportunity for economic growth. This potential is recognised at regional and governmental level. One significant barrier to this growth exists in supply/ land access issues.

2. Current situation

Concessions

DOC's interest in the honey sector is through providing land access for hives. The honey/beehive sector is small from DOC's perspective. Revenue from the honey sector contributes only \$119k pa to crown revenue (0.8% of Crown revenue). This is derived from 150 concessions covering 600 sites across New Zealand. Recently the scale and scope of applications for access to PCL for hives are increasing including requests for partnerships.

Beehive concessions, as with all concessions, have in the main been processed reactively as operators apply for sites. However due to multiple interests in the opportunities and pressure for increased access the Department has started conducting tenders.

Conservation

In New Zealand the honey bee is an introduced species, thus despite pollination benefits there are conservation concerns as introduced honeybees have the potential to harm conservation values. Bees compete with native species for nectar and pollen and have been associated with increasing the spread of pest flora.

In order to better understand impacts of honey bees on conservation values, DOC's scientist, Dr Catherine Beard, has carried out a risk assessment of honeybees on PCL (Jan 2015). This includes an analysis of honeybee interactions in native ecosystems with a focus on four areas of risk: competition with native fauna, improving reproduction of invasive weeds, altering pollination of native flora and increased risk of pathogen transfer and disease. The implementation of this assessment into operational policy for concession decision making is currently being considered.

3. Drivers for change

- Increasing demand for beekeeping opportunities on PCL as part of the wider demand in New Zealand,
- Multiple demands at site.
- Strong iwi interest in honey and beekeeping. DOC is responding to and working with iwi to address concerns and to incorporate cultural aspirations appropriately.
- The beekeeping industry has approached the Minister of Conservation asking for DOC to help them develop an Industry Code of Practice. It is likely that MPI would be the lead agency for this, supported by DOC.
- Ensuring that the use of PCL returns the market economic value.
- Opportunities to increase conservation outcomes.
- The need to improve how beekeeping compliance is managed to maintain conservation values and avoid undermining legally authorised concessions.

4. DOC's Planned Approach - Details including implications

DOC's contribution to the Honey sector is through managing land access. An opportunity exists for DOC to improve our management and conservation outcomes through taking a more proactive approach; investigating mechanisms to increase available sites and extending the current use of allocation models. Undertaking this would mean we plan to work on four areas:

1. Considering options to increase available land access whilst maintaining conservation values. This could include manuka/kanuka plantation models on low conservation value land that would constitute a staged approach to ecological restoration in the long term whilst providing access to beekeepers for honey “farming” in the medium term. Landcare Research are carrying out a landscape assessment of where beekeeping could be supported.
2. Managing supply to ensure we provide a fair and transparent system as efficiently as possible, including exploring a range of different allocation methods.
3. Ensuring that any actions we take result in improved conservation values. Conservation can derive benefits from the honey sector through a number of avenues. Firstly directly through funds from concession access fees, secondly through facilitating regeneration through plantation models – including providing enhanced soil and water conservation, and thirdly through reducing harm to native species and public conservation and from inappropriate siting of hives - legally or illegally.

It is important that all decisions regarding placement of hives are made from a sound understanding of the impact of introduced bees on native species. As such, a core requirement for DOC going forward, is to improve our understanding and use this knowledge in our decision making. DOC plans to review current guidelines for hive placement to ensure they are based on current scientific knowledge. Ideas, like establishing a science levy for hive concessions, are being investigated to provide a funding stream for increasing knowledge which would allow an adaptive management approach over time. More effective management of compliance is also necessary.

4. Working with iwi to deliver to their aspirations. There is a need to determine how to work in partnership with whanau, hapu and iwi regarding the honey industry, that ensures best practice for consultation is followed, opportunities for iwi are actively sought and delivered, and risks to iwi values are managed and monitored in accordance to the views of tangata whenua.

Including a Maturanga Maori framework alongside the science framework in our decision making will support DOC in delivering to iwi aspirations within the honey sector. In addition DOC plans to work alongside, and collaborate with, Te Puni Kōkiri in their honey sector programme.

In order to deliver on these opportunities a project plan has been developed that encompasses the following:

5. **Aim:** It is now proposed that DOC start to transition from the previous reactive approach to issuing concessions into managing the whole honey opportunity in an integrated way across the department with the aim of:

“To optimise the benefits to conservation from honey, by taking an integrated approach to management of the honey issues and opportunities.”

6. The **Objectives** are:

- maximising the economic potential,
- develop a framework for working in Partnership with whanau, hapu and iwi regarding the honey industry that ensures, best practice for consultation is followed, opportunities for iwi are actively sought and delivered, all risks to tangata whenua values are managed and monitored in accordance to the views of tangata whenua.
- maintaining and enhancing conservation values by ensuring decisions are supported by science and a Mataranga Maori framework, and
- working collaboratively with partners including other government agencies.

7. **Regulatory framework** – care will be taken to comply with legislation, general policies, CMSs and management plans.

8. **Section 4, Conservation Act** - Iwi have an interest in concession activities proposed on the land and are consulted as a standard part of the concession (including contestable allocation) process. They also have an interest in economic opportunities for their people. Care needs to be taken to avoid encumbering land that is still to undergo Treaty negotiations. Possible activities such as implementing a manuka plantation model could increase the conservation values and/or the future economic opportunities for iwi post-settlement.

9. **Conclusion – Vision of where we want to be**

In order to maximise the potential for conservation from honey, DOC is coordinating work internally in this area and starting to build an integrated approach to managing the honey industry, products and interests as they relate to conservation.

This draws our concessions, legal, science, iwi, partnerships and CPU staff together in considering work relevant to honey. We have established a project team, prepared a scientific risk assessment on issues related to the industry, are looking at where and how we allocate concessions including a range of allocation models such as tendering. We are working to include a maori perspective and addressing iwi aspirations.

This work also includes consideration of plantation models on low conservation value land that would constitute ecological restoration in the long term whilst providing for honey “farming” in the medium term. We are also looking at instigating greater connection and partnerships with the honey industry and government partners (such as MPI and Landcorp) to deliver increased knowledge (e.g genetic analysis, brand development opportunities), a greater economic return from the commercial activity through high value product development and whole of government efficiencies through sharing knowledge and best practice.

Appendix

Abstract from “Risk Analysis of Honeybees on Public Conservation Land”

The honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), indigenous to Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, has been intentionally introduced to most parts of the world including New Zealand, for the purposes of producing honey and to improve pollination of food crops. As such, honeybees are seldom viewed as harmful in environments outside their natural range. However, a growing body of research around the world and within New Zealand confirms that negative consequences for indigenous ecosystems can occur as a result of honeybee presence. Introduced honeybees are known to disadvantage indigenous fauna by competing for floral resources. They can also alter pollination processes in indigenous plants, facilitate reproduction of weeds and may act as vectors for pathogens and disease.

Interactions, both positive and negative, of honeybees with indigenous fauna are generally poorly understood in the context of New Zealand’s indigenous ecosystems. For the vast majority of flower-visiting fauna (i.e. insects) there are few or no records of species diversity, population numbers, ecological information or any certainty of status and trends prior to honeybees being introduced. This is making it difficult to fully assess the impact of honeybee introductions. Our understanding is further complicated by uncertainty of what impacts can be attributed to honeybees as opposed to other non-indigenous social insects such as wasps, or to the effects of factors such as habitat loss/fragmentation, or local variation in climate or topography.

The lack of conclusive scientific evidence concerning the issue of honeybees in the natural environments of New Zealand does not diminish the strong case that the threat they pose to indigenous biodiversity is real. In light of this uncertainty the application of the precautionary principle is appropriate to inform the management of honeybees on public conservation lands in the interests of both conservation and economics.

The widely held belief that the quantity of food (nectar/pollen) within New Zealand ecosystems seems ample to support both indigenous and introduced bees as well as numerous other flower visitors is challenged in the light of land use changes and changes in environmental pressures. Critical research is needed to establish the distribution and abundance of resources that are used by honeybees and whether these are limiting to indigenous fauna or honeybees or both. Further investigation is also warranted in order to better understand the relationship between honeybees and the reproduction of introduced weed species in New Zealand, the ecological and evolutionary consequences of honeybee interactions with indigenous biota, and the role of honeybees in transferring pathogens and disease.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Ken Hughey, Chief Science Adviser (CSA) - DOC

Subject: **Presentation on role of CSA relationship with the NZCA**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	Effectiveness of the Department's conservation management
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper
Context	Ken will provide the Authority with an overview of the work of the Chief Science Advisor and discuss the relationship with the NZCA

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Geoff Hicks, Chief Scientist - DOC

Subject: **Briefing on DOC's role in IPBES and National Science Challenges**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA: game changers for conservation – pest control/biosecurity
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper
Context	Geoff will provide the Authority with an overview of the work of the International Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (of which NZ is a member), and the role DOC is playing in the National Science Challenges.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Professor Mick Clout and Devon McLean, NZCA members

Subject: **Predator –Free NZ vision presentation**

NZCA Strategic Priority	Game changers for conservation: Pest control/biosecurity
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper b) Provide feedback the contents of this paper
Context	A presentation covering the Predator-Free NZ vision, current state of play, and future plans/opportunities/challenges and where this 'fits' strategically.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Graeme Elliot, Scientist, DOC

Subject: **Battle for our Birds: overview**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	Strategic Priority F: Game Changers for conservation Contribute to the better protection, enhancement and appreciation of New Zealand's native biodiversity
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper
Context	Graeme will provide the Authority with a presentation that gives an overview of his research work on Battle for our Birds, which includes: • Research on the effects of 1080 on forest birds. • Research in support of the South Island Pest Response Advisory Group.

New Zealand Conservation Authority Meeting No. 143	Agenda Item: 143.20
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REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson –Executive Officer

Subject: **Recreation and Conservation (Strategic Priority E)**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA: Strategic advice to the Minister and DG in the context of conservation in today's economy, and strategic advice on public policy documents and legislation
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of the letter from the Waikato Conservation Board b) Discuss how they wish to proceed with this information
Context	A presentation was given where the assumption that “recreation is connected to conservation” or “recreation and tourism facilitate or lead to conservation” This link is not automatic. There is international research but no evidence or knowledge as to whether visiting the DOC estate leads to increased interest in conservation. The NZCA is asked to support research to clarify the situation and if necessary commission the research.

WAIKATO CONSERVATION BOARD **TE PAPA ATAWHAI O TE ROHE O TAINUI**

Our ref: SBC-12-03-01

14 April 2015

The Chairperson
New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10420
Wellington 6143

NZCA
File Reference:
SBA - 11-03
SBA - 09-04

Tena koutou

At its meeting on Tuesday, 17 Feb 2015, the Board received a presentation from Tinaka Mearns, Technical Advisor, Recreation, updating the Board on the Department's recreation work and strategies. This relates to the Department's Intermediate Outcome 3, Visitor Assets *"More people participate in recreation"*

During the presentation, Tinaka described the various tools and strategies being used to optimise all aspects of this Outcome i.e. managing current assets, customer experience, working with others, future investment etc. She described the Department's shift in focus from increasing numbers to enhancing New Zealander's and visitor's experience when they are on Public Conservation Land.

Of particular interest to the Board from the presentation was the assumption that "recreation is connected to conservation" or, indeed, "recreation and tourism facilitate or lead to conservation" which was a question under review by the Recreation Technical team. The team found that such a link is not automatic, especially as many visitors to Public Conservation Land have a "consumptive" rather than a "conservation" use ethic. Of concern to the Board was that, on advice received, much of the data on this connection was based on international research which, while indicative, does not substitute for the New Zealand experience.

"The Waikato Conservation Board resolved to note from a presentation by the regional Recreation Technical team that, to the best of our knowledge, there is no evidence as to whether visiting the DOC estate for the purposes of recreation and tourism leads to increased interest in conservation and asks that the NZCA seeks support for research to clarify the situation in New Zealand and, if necessary, conduct/commission relevant research on this question".

We look forward to hearing your response to the concerns we have raised.

Hei kona mai



Mark Brough
CHAIRPERSON
WAIKATO CONSERVATION BOARD

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (PCE)**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA's performance
Recommendation	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of the presentation
Context	A presentation will be delivered from Jan Wright (PCE) to inform you on the roles and responsibilities of the Parliamentary Commissioner in New Zealand. This will focus on stewardship land, rivers & water and working together. The PCE's office is seeking policy guidance from the Authority on the conservation principles and process for determining net conservation benefit, when making decisions on land disposals and exchanges. This is part of the programme for the NZCA to develop relationships with conservation NGO's, as per the work Programme to understand the roles they play and to deliver better outcomes for conservation.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (PCE)**

Background/Introduction

Establishment

The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment was set up under the [Environment Act 1986](#). Its roots lay in the 1980s reform of this country's environmental administration following a 1981 OECD report, *Environmental Policies in New Zealand*. This report recommended changes including strengthening the environmental advice to government, and establishing an environmental body with a separate audit and oversight function.

New Zealand had had a Commission for the Environment, a government agency under the Minister for the Environment, since 1972. Until 1986, its job had included auditing the environmental impacts of proposed Crown developments. In setting up the office of the PCE and giving the Commissioner statutory independence, this audit role was retained and strengthened.

The Commissioner's brief was to review and report directly to Parliament on the whole public sector system of environmental management. This ability to critically examine the policy decisions of executive government was unique in the world for almost a decade after the PCE's establishment.

Also set up in the 1980s were the [Ministry for the Environment](#) (again under the Environment Act 1986), and the [Department of Conservation](#) under the Conservation Act 1987. The [Resource Management Act](#) in 1991 continued the reforms.

Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Dr Jan Wright



Dr Jan Wright was sworn in as Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment on 5 March 2007.

Jan has a multidisciplinary background with a Physics degree from Canterbury, a Masters degree in Energy and Resources from Berkeley in California, and a PhD in Public Policy from Harvard. In 2012 Dr Wright was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science from Lincoln University, and in 2015 she was made a Companion of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Prior to her current role, Jan worked as an independent policy and economic consultant for many different government agencies and as a member of various Crown Entity Boards.

The office

The Commissioner has a total of 16 staff. They come from a wide range of disciplines and bring a variety of work and life experience. Their work ranges from individual assignments to teamwork on major investigations that may last several months.

The role of the staff is to provide administrative, technical, and general support for the Commissioner's investigations.

Functions & Powers

These functions are drawn from the [Environment Act 1986](#) (S.16), and the Commissioner has wide discretion to exercise them. They include:

- **Review** the system of agencies and processes set up by the Government to manage the country's resources, and **report** to the House of Representatives
- **Investigate** the effectiveness of environmental planning and management by public authorities, and **advise** them on remedial action
- **Investigate** any matter where the environment may be or has been adversely affected, advise on preventative measures or remedial action, and report to the House
- **Report**, on a request from the House or any select committee, on any petition, Bill, or any other matter which may have a significant effect on the environment
- **Inquire**, on the direction of the House, into any matter that has had or may have a substantial and damaging effect on the environment
- **Undertake** and **encourage** the collection and dissemination of information about the environment
- **Encourage** preventive measures and remedial actions to protect the environment.

Powers

The Commissioner has wide powers to investigate and report on any matter where, in her opinion, the environment may be, or has been, adversely affected. Parliament or any parliamentary select committee may also ask her to report on environmental matters.

[The Environment Act 1986](#) outlines her functions and provides for powers including:

- obtaining information
- summoning people and examining them under oath
- protecting sources of information and maintaining confidentiality
- employing staff and consultants.

The Commissioner also has wide powers to report findings and make recommendations. However, she does not have the power to make any binding rulings and nor can she reverse decisions made by public authorities.

The acceptance and effectiveness of the PCE's advice depends to a large degree on the independence, integrity, and quality of the investigations undertaken by the office.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Dr Rick McGovern-Wilson, Executive Officer

Subject: **NZCA Approvals**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA's performance
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the contents of this paper b) Provide recommendations on the individual matters contained within the paper.
Context	This paper brings together a number of items that have been circulated via Friday emails in the last 2-3 months, for which a decision is required from the Authority. They include: • The Waitaiki Management Plan • Fox River Bridge (southern section) land disposal • Conservation Boards' Draft Code of Practice

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Dr Rick McGovern-Wilson, Executive Officer

Subject: **NZCA Approvals**

Background

1. This paper brings together a number of items that have been circulated via Friday emails in the last 2-3 months, for which a decision is required from the Authority. They include:
 - The Waitaiki Management Plan
 - Fox River Bridge (southern section) land disposal
 - Conservation Boards' Draft Code of Practice (for information, no decision required)

The Waitaiki Management Plan

2. This was received from The Proprietors of Mawhera Incorporation in early February and it relates to the Waitaiki Historic Reserve in the headwaters of the Arahura River, inland from Hokitika. The draft Plan and accompanying letter are attached.
3. The Plan has been drafted in accordance with s41 of the Reserves Act 1977, to ensure the "integrated management of historic and natural resources" within the Reserve.
4. The Proprietors of Mawhera Incorporation are seeking NZCA's approval of the Plan. I have read the Plan closely in conjunction with both the Conservation Act 1987 and the Reserves Act 1977. It is not altogether clear in either Act why the Authority should be giving approval for the Plan.
5. Apart from the need to change the reference to the Historic Places Act 1993 to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, I can see no issues for the Authority, and I recommend that the Authority approve the Plan.



The Proprietors of Mawhera Incorporation

30 January 2015

New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10 420
Wellington 6143

Email: nzca@doc.govt.nz

Dear Sir / Madam

**Mawhera Incorporation
Waitaiki Management Plan**

Please find enclosed a copy of the final draft Waitaiki Management Plan for your approval.

The plan has been through the process with all submissions having been incorporated into the plan.

Should you have any queries, please contact me.

Yours faithfully
MAWHERA INCORPORATION

John A Wheelans
**Secretary
The Proprietors of Mawhera Incorporation**

Email: mawhera@ashtonwheelans.co.nz

New Zealand Conservation Authority Waitaiki MP 30.01.15

PO Box 13042, Christchurch 8141
Phone: (03) 964-7203
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WAITAIKI MANAGEMENT PLAN



THE MAWHERA
INCORPORATION

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Preface

The Waitaiki Historic Reserve is situated at the headwaters of the Arahura River, Te Tai Poutini of Te Wai Pounamu (the South Island) Aotearoa (New Zealand) and is approximately a third of the Arahura Awa (river) catchment from its source, Whakarewa Roto (Lake Browning) and its tributary headwaters. The Arahura River was, and is, the main source of Pounamu (New Zealand Greenstone) to Māori since their settlement of Te Wai Pounamu seven or more centuries ago.

Prior to the 1860 Arahura Deed of Purchase of Te Tai Poutini between the Crown and Poutini Kāi Tahu who held the customary title and rights to the lands of Te Tai Poutini and with the sale, title to Te Tai Poutini was extinguished, except for the bed of the Arahura River and several reserves. The Waitangi Tribunal 1991 found that the Crown did not act fairly as to the 1840 Treaty of Waitangi between Māori and the Crown representatives in its negotiations for the Arahura Block, and that the Crown failed to set aside certain areas that Kāi Tahu wished to retain, and failed to preserve for Kāi Tahu reasonable access to mahika kai (customary food gathering places) and other cultural resources. The Crown also failed to protect Kāi Tahu ownership of Pounamu. The Crown had formally vested the title of the bed of the Arahura River in The Proprietors of Mawhera Incorporation (Mawhera Incorporation) in 1976.

As a specific settlement negotiated between Kāi Tahu and the Crown under the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement Act 1997, the Waitaiki Historic Reserve was declared a reserve and classified as a historic reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977 and vested in the Mawhera Incorporation under Section 26 of the Reserves Act 1977 and with the passing of the Ngāi Tahu

Claims Settlement Act on 1 October 1998. As the administering body of The Waitaiki Historic Reserve, Mawhera Incorporation is required to administer the reserve in accordance with The Reserves Act 1977 and the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

These Acts also require the continued involvement of Te Papa Atawhai (The Department of Conservation), which previously administered the area as stewardship land. The Department will continue ecological monitoring, while also maintaining ownership of, and responsibility for, specified huts and bridges and maintenance of specific tracks (defined in Appendix 2) at the cost of the Crown within the reserve.

The Mawhera Incorporation has prepared this draft management plan with the assistance of the Tai Poutini Conservancy of Te Papa Atawhai. It is a requirement of The Reserves Act 1977 and has been prepared in accordance of Section 41 of that Act. It will help to ensure the integrated management of historic and natural resources and it also presents an opportunity for the public and interested groups to contribute through a submission process.

Please Note: Nothing in this Management Plan will affect the ability of Mawhera Incorporation and its authorised agent/s to manage all Pounamu, both above and below ground within The Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

This plan will also protect the rights of those descendants of the original owners of the Arahura Reserve who are shareholders of the Mawhera Incorporation to gather Pounamu as per the tikaka (protocols) and kawa (customs) of Poutini Kāi Tahu and the Mawhera Incorporation.

Introduction

Management Plan

The purpose of the management plan is to provide for the management of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve in accordance with The Reserves Act 1977, the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 and other relevant legislation. This plan will serve dual purposes: firstly to guide the Mawhera Incorporation, with the assistance of Te Papa Atawhai, in decision-making for the next ten years; secondly to inform the public of the objectives and policies by which The Waitaiki Historic Reserve will be administered.

The Waitaiki Historic Reserve has been created for the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity such places, objects, and natural features, and such things thereon or therein contained as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational, and other special interest (section 18, Reserves Act 1977). **However it does not affect the rights of the Mawhera Incorporation to manage the Pounamu existing within the boundaries of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.** The management plan is intended to assist in achieving this through establishing clear directions for the next ten years. From these directions, policies have been developed to guide management in day-to-day decision-making with regard to the matters above specified in section 18 of the Reserves Act.

This draft management plan has been prepared by The Committee of Management for the Mawhera Incorporation with the assistance of the West Coast Conservancy of Te Papa Atawhai, Tangata Whenua, the Mawhera Incorporation Shareholders and the general public.

The process for the preparation of this management plan is given in Appendix 1.

Legislative Context

There are three primary pieces of legislation relating to the Waitaiki Historic Reserve and its Management. These are the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting Act) 1997, the Reserves Act 1977 and the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998. Other legislation such as the Historic Places Act 1993 and the Wildlife Act 1953 will be relevant to ongoing management.

Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998

Section 326: Creation and Management of Waitaiki Historic Reserve

Deems the area to be declared a reserve, classified as an historic reserve, named the Waitaiki Historic Reserve and vested in the Mawhera Incorporation as the administering body pursuant to section 26 of The Reserves Act 1977 subject to the conditions and restrictions set out in attachment 13.1 (Appendix 4) of the deed of settlement (as quoted in Schedule 107 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998).

Schedule 107

Schedule 107 records the conditions and restrictions of Attachment 13.1 of the Deed of Settlement applying to the reserve, including (subject to and consistent with the management plan): access to the Waitaiki Historic Reserve for the Minister of Conservation and his/her agents or assigns for ecological monitoring purpose and for the inspection and maintenance of huts, bridges and tracks; free non-commercial public access; and permission for hunting. The Crown also retains ownership of and responsibility for specified huts and bridges (Appendix 2) and has responsibility for the maintenance of specified tracks within the reserve (Appendix 2).

Reserves Act 1977

Section 3: General Purpose of This Act

This Act provides for the preservation and management of areas that possess specific values (including natural, historic and recreational values) for the benefit of the public. The Act seeks to ensure, as far as possible, the survival of all indigenous flora and fauna, in their natural communities and habitats, and the preservation of representative samples of natural ecosystems. At the same time the Act seeks to ensure the preservation of public access to and along lakeshores and riverbanks (and marine areas) and to foster and promote the preservation of the natural character of lake and river margins (and the coastal environment).

Section 18: Historic Reserves

1. *It is hereby declared that the appropriate provisions of this Act shall have effect, in relation to reserves classified as historic reserves, for the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity such places, objects, and natural features, and such things thereon or therein contained as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational, and other special interest.*
2. *It is hereby further declared that, having regard to the general purposes specified in subsection (1), every historic reserve shall be so administered and maintained that—*
 - a. *the structures, objects, and sites illustrate with integrity the history of New Zealand;*
 - b. *the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on the administering body by sections 58 and 58A, to any by-laws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as*

the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and general well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it:

- c. *where scenic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features, or indigenous flora or fauna, or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve:*
- d. *to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained:*
- e. *except where the Minister otherwise determines, the indigenous flora and fauna and natural environment shall as far as possible be preserved:*

provided that nothing in paragraph (c) shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna or wildlife that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, and nothing in this subsection shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the Historic Places Act 1993.

Section 26: Vesting of Reserves

Section 26 of the Reserves Act 1977, enabled the vesting of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve in the Mawhera Incorporation and also provides for the trustees to hold and administer the land.

Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997

Under this Act all Pounamu occurring in its natural condition in the Takiwā of Kāi Tahu that immediately before the commencement of the Act was property of the Crown, was vested in and became the property of Kāi Tahu. This did not affect any existing privileges or obligations. All royalties paid to the Crown after the commencement of the Act must be paid to Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. There is a contract between TRONT, the management organisation of Ngāi Tahu, and the Mawhera Incorporation whereby Mawhera hold the ownership to all Pounamu within the Arahura catchment.

Historic Places Act 1993

The purpose of this Act is to promote the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand. It recognises that historic places have lasting value in their own right, and provide evidence of the origins of New Zealand's distinct society. In meeting this purpose the Act states that cultural values, knowledge and disciplines should be taken account of and involve the least possible alteration or loss of material of cultural heritage value. It declares that the options of present and future generations

should be safeguarded; and that, where culturally appropriate, the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand should be fully researched, documented and recorded. The Act also recognises the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wahi tapu, and other taonga.

The Act prohibits anyone from knowingly destroying, damaging or modifying all or any part of an archaeological or suspected archaeological site, and requires anyone who wishes to do so to apply for authorisation from the Historic Places Trust.

Under section 39 (1) of the Act, one of the general functions of the trustees of the Historic Places Trust is to furnish information, advice, and assistance in relation to the identification, recording, investigation, assessment, registration, protection, and conservation of wahi tapu, wahi tapu areas, historic places, and historic areas.

Wildlife Act 1953

This Act protects all wildlife throughout New Zealand and is administered by the Te Papa Atawhai. This protection is subject to exceptions for some wildlife such as noxious animals, certain exotic species and game.



Background

Historical

Māori Settlement

About 1700 AD, Kāi Tahu conquest against Kāti Mamoe had reached Arowhenua (South Canterbury) and little was involved with Kāti Wairaki, the Māori tribe occupying Te Tai Poutini. Hitherto they were shut off from communication with the East Coast by what was thought to be impassable natural barriers of Te Tiritiri o te Moana (The Southern Alps). However, a Kāti Wairaki woman named Raureka, journeyed up the Hokitika, Kokotahi and Arahura riverbeds to Noti Raureka (Browning Pass) and down to Arowhenua. There she came upon men engaged in shaping a waka (canoe) and taking notice of their tōki (axe) remarked how very blunt they were. As they asked if she had a better tōki, she took a package from her bosom which she carefully unfolded and displayed a sharp fragment of Pounamu. The men were delighted with the discovery and wanted to know of the location where Pounamu could be found; this was of profound insight to Ngāi Tahu.

Traditions record that Pounamu brought Kāti Wairaki into conflict with Kāi Tahu Rakatira (Chief) Te Rakitamaui crossed Te Tiritiri o te Moana and attacked Kāti Wairaki killing their Rakatira, Te Uekanuka at Kowhitiraki. Having accomplished his objective, Te Rakitamaui returned to Taumutu on the East Coast.

The next Kāi Tahu expedition was met with very disastrous results. After being defeated by Kāti Wairaki at Mahinapua Roto (Lake Mahinapua) where Kāi Tahu Rakatira, Tanetiki, Tutepiriraki and Tutaemaro were slain, the survivors returned to Kaiapoi. To avenge this loss, a third expedition was sent under the command of Moki and Maka who defeated Kāti Wairaki at the mouth of Kotukuwhakaoho Awa (Arnold River) near

Stillwater. The name refers to the 'startled kotuku' that alerted the dawn attack of Kāti Wairaki. The battles between the two tribes continued until the early 1800's when Kāi Tahu, led by Rakatira Te Pare and assisted by Te Aowhakamaru and Puku, completed the decimation of both Kāti Wairaki at Paparoa and Tuhuru (younger brother of Te Pare) who was left in charge of Te Tai Poutini who along with Wharekino defeated Kāti Tumatakokiri at Karamea.

During the 1830's Poutini Kai Tahu welcomed Ngati Rarua and Ngati Tama to reside with them but by the end of the 1830's they had left Te Tai Poutini. By 1837 Te Puoho of Ngati Tama and almost all of his warriors were decimated by the southern Kāi Tahu in Murihiku (Southland). It was shortly after this that Niho left the West Coast and never returned for Pounamu.

Post-European Settlement

The Arahura River features prominently in early European history of the West Coast, firstly as a key area at stake in the Crown Purchase and secondly as an access route over the Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana.

Until 1850, European presence on the West Coast was limited to sealers in the south and investigations by a few exploration parties. With these parties came increasing reports of the presence of gold. This occurred at a time when the Crown sought to purchase the title to the West Coast. A purchase had been arranged by Crown agent, Kemp, in 1848, although Poutini Kāi Tahu had not received any compensation, nor indeed even been consulted. In a subsequent attempt by the Crown to offer compensation, Poutini Ngāi

Tahu, once again, were never involved. In 1857 the Land Purchase Commissioner arranged for James MacKay to travel to the West Coast and settle the purchase with Poutini Kāi Tahu once and for all.

The Arahura Deed of Purchase

In 1857, James MacKay Junior was given a letter from leading Poutini Rakatira offering to sell the land from West Wanganui in the north, to Piopiotahi (Milford Sound) in the south. They made it clear they would oppose any European settlement unless they first received payment. The letter was sent to Donald McLean, the Rakatira Native Land Purchase Commissioner. Prior to this time Kāi Tahu had sold Canterbury, Otago and Murihiku (Southland). McLean felt there was no need to act hastily, however, James MacKay was appointed by McLean to purchase the Arahura Block.

In 1859 MacKay arrived at Mawhera (Greymouth) and negotiations with Poutini Kāi Tahu to sell the land were unsuccessful, simply because of the highly prized Pounamu procured from the Arahura River.

MacKay returned to Auckland and being authorised with more money returned to Mawhera to continue negotiations with Poutini Ngāi Tahu.

The sale was completed on 21st May 1860.

MacKay also agreed that Poutini Kāi Tahu would "own the Arahura River bed to its source" to protect their right to the Pounamu, together with the land on both sides of the river as far as Mount Tuhua". He awarded them reserves of 800 hectares along the Arahura River (Evison 1993:388) but this was omitted in the written Deed and ownership of the Arahura riverbed remained unconfirmed.

The entitlements of Poutini Kāi Tahu were

progressively breached and "forgotten" by the Crown in subsequent years. Over the next century, contested breaches of both the Treaty and the Purchase by the Crown were instigated, but to no avail. These breaches were to form a major part of the Kāi Tahu claim brought before the Waitangi Tribunal in 1987.

Gold and the Search for a Pass across the Southern Alps / Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana

In the years following the purchase, with Nelson seeking lands for pasture, and the first tales of gold luring the interest of Canterbury, exploration to find a suitable pass across Ka Tiritiri o te Moana gained momentum. The search was for a pass that was direct and suitable for a dray, (horse and cart) thus making overland trade a feasible option.

While initially the search for gold was not proving as fruitful as hoped, the number of strikes steadily increased. By 1865 the "gold rush" was on. Without an easy access across the divide, the West Coast was effectively closer to Melbourne, Australia. Canterbury, anxious that it was missing out on the benefits from trade pushed on with the search for a new pass that would be a suitable trade route (May, 1962: 132)

Several passes were already known but considered unsuitable. Haast Pass was too far south, the Lewis too far north. The Hurunui Pass had a track cut through it but this became severely "cut up" by the passage of stock. The Otira Gorge route was considered more suitable, and work on the road commenced, however, the search for an alternative pass continued.

A sketch by an old Kaiapoi Māori described a pass that led from a north-west branch of the Rakaia to the headwaters of the Arahura and Hokitika (May, 1962:139). Investigation of this area by Harman, Browning and Johnstone revealed a pass with a lake on its summit, and

there already were Griffith and Otway. Together they all descended the Arahura, but found the way blocked by a formidable gorge. Browning and Griffith tried again. This time after passing the lake they turned west along a prospector's freshly cut track, which took them over a saddle, down the Kokotahi (Styx River) and out to Hokitika (May, 1962: 139)

There was much celebration at this discovery, especially as it was a more direct route. However the engineers were less enthused and only work for a stock route commenced. Eventually by the end of the year it was abandoned as unsuitable, because of avalanche danger and the fact that Browning Pass would be covered by snow for most of the year (May, 1962:141). By 1878 a report stated: "that the track was little used and in a bad state of repair". Finally the route through the Otira Gorge was settled on as the only realistic option. By late 1865 drays were making the crossing and in early 1866 the Otira road was complete. The days of the West Coast's isolation from Canterbury were over.

Following this, the upper Arahura is little mentioned in the history books. There has been scattered prospecting in the area for gold but any diggings were short-lived. There was some grazing of sheep and cattle but again this was short-lived. Noti Raureka became popular with trampers as part of the "Three Pass Trip" although passage was confined to the summer months.

Kāi Tahu Redress

The Waitangi Tribunal at Mawhera subsequently found that the Crown acted in breach of Article II of the Treaty in failing to reserve sufficient land for Kāi Tahu at the Arahura River. The principal purpose of this request was to ensure continued Kāi Tahu ownership and control of all Pounamu on or in the Arahura River and its tributaries and on land adjacent thereto. The tribunal further found that Kāi Tahu intended to retain possession and control of all Pounamu throughout the remainder of the Arahura block and in all blocks sold to the Crown. The Crown was found to be in breach of the Treaty Principle requiring it to protect the right of Kāi Tahu to retain this taonga.

The Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1988 states:

"The Tribunal found that the Crown did not act fairly in its negotiations for the Arahura Block, and that the Crown failed both to set aside certain areas that Kāi Tahu wished to retain, and to preserve for Kāi Tahu reasonable access to food resources. It found that the Crown failed to protect the right of Kāi Tahu to retain possession and control of all Pounamu. The Tribunal also found that the Crown failed to respect Ngāi Tahu's interests and wishes when enacting a system of perpetual leases over Kāi Tahu reserves".

Today all Pounamu within the Arahura River catchment is the property of the Mawhera Incorporation.



Physical

Location

The Waitaiki Historic Reserve comprises a section of the Arahura River catchment between and including the Second Gorge and Whakarewa (Lake Browning) the source of the Arahura Awa. The area is located approximately 30 kms southeast of Hokitika, and west of Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana (the Southern Alps). The north-western extremity is the summit of Island Hill and the southern-most point is Noti Raureka.

Legal Description

All that land situated in Westland Land District, Westland District, comprising 12435.6950 hectares, more or less, being Sections 1,2, and 3, S.O. 12438, situated at Turiwhate and the Browning Pass Survey Districts.

Status

The area was declared a Historic Reserve and vested in the Mawhera Incorporation, in accordance with Section 26 of the Reserves Act 1977, by Section 326 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

Adjoining Land Use

The reserve is situated within a large area of continuous Te Papa Atawhai stewardship land. Most of this stewardship land lies within the West Coast Conservancy, while the remaining area to the southeast of the reserve lies within the Canterbury Conservancy. Land administered by PF Olsen Limited on behalf of Crown Forestry intersects the north-eastern arm and the adjacent land to the west is private freehold land,

some of which is farm land. There is also a small area of freehold land surrounded by The Reserve that is adjacent to the riverbed.

Access

Legal access for the public may be gained via the Kokotahi River through Te Papa Atawhai stewardship land. In the Arahura catchment there exists between Landsburg Bridge and the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, public foot-access granted by the Mawhera Incorporation as an easement in perpetuity and detailed in clause 2.2 (b) of attachment 13.3 of the Deed of Settlement 1997.

Landforms

The largest portion of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve is high country consisting of mountainous terrain. This is characterised by steep contours deeply etched by the steeply graded, turbulent, upper catchment of the Arahura River and its tributaries, which carry a high volume of sediment. The altitude ranges from 180m in the lowland to 1979m, the highest point on the Campbell Range. Bare rock and scree are prevalent at the higher altitudes, merging into tussock and shrub country. At lower altitudes along the river valley the area is dominated by indigenous forest. There are mountain tarns in the area, with Whakarewa Roto being the largest.

Between the major body of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve and the north-western spur, the Waitaiki Historic Reserve includes a small area of lowland alluvium that is situated on the alpine fault. This is primarily covered in indigenous forest with a small area of farmland.

Geology

The main body of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve lies east of the alpine fault. The upper catchment above Harman Hut is composed of indurate greywacke and argillite of the Torlesse Supergroup. Below this the river winds through greywacke and argillite that display an increasing metamorphic grade towards quartzo-feldspathic schist of the Haast Schist Group, becoming in turn chlorite, biotite and garnet schist. Fossils found in the upper Arahura indicate that much of the original sediment of the Haast Schist Group would have been deposited during the Triassic, and some may have been from the Permian period. The schist terminates abruptly at the alpine fault. In the biotitic zone lie mineral belts of volcanic origin, the Pounamu ultramafics. These are serpentinite and talc bearing rocks and they run in a north-westerly direction from the Cropp River (south of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve) to the Taramakau (north of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve).

West of the alpine fault the lowland of the Milltown River Flats is comprised of Pleistocene glacial outwash gravels overlying Tertiary siltstone and sandstone of the Blue Bottom formations. Further west again the Waitaiki Historic Reserve includes part of Island Hill, which is a granite outcrop (Warren, 1967).

Climate

The mountainous terrain of the Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana and the westerly situation strongly influence the climate of the area. Prevailing westerly winds rising up over the mountains create a high annual rainfall of 3000 mm to a possible 10,000 mm at the eastern portion of the area (McSaveney, 1979: 7-24). The seasonal distribution of rainfall is even throughout the year, with heavy downpours of 150mm in 24 hours possible at any time of year.

Lowland temperatures are mild throughout the year, but in the high country freeze-thaw processes occur all year, with snowfall possible year round. Snow generally lies over the entire alpine zone from June until October. The area is also characterised by frequent cloud and fog cover, maintaining high humidity for long periods, and a large altitudinal temperature variation (6°C per 1000m) (Couter, 1967: 40-57). Gale force winds may blow from any direction and for days at a time. The prevailing north-westerly winds bringing heavy rain are often followed by south-westerlies and clear skies (Clifton, 1982:2-3).

Soils

There are three categories of soils in the Waitaiki area. These include alpine steep land soils, high-country podzolised yellow-brown earths and lowland yellow-brown earths (New Zealand Soil Bureau, 1968).

Alpine Steep Land Soils: Extensive areas of rock scree dominate these areas. They are above the zone of continuous soil and plant-cover, with the small areas of soil that exist not being true soils.

High Country Podzolised Yellow-Brown Earths and Podzols: These soils are formed by the high rainfall which leaches the soil, reduces the nutrient content and makes it highly acidic. This can frequently create an iron pan layer below the topsoil, which impedes drainage. Litter from fallen vegetation creates a protective layer that helps to maintain soil fertility and prevent erosion. The grazing of vegetation removes the litter layer and, depending on the underlying rock, slope and altitude, makes the soil prone to erosion.

Lowland Yellow-Brown Earths: These are soils of wet lowland areas and are found on unconsolidated deposits of greywacke and schist (Clifton, 1982: 3-5).

The area of greatest risk to erosion is a zone

running north-east to south-west that coincides with soils of the biotitic schist zone; this is the maximum rainfall zone and contains Rata / Kamahi forest susceptible to possum damage (Dept. of Lands and Survey, 1979).

Flora

In the Waitaiki Historic Reserve the vegetation extends from river flats, through forested slopes to herb fields and tussock in the high country. Forests are primarily podocarp and hardwood, with hardwoods being defined as flowering trees but excluding Tawai (beech). The Waitaiki Historic Reserve lies within the "beech gap", an area where Tawai species failed to colonise following the last Ice Age.

The low and mid altitude forest communities below 600m are dominated by Kamahi and quintinia. According to the altitude and site, associated canopy species typically include Rimu, Miro and southern Rata. The common understory species are Horopito (pepperwood), Kapuka (broadleaf), red mountain heather and bush rice grass.

Above 600m the forest is predominantly southern Rata. Associated species depend on the altitude, age and stability of the site, but generally Kamahi and quintinia are associated in the lower altitudes and Hall's Totara and Kaikawaka in the mid to upper altitudes. Horopito, broadleaf, red mountain heather, Haumakoroa (*pseudopanax simplex*), *Coprosma pseudocuneata* and mountain Toatoa are common understory species. On recently exposed sites there are stands of pure southern Rata.

In the transition zone to sub-alpine scrub, Houhi (mountain ribbonwood), mountain holly, pink pine, or leatherwood, and mountain Neinei become dominant. With increased altitude this gives way to tussock grassland and alpine herb field. There are also cushion bogs on the upper

valley flats and some subalpine ridges.

The tall tussock grasslands are predominantly *Chionochloa pallens* and *C. flavescens*. *C. oreophila*; blue tussock dominates the short tussock grasslands. Also common at this altitude are species of mountain daisy, buttercup, *Taramea* (*Aciphylla*) and *Anisotome* (Clifton, 1982:5-6).

Forest composition continues to change with dieback of species susceptible to possum browse. In the lower altitudes, species of the upper canopy resistant to possum browsing are increasing. In the higher altitudes, unpalatable shrubby understory species have increased in density and this is resulting in the loss of the upper canopy.

Indigenous Fauna

Wildlife decline on Te Tai Poutini began with the arrival of Māori and accelerated with the discovery of gold in the 1860's. The increase in the human population did not bring an immediate change in vegetative cover, therefore it is considered likely that mammalian predators such as cats, rats, mice and dogs and their escalating numbers, were responsible for the decline. By the 1890's several species were poised on the brink of extinction and this drop coincided with the introduction of stoats. It is thought that predation had the main impact on wildlife numbers up to the 1920s but, since that time, vegetation clearance has been the major factor affecting bird numbers (Morse, 1981:6-9). However declines are still occurring due to predation, with predators today including rats, stoats, weasels, ferrets and possums, and from competition by introduced browsing animals, chiefly possums and deer, which continue to limit food supply and remove shelter.

Birds

The following list of bird species, compiled from various sources, indicates the species likely to be present within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve permanently, seasonally or sporadically.

Indigenous bird species:

Kahu / Australasian harrier

kaka

kakariki / yellow crowned parakeet

karearea / New Zealand falcon

karoro / southern black backed gull

kea

kereru / New Zealand pigeon

koau / black shag

koekoea / long tailed cuckoo

korimako / bellbird

kotare / New Zealand kingfisher

kowhiowhio / blue duck

miromiro / South Island tomtit

parera / grey duck

pihoihoi / New Zealand pipit

pipipi / brown creeper

pipiwharaua / shining cuckoo

piwakawaka / South Island fantail

pukeko

putakitaki / paradise shelduck

riroriro / grey warbler

ruru koukou / morepork

silvereye

spur winged plover

titipounamu / rifleman

torea / South Island pied oyster catcher

tui

tuturiwhatu / banded dotterel

Rock Wren

Introduced Bird Species:

Australian magpie

blackbird

canada goose

chaffinch

goldfinch

hedgesparrow

house sparrow

redpoll

skylark

songthrush

starling

yellowhammer

(Garrick Associates, 1980), (Bull, et al, 1985) (TE PAPA ATAWHAI staff observations)

Other Wildlife

Peka Peka / Bats:

Bats are our only native terrestrial mammals. They inhabit forests and roost solitarily and communally. The long-tailed bat and the short-tailed bat are both present in Westland. It is unlikely that the short-tailed bat is present on the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, but the long tailed bat is widely distributed along the west of the South Island. Recently Te Papa Atawhai staff have recorded long-tailed bat within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve at Mudflats Hut. Some information suggests that bats have decreased in distribution since European settlement.

Skinks and Geckos

There is little available information regarding the status of skinks and geckos in the area. They may be present in suitable habitats but there are no records of this to date.

Snails

Native land snails were once widespread along the coast at high altitude above the timberline, but today they occur in low numbers. Their sporadic distribution can be attributed to the last Ice Age leaving behind isolated colonies. They are not easy to find and therefore not well documented, but it is most likely that the species *Powelliphanta rossiana* may be present in the area as they have been recorded from Haast to Ross.

Powelliphanta have long life spans (40 years or more) and a low regeneration rate. They are prey for kea and kaka, but today are most at risk from rats, possums and trampling by introduced animals such as deer and chamois (Meads et al., 1984).

Weta Giant Species

The Mt Cook giant Weta *Deinacrida "occidentalis"* has been recorded above 1200m in alpine grasslands from Mt Alexander in the Taramakau valley to the Homer Tunnel at Piopiotahi. It has been recorded in the Whitcombe catchment and may also be present in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve. It is not considered to be at risk or threatened, although there is little information available (Meads, 1994).

Freshwater

The Arahura River is approximately 55 kms long and drains a catchment of approximately 319 km², flowing from Whakarewa Roto near Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana to Te Tai o Rehua (the Tasman Sea). The Waitaiki Historic Reserve encompasses less than half of the catchment the river but includes all of its headwaters. The river has two major tributaries, Newton Creek and Harman River, which is a significant tributary.

The diversity of fish species in the lower reaches is high compared to similar Te Waipounamu

ivers. Seventeen different species of freshwater fish are known to occur in the Arahura River and its catchments; fifteen of these are endemic. The introduced species are brown trout and Quinnat salmon, the latter being only occasionally present. Of the endemic species, thirteen are widespread throughout New Zealand. River flounder and giant bully are two less common species but are not species of national significance (KRTA, 1990:64).

No surveys have been conducted above the Cesspool. Koaro has been sighted in a side stream near Harman Hut by a Te Papa Atawhai officer, but with five gorges the swift water would prevent upstream passage of some fish species. Brown trout, long finned Tuna (eel), Koaro, torrent fish, red finned bully and blue gilled bully which have been recorded in Little Wainihinihi Creek, Stoney Creek and Lebel Creek are likely to be present in the main river above Second Gorge. The number of species and density of fish is likely to decrease further upstream.

Freshwater invertebrates present, depending on the season, include mayfly, caddis fly, stonefly, two winged fly and beetles - similar to other rivers on Te Tai Poutini. No rare freshwater invertebrates are known to be present (KRTA, 1990:59).

Cultural Values

Fishing

Fishing is regulated by various organisations and under the different categories of commercial, recreational and customary fishing. The Te Papa Atawhai administers the whitebait fishery under the Conservation Act 1987 and the Whitebait Fishing West Coast Regulations. Sports fishing of introduced species is administered by the West Coast branch of Fish and Game New Zealand. Lastly, commercial eeling (tuna fishing) is regulated by the Ministry of Fisheries under the

Fisheries Regulations 1986, and an Eel (Tuna) Management Committee has been established as statutory advisor in the setting up of an Eel (Tuna) Management Plan.

The Arahura River is commonly fished for whitebait and brown trout, chiefly in the lower section. The whitebait catch is dominated by

inanga but there is also some Koaro (KRTA, 1990). Under the South Island Eel Management Plan 1999 the Arahura River is closed to commercial Eel (Tuna) fishing.

The bed of the Arahura River is private land and access on the river for fishing requires a permit from the Mawhera Incorporation.

List of Fish Species Observed in the Arahura River and its Tributaries (KRTA, 1990:65)

Common Name	Scientific Name
<u>Native Fresh Water Species</u>	
Short-finned Tuna	<i>Anguilla australis</i>
Long-finned Tuna	<i>Anguilla dieffenbachia</i>
Common bully	<i>Gobiomorphus cotidianus</i>
Giant bully	<i>Gobiomorphus gobioides</i>
Red finned bully	<i>Gobiomorphus huttoni</i>
Upland bully	<i>Gobiomorphus breviceps</i>
Blue gilled bully	<i>Gobiomorphus hubbsi</i>
Inanga	<i>Galaxias maculatus</i>
Koaro (mountain trout)	<i>Galaxias brevipinnis</i>
Banded kokopu	<i>Galaxias fasciatus</i>
Giant kokopu	<i>Galaxias argenteus</i>
Smelt	<i>Retropinna</i>
Lamprey	<i>Georgia australis</i>
Torrent fish	<i>Cheimarrichthys fosteri</i>
River flounder	<i>Rhombosolea retiaria</i>
<u>Introduced Fresh Water Species</u>	
Brown trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>
Quinnat salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>



Threatened Species

The southern Rata canopy is under threat from possums within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve. At lower altitudes forest composition has changed due to dieback of species susceptible to possum browse. This has resulted in the loss of the upper canopy trees. Continuing possum browse may mean that Rata and Totara recruitment may not be sufficient to maintain the present

forest canopy areas where possums are well established.

The threatened and significant indigenous species known to be in the area are listed below. They are categorised by their management priority for the area, based on the national significance of the species (as determined by Molloy & Davis) and the importance of the Hokitika area for that species.

Threatened and Significant Species in the Waitaiki Area

Hokitika Area Property	Species	Category
Medium	Western weka	B
	Peka Peka / Long-tailed bat	C
	West Coast skinks	B
	Kowhiowhio / Blue duck	B
	Koaro	C
	Rock Wren	
Low	Karearea	B
	Kereru	B
	Geckos	B
	Kaka	B
	Kea	B
	Powelliphanta rossiana	C
	Tuturiwhatu / banded dotterel	C
	Kakariki / yellow crowned parakeet	C

The management of some of these species is guided by national species recovery plans. Intensive management of threatened species is integrated within a wider programme of habitat protection and restoration (Neale, Lyall,

and Knightbridge, 1999). The relevant recovery plans and the key issues and directions for management for Peka Peka (bats), Kowhiowhio (blue duck), and Weka are as follows:



Peka Peka (Bats) Recovery Plan

Peka Peka suffer from the same threats as many endemic bird species, that is predation, competition and habitat loss. They are listed as threatened, Category B "Second priority species for conservation action" (Molloy and Davis, 1994). The key objectives are to monitor and research their distribution and population trends.

Kowhiowhio (Blue Duck) Recovery Plan

Kowhiowhio is rated Category B "Secondary priority for conservation action" (Molloy and Davis, 1994). Kowhiowhio are mostly confined to headwater catchments of high water quality. The catchments in the Hokitika area are a stronghold for this species. The key objectives of the recovery plan are to monitor and research populations and to protect habitat.

Weka Recovery Plan

Weka is rated Category B "Second priority for conservation action" (Molloy and Davis, 1994). The recovery plan for western Weka at present is to define its full range through research and monitoring.

Plant and Animal Pests

Plant Pests

Serious ecological weeds are not established in the area and it is not thought likely that weeds will become a threat in the near future. Thistle is present on the lower section of the Arahura River valley within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve and ragwort is scattered in the upper section (Te Papa Atawhai staff personal comment).

Animal Pests

Possums

Possums were first released in the Kokotahi River-Lake Kaniere area in 1895. Since then they have become widespread over all of the Hokitika area. At lower altitudes forest composition has changed due to dieback of species susceptible to possum browse such as fuchsia, wine berry, southern Rata and Totara. In some places this has resulted in the loss of the upper canopy trees. At higher altitudes, unpalatable shrubby understory species have increased in density. Continuing possum browse may mean that Rata and Totara recruitment may not be sufficient to maintain the present forest canopy in areas where possums are well established. Possums seasonally browse flowering and fruiting plants and they also predate eggs, possibly fledglings and forest invertebrates.

Possum control poisoning campaigns were undertaken in the northern parts of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve in the early 1970's. No follow up was carried out and the controls failed to halt forest dieback. The present Te Papa Atawhai Possum Control Plan 1993-2002 ranks the area too low on the vegetation / wildlife / vulnerability scale to warrant funding for specific control.

Goats

Goats were first established in Westland in the gold mining days from escapees of domestic populations, and they are still found around many old gold digging sites. They are widespread from the lower Arahura to the lower Taipo River although they are generally found in the western lower rainfall areas of the McArthur Range to the Griffin Range and are seldom seen east of Newton Creek. Goats are absent from the Newton Range. The Te Papa Atawhai National Feral Goat Control Plan 1995-2004 calls for sustained control to halt dispersal of occasional farm escapees.

Thar

Thar were released at Aoraki / Mt Cook in 1904 and slowly dispersed northwards to about Otira

by 1970. Occasional bull Thar from southern populations wander as far north as the Taipo catchment. The Te Papa Atawhai's Himalayan Thar Control Plan 1993 has an exclusion zone for this area to prevent expansion of the breeding range. Recreational and commercial hunting may supplement but not replace planned official activity.

Deer

Red Deer were first introduced to the Hokitika area in the early 1900's. They rapidly colonised valleys along with deer that crossed the Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana from the Rakaia Valley. Deer populations grew to huge proportions the 1930's and 1950's, especially in the grassland and sub-alpine scrub zones, causing vegetation in these areas to become severely depleted. Initially government hunters and, more recently, commercial aerial controls have reduced populations to the extent that vegetation within the browse range is recovering. Red deer are now found in small groups or singly rather than the large herds of the 1940s.

Chamois

Chamois were released at Aoraki (Mount Cook) in 1899 where they quickly dispersed reaching high numbers by 1960, including within the Arahura area. They were reduced by commercial recovery at the same time as deer numbers and today they are found singly or in small groups.

Other Mammals

Mice, Norway or brown rats (*Rattus rattus*) and ship or black rats (*r. norvegicus*) are present in the area. Rats reached plague proportions during the gold rush and at different intervals since then but are now present in moderate numbers.

Rabbits are present on the open flats at lower altitudes. Hares are widely distributed and especially evident in the high alpine grasslands.

Stoats, ferrets, and weasels were introduced to

Westland before 1900 to control mice, rats, and rabbits. They have become a major threat to many native species in the lower altitudes where they are found.

Visitor Use

Recreation

Trampers, kayakers and hunters use the Arahura Valley. Noti Raureka is part of the classic Three Pass tramping trip that crosses Ka Tiritiri o Te Moana (the Southern Alps) and it is estimated that approximately 600 trampers make the trip each year. For the Te Papa Atawhai's management purposes, the area is zoned "Backcountry with Facilities" (West Coast Conservation Management Strategy) and primarily caters for "Backcountry Adventurers" (Te Papa Atawhai, Visitor Strategy, 1996).

The number of kayakers running the Arahura River is unknown however it has been described as one of the very best runs in New Zealand (Charles, 1996). The most common put in is above the Third Gorge, and the take out is above Milltown. The river is classed IV to V which translates to difficult rapids to very difficult rapids.

Recreational hunting is a popular activity on Te Tai Poutini due to the extensive opportunities and the variety of game animals present in the region. Red deer and chamois are the main species hunted in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Facilities

The Te Papa Atawhai has ownership and responsibility for those huts and bridges within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve that are listed in Appendix 2 (from attachment 13.2 of the Deed of Settlement). The Te Papa Atawhai's National Visitor Strategy 1996 identified different visitor groups in order to assist in the provision of appropriate visitor opportunities and facilities

for these groups. Changing patterns of visitor use and expectations necessitated a review of recreation sites and the facilities to be provided by the Department. The Recreation Facilities Review provided a ranking of recreation sites on Te Tai Poutini to assist in their future management. The ranking took account of visitor types and numbers, site values and the role each recreation system has in portraying the distinctive character of each place and its role within its recreation system. Management of the facilities within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve is based on these rankings (see Appendix 2 for a list of the facilities and their management directions).

Commercial and Private Use

Leases and licences are granted for commercial use of land including such things as commercial tourism, hunting or grazing. A lease is where the lessee is granted exclusive possession of the land whereas a license is for non-exclusive interest in land that makes provision for a permitted activity.

Easements may be sought for utilities such as telecommunications, power generation; water supplies; pipelines and access ways. There are presently three weirs located within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Mining, prospecting and exploration are past activities within the Waitaiki Historical Reserve. The Arahura catchment has been the primary source of Pounamu to Māori since their arrival and has been extracted from Waitaiki (Jade Creek), Olderog Creek and downstream along the length of the Arahura River.

Cultural Use / Taking of Specimens / Killing of Fauna

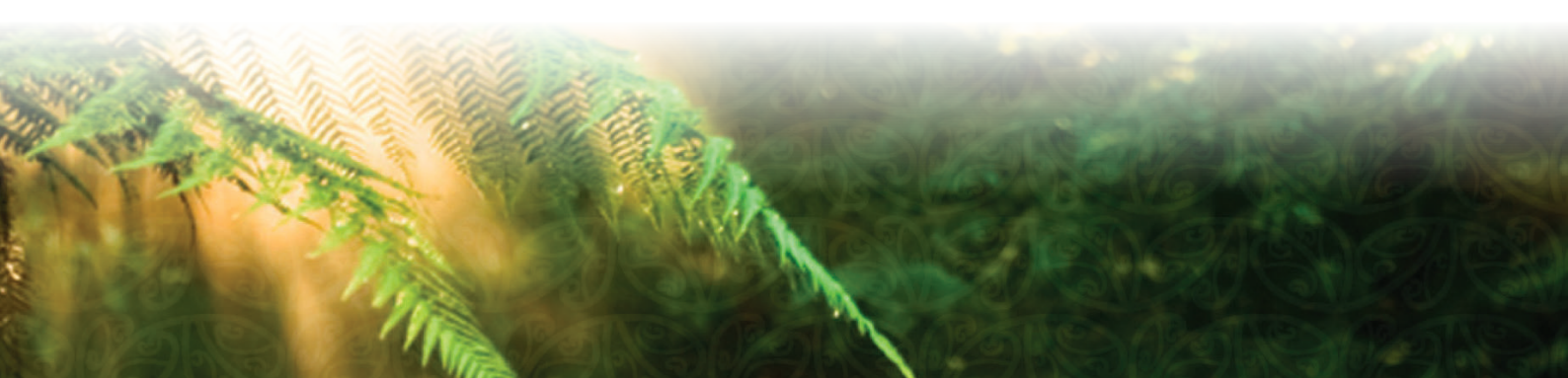
Section 49 of the Reserves Act 1977 - taking of Specimens

This requires the Minister of Conservation's consent to take specified specimens of flora or fauna or rock mineral or soil from the reserve for scientific or educational purposes provided the taking of such specimens does not unduly deplete the number of any species, damage ecological associations, or damage the values of the reserve. The taking of specimens must not contravene anything in the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act.

Please Note: This does not include Pounamu.

Section 50 of the Reserves Act 1977 - Taking or killing of fauna

The Minister of Conservation's consent is required to take and kill any specified kind of fauna, and authorise the method of capture or killing, provided that it does not contravene Part VB of the Conservation Act 1987, or of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act. However consent cannot be granted to take or kill indigenous fauna within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve for commercial purposes.



Reserve Management

Issues

Management and Administration

- The Mawhera Incorporation is the administering body of Waitaiki Historic Reserve but the Te Papa Atawhai is responsible for specified tracks and maintains ownership of and responsibility for specified huts and bridges (Attachment 2, Deed of Settlement). Therefore, while notification is specified in Schedule 107 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, if there is no general understanding of open communication between the two groups to ensure awareness and coordinate management practices, each group has the potential to impact upon the management of the other.
 - In the same way, if there is no open communication with adjoining landowners then there is potential for conflicting management practices. For example uncoordinated pest control across boundaries could result in an ineffective programme.
 - Community participation is required in the management plan development and the issuing of leases and licenses unless they are "in conformity with and contemplated by the approved management plan for the reserve" (s58A (3) Reserves Act 1977). Therefore the administrative body needs to be accessible to the public.
- Māori and European history. Management of recreational use must ensure the protection of these values. For example where the remains of the historic dray road forms part of the Arahura Track, the use of the track may have unwanted impacts on its historic values.
- Not all sites of archaeological value within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve will have been discovered and those that have not yet been identified could potentially be disturbed by public use.
 - The ancestral landscapes of tangata whenua are inseparable from their identity and wellbeing. Among these landscapes are places of Wahi Tapu (sacred sites), Wahi Taonga (sacred treasures) and other places of significance. It is not the wish of tangata whenua to disclose all locations of significance known to them, in order to protect the sanctity of these places. Respecting this wish gives rise to difficulties in managing these areas in particular ways without revealing their whereabouts.
 - Wahi Tapu can be damaged by various human activities both in physical and spiritual ways; such damage may be incurred due to a lack of awareness by others.

Historic

- The Waitaiki Historic Reserve has historical value to all New Zealanders as a place of spiritual and cultural significance with its rich

Threatened Species

- Biodiversity is a key factor in the processes of life. Loss of biodiversity disrupts these processes; therefore it is necessary to conserve viable populations of species within indigenous ecosystems. Priority for management therefore must be on

threatened species and their habitats. Within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve the Weka, Kowhiowhio (blue duck) and Peka Peka (long-tailed bat) are considered to be threatened species.

- The southern Rata canopy is under threat from possum browsing in the area.

Freshwater

- Due to the cultural significance of the waters, guidance will be needed in the administration of all the fresh-water management issues in the catchment.
- Cultural values may be at threat from direct and indirect usage of the river catchment.
- Activities such as mining may potentially have an adverse impact upon water quality.

Plant and Animal Pests

- Plant pests are relatively minor at present; however animal pests have had, and continue to have, a significant impact upon the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.
- Deer and chamois are presently at levels where their impact is minor. Possums however have been responsible for changing forest composition through dieback of species susceptible to possum browse, resulting in the loss of the upper canopy trees. Continuing possum browse may mean that Rata and Totara recruitment may not be sufficient to maintain the present forest canopy in areas where possums are well established.
- Possums also have a direct and indirect impact on bird species and some invertebrates.

Aircraft

- Aircraft are used for sightseeing, hunting, access and kayaking. It must be recognised that while aircraft provide access for some, they also detract from the experience of others through their presence and noise impacts.

Baches

- Baches in private occupation of public lands can have a permanent impact on the environment and public space. Traditionally these are used for only short periods of the year. There are five unlicensed huts along Waitaiki (Jade Creek) which remain from old mining licences.
- Disposal of rubbish and sewage may cause adverse effects to the natural and historic resources and water quality, and also to public enjoyment of the area.
- Occupation of the baches may introduce weeds and pests, which may have an adverse effect on the natural environment.
- Because of the above, applications for these are generally not supported. Voluntary organisations or educational bodies may apply to Mawhera Incorporation to erect buildings as specified in the Reserves Act, Section 45. The Minister of Conservation's approval is required before permission is granted by the administering body.

Grazing

- Grazing has historically been undertaken in some parts of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve. The natural and historic resources at greatest risk from grazing include freshwater, riparian

margins, wetlands, forest understory, forest margins and archaeological sites. Grazing may help to suppress some weed growth, but can also introduce other weeds. The cessation of grazing may foster re-growth of natural vegetation.

Utilities and Easements

- The presence of utilities on the Waitaiki Historic Reserve may have adverse effects on natural and historic resources through their presence, construction and maintenance. For example weirs can affect hydrological regimes and present barriers to fish passage.
- Utilities may also impact upon cultural and spiritual values, and adversely effect visitor experiences.
- Access to landlocked utilities is sometimes required.

Mining, Prospecting and Exploration

- Mining operations may create adverse effects through: damage to historic resources;

erosion and soil loss; sedimentation and contamination of water bodies; loss and damage to ecosystems; damage to landscape qualities; damage to geological features; and may negatively impact upon the experience of visitors.

- Associated developments such as roads, water supply and waste disposal may have negative affects on natural and historic resources and visitor experiences.
- Complete rehabilitation is difficult and therefore adverse affects such as leaching of contaminants may be long-term and may not always be immediately apparent.
- Some mines have not been rehabilitated satisfactorily after closure.
- Disused mine sites may pose a risk to the public, this could occur in the form of tailings, shafts, remaining explosives, or destabilised ground.
- While some mining may have minimal affect upon the environment, other mining may be incompatible with the purposes of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.



Objectives

The principle objectives for the management of Waitaiki Historic Reserve are:

1. To preserve in perpetuity places, objects, and natural features of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational or other special interest.
2. To preserve the integrity of these places.
3. To maintain and manage public access in a way that protects the wellbeing of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve and the public.
4. To protect all values to the extent that is compatible with protecting the primary values for which the Waitaiki Historic Reserve is protected.
5. To protect ecological systems, the indigenous flora and fauna and natural environment as far as possible.

Explanation

Achieving these principle objectives requires the balancing of historic and natural protection with maintaining public access. This requires management to make judgments that are not inflexible. Change will come, it is not possible to plan for all contingencies, but it is important to have a direction that will help to guide the decisions we make today and ensure that all the decisions take us in the same direction.

From the above primary objectives follow secondary objectives, and they are:

1. To allow cultural and educational use.
2. To allow commercial use.
3. To minimise the threats posed by plant and animal pests to indigenous species and the natural environment.

These secondary objectives are subject to their compatibility with the achievement of the principle purposes for which the Waitaiki Historic Reserve is protected.



Reserve Policies

The following policies have been prepared in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, the Ngāi Tahu Pounamu Vesting Act 1977 and other relevant legislation. With respect to the Te Papa Atawhai role and responsibilities they are guided by the Conservation Management Strategy for the West Coast Conservancy.

Working with Others

Treaty of Waitangi

Policy: To manage the Waitaiki Historic Reserve in a manner that gives effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, in so far as they are consistent with the primary objectives in the Reserves Act 1977 and Section 326 and Schedule 107 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

Te Papa Atawhai

Policy: Effective management of the resources of Waitaiki Historic Reserve requires open communication and cooperation between Mawhera Incorporation and Te Papa Atawhai to minimise the incidence of conflicting management practices.

Adjacent Uses

Policy: To liaise with and seek the cooperation of adjoining landowners, to minimise the impact of activities that may be detrimental to the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Community

Policy: To establish and maintain effective relationships with those organisations which have a statutory role, those who wish to use the resources of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, and those organisations, the local community and the general public who are interested in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, conservation, and the sustainable use of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve's natural and historic values.

Historic Resources

Policy: To recognise the provisions of the Historic Places Act 1993 thereby preserving archaeological and historic objects and sites and sites of significance within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Indigenous Species

Policy 1: Indigenous plants and animals and freshwater species are to be preserved, as far as possible, in their natural state.

Policy 2: If required, special measures may be taken to protect threatened species.

Policy 3: To recognise the cultural association of Kāi Tahu with their indigenous species.

Policy 4: To have particular regard to the Te Papa Atawhai Protocols with Kāi Tahu for cultural materials, freshwater fisheries and culling of species when managing indigenous plants and animals.

Freshwater

Policy 1: Recognise the fishing for sports fish as a recreational activity where it does not compromise reserve values.

Policy 2: To allow sports fish to be released into reserve waters by Fish and Game Council where the species are already present and where there are no adverse effects on indigenous fish.

Policy 3: Not to permit commercial Tuna (eel) fishing within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Policy 4: To acknowledge the historic and traditional association of Kāi Tahu with the fish species found in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Pests and Weeds

Policy 1: To control all introduced plants likely to modify the natural vegetation or any natural feature of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Policy 2: To control animal pests in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve in accordance with national plans and regional pest control strategies so far as those methods are consistent with the objectives and policies of this plan.

Visitors

Access

Policy: The Te Papa Atawhai shall permit and manage public access within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve that is consistent with: legislation; the preservation of natural, archaeological, and historic features; the visitor setting;

minimising conflict between different visitor groups; and visitor safety.

Aircraft

Policy 1: Aircraft may be permitted to land in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve for Reserve Management purposes.

Policy 2: Aircraft landings, except for Reserve Management purposes, shall be a controlled activity permitted through licensing, or permits granted to aircraft operators. Landings may be on an irregular basis but linked to specific locations, activities, or times.

Policy 3: An aircraft corridor may be developed.

Recreation Facility Development

Policy: The Mawhera Incorporation and the Te Papa Atawhai may provide a range of visitor facilities to enable visitors to experience and appreciate the natural, historic and cultural values of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Camping

Policy: To allow camping in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, except within areas where camping must be prohibited to avoid the deterioration of the Waitaiki Historic Reserve's natural and historic resources.

Huts

Policy 1: All huts in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve will be available to the public on a first come first served basis unless pressure from high visitor use requires a booking system to be established.

Policy 2: Additional hut sites will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances which may include, but not be limited to:

1. an existing hut site becoming unsafe for any reason and requiring relocation to a new site; or
2. requirement for a hut for reserve management purposes, that has the prior consent of the Minister of Conservation.

Waste Disposal

Policy 1: To provide toilet facilities at all huts and other appropriate sites as necessary.

Policy 2: To take into account the values of Kāi Tahu when managing waste within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.

Interpretation

Policy: To enhance the experience and awareness of visitors by providing interpretation that will contribute to visitor experience and raise awareness of the significance of sites and natural and cultural values.

Visitor Safety

Policy 1: To inform reserve visitors of any potential natural hazards in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve to create awareness and understanding of natural hazards while recognising that visitors will be primarily responsible for their own safety.

Policy 2: To cooperate fully with the New Zealand Police in search and rescue, and with the civil defence authorities where appropriate and necessary.

Policy 3: The Te Papa Atawhai shall provide expertise, as far as is practicable and necessary, to assist with emergency operations involving visitor safety.

Private and Commercial Activities, Structures and Facilities

Customary Use

Policy: Customary harvest of indigenous plants and animals may be permitted from the Waitaiki Historic Reserve by permit, with the consent of the Minister of Conservation, where it is consistent with the Reserves Act 1977, the Conservation Act 1987 and other relevant legislation.

Leases, Licences, Utilities and Easements

Policy 1: To consider all applications for leases, licences, utilities and easements accordance with relevant legislation.

Policy 2: To grant these applications where reasonable and practicable measures can be taken to sufficiently avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects and where the proposals are consistent with the purpose for which the Waitaiki Historic Reserve is held in this Management Plan.

New and Existing Buildings

Policy 1: Ensure that, where buildings are permitted in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, they are compatible with and appropriate to the landscape in which they are to be located.

Mining, Prospecting and Exploration

Policy 1: Tino Rakatirataka will prevail with the Mawhera Incorporation controlling all access arrangements for prospecting and the exploration for Pounamu and other minerals.

Policy 2: Applications for access arrangements for prospecting, exploration and mining for other minerals shall be assessed in accordance with the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997 and the Crown Minerals Act 1991.

Fire

Policy: All fires in the open require a fire permit.

Management Planning

Policy 1: Consider management policies in terms of new information on a continuous basis and amend as necessary.

Policy 2: Review this management plan not later than 10 years from its date of approval.



Glossary

Administering

The act of controlling and managing a reserve Reserves Act 1977

Archaeological site

Any place in New Zealand including shipwrecks, associated with human activity before 1900 and which through investigation by archaeological methods provide scientific, cultural, or historical evidence relating to the history of New Zealand. Historic Places Act 1993

Back-country adventurers

People seeking the traditional New Zealand backcountry experience. This level has a higher level of backcountry skills and experience than backcountry comfort seekers. They seek an experience that has challenge and a sense of freedom and they accept a degree of risk and discomfort.

Biodiversity

The variability among living organisms from all sources including inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity 1992

Conservancy

The Te Papa Atawhai has 12 regional offices in different parts of the country. Each office and or the region it is responsible for, is called a conservancy.

Conservation

For the purposes of this plan conservation means the preservation and protection of natural and historic resources for the purpose

of maintaining their intrinsic values, providing for their appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public, and safeguarding the options of future generations. Conservation Act 1987

Conservation includes the processes of preserving, maintaining and restoring historic places. Historic Places Act 1993

Conservation Management Strategy or CMS

A strategy that implements general policies and establishes objectives for the integrated management of natural and historic resources and for recreation, tourism and other conservation purposes. The strategy is reviewed every 10 years. Conservation Act 1987 s1 7D

Customary harvest

The continued Māori tradition of gathering and harvesting plants and animals.

Deed of Settlement

Means the Deed of Settlement executed on 21 November 1997 between the Crown and Ngāi Tahu.

Department Of Conservation (DOC)

Means Te Papa Atawhai.

Easement

A right of way or permitted activity granted by a landowner.

Ecology

The study of organisms in relation to one another and to their surroundings.

Ecosystem

A biological system comprising a community of living organisms and its non-living environment, interacting as an ecological unit.

Endemic

Refers to indigenous species of plants or animals which breed only within a specified region or locality, and are unique to that area.

Exploration

Means any activity undertaken for the purpose of identifying mineral deposits or occurrences and evaluating the feasibility of mining particular deposits or occurrences of one or more minerals; and includes any drilling, dredging, or excavations (whether surface or sub-surface) that are reasonably necessary to determine the nature and size of a mineral deposit or occurrence. Crown Minerals Act 1991

Exotic

Introduced species.

Facilities

Includes huts, toilets, tracks and structures such as swing-bridges.

Fauna

Animals of a region.

Flora

Plants of a region.

Freshwater Fish

Species of finfish and shellfish that spend all or part of their life histories in freshwater. Conservation Act 1987

Game

Means all animals (and game birds) for the time being specified in the First Schedule of the Wildlife Act 1953.

Habitat

The environment in which a particular species or group of species lives. It includes the physical and biotic characteristics that are relevant to the species concerned.

Indigenous

A plant or animal that occurs only in New Zealand.

Integrated Conservation Management

The management of natural resources, and historical and cultural heritage, and existing or potential activities in a manner which ensures that priorities are clear and that the effects of each activity on others are considered and managed accordingly. (Conservation General Policy 2005).

Integrity

A term which refers to the physical state of an historic place, and is similar to the concept "authentic". It encompasses both the loss of original material from a place and the introduction of new material.

If much original material is lost, or unsympathetic new material is introduced, then integrity is lost. West Coast Conservancy Historic Resources Plan

Interpretation

Conveying information about the origin, meaning or values of national or cultural heritage via live, interactive or static media. It occurs in the vicinity of the subject and is designed to stimulate visitor interest, increase understanding and promote support for conservation. Conservation Management Strategy

Invertebrates

An animal without a backbone or spinal column. (The majority of animal species are invertebrates; the exceptions are fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.)

Landforms

Natural features in the landscape formed by physical processes, e.g. mountain ranges, glacial moraines, rock outcrops.

Lease

Means a grant of interest in land that gives exclusive possession of that land and makes provision for any activity on the land that the lessee is permitted to carry out. Conservation Amendment Act 1996

Licence

(a) means:

- i. a profit à prendre or any other grant that gives a non-exclusive interest in land; or
- ii. a grant that makes provision for any activity on the land that the licensee is permitted to carry out; and

(b) includes:

- i. any document purporting to be a licence (whether or not the licence gives an interest, or makes any provision, referred to in paragraph (a)) and issued under any former Act; and
- ii. any document purporting to be a licence and purporting to grant an exclusive interest in land, and issued under any former Act or issued under this Act before the commencement of section 2(2) of the Conservation Amendment Act 1996; and
- iii. any document purporting to be a licence (whether or not the licence gives an interest, or makes any provision, referred to in paragraph (a)) and issued under this Act before the commencement of the said section 2(2);

Minister

The Minister of Conservation or duly authorised delegate.

Mining

Means to take, win, or extract, by whatever means, a mineral existing in its natural state in land or a chemical substance from that mineral, for the purpose of obtaining the mineral or chemical substance; but does not include prospecting or exploration. Crown Minerals Act 1991

Natural resources

Plants and animals, their habitats, landscapes, landforms, geological features, systems of interacting living organisms, and their environments.

Notification

The act of giving knowledge of some fact.

Noxious animals

Wild animals listed in Schedule Six and subject to control under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977. Wildlife Act 1953

Objectives

Statement of intended results. These can be broad or narrow in scope, and should be accompanied by implementation provisions. Te Papa Atawhai

Permit

Means a grant of rights to undertake an activity which does not require an interest in the land. Conservation Act 1987

Podocarp

A predominantly Southern Hemisphere family of coniferous plants that include Kahikatea, Totara, Hall's Totara, Matai, Miro, Rimu, celery pine and mountain Toa Toa.

Proclamation

Formal public announcement by the Crown (published in the New Zealand Gazette).

Prospecting

Any activity undertaken for the purpose of identifying land likely to contain exploitable mineral deposits or occurrences. Crown Minerals Act 1991

Preservation

In relation to a resource under the Conservation Act 1987, means the maintenance, so far as is practicable, of its intrinsic values. Conservation Act 1987

Protection

In relation to a resource under the Conservation Act 1987, means its maintenance, so far as is practicable, in its current state but includes restoration to some former state and augmentation, enhancement or expansion (Conservation Act 1987).

QCM

Quality Conservation Management. A Te Papa Atawhai strategy for management.

RMA

Means the Resource Management Act 1991.

Species Recovery Plan

A plan of action intended to halt the decline of a threatened species and increase its population.

Statutory

Enacted, required, and imposed by an act of parliament.

Sports fish

Means every species of freshwater fish that the Governor-General may declare, by Order in Council, to be sports fish for the purposes of this Act; and any such Order in Council may be expressed to apply to freshwater fish any specified freshwater or other waters. Conservation Act 1987

Sustainable use

The use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations. Convention on Biological Diversity

Stewardship land

Conservation land that is not a marginal strip, watercourse, conservation park, ecological area, sanctuary area, or wilderness area, or land in respect of which an interest is held under the

Conservation Act 1987 for one or more of these purposes. Conservation Act 1987

Taking

In relation to plants this includes breeding, cutting, destroying, digging up, gathering, plucking, pulling up and removing of the plant. In relation to fish it means fishing. Conservation Act 1987

Threatened (species)

A term used loosely to include rare, vulnerable, endangered and indeterminate species.

Trustee

Means one who holds property on trust for another.

Vested

Where a person is put in possession of land.

Wildlife

Means any animal that is living in a wild state; and includes any such animal or egg or offspring of any such animal held or born captivity, whether pursuant to an authority granted under this Act or otherwise; but does not include any animals of any species specified the Sixth Schedule to this Act (being animals that are wild animals subject to the Wild Animal Control Act 1977). Wildlife Act 1953.

Māori Glossary

Kāi Tahu Māori	Generic Māori Name	Description
Kāi Tahu	Ngāi Tahu	Iwi Ngāi Tahu
Kāti	Ngāti	Tribe
	Iwi	Tribe, people
Kaitiaki		Guardian
Kā Tiritiri o te Moana	Ngā Tiritiri o te Moana	The Southern Alps
Kāti Tumatakokiri	Ngāti Tumatakokiri	Tribe Ngāti Tumatakokiri
Kāti Wairaki	Ngāti Wairangi	Tribe Ngāti Wairangi
Kowhitiraki	Kowhitirangi	Kowhitirangi
Mahika Kai	Mahinga Kai	Customary gathering of food and natural plant materials and the places where those resources are gathered. Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998
	Mana	Authority, control, influence, prestige, and/or power. Waitangi Tribunal Report (Wai 27) 1991
	Mana Whenua	Customary rights and authority over land. Waitangi Tribunal Report (Wai 27) 1991
	Mauri	Life principle or life force
Papatipu Rūnaka	Papatipu Rūnanga	The Ngāi Tahu Act 1996 identified two Poutini Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga: Te Runaka o Kati Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makawhio on the West Coast
	Pounamu	Sometimes referred to as greenstone, Pounamu is defined in the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997, as including the following: bowenite, nephrite (including semi-nephrite) and serpentine
Poutini Kāi Tahu	Poutini Ngāi Tahu	West Coast Ngāi Tahu
	Poutini Kāi Tahu	Derive their status as Tangata whenua of the Tai Poutini by whakapapa from their ancestors, who held customary title and rights to the land of the Tai Poutini at the time of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840
Rakatira	Rangatira	Leader/Chief
	Rohe	Boundary, tribal region. Waitangi Tribunal Report (Wai 27) 1991
Runaka	Rūnanga	Assembly, Council. Waitangi Tribunal Report (Wai 27) 1991
Takata whenua	Tangata whenua	People of a given place (Waitangi Tribunal Report (Wai 27) 1991) in relation to a particular area, means the iwi, or hapu that holds mana whenua over that area. Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998
Taoka species	Taonga species	Means any birds, plants and animals described in Schedule 97 (of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998) found within the claim area
	Te Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Poutini	Te Papa Atawhai, West Coast Conservancy
Tikaka	Tikanga	Māori customary values and practices. Resource Management Act 1991
Tinorakatirataka	Tinorangatiratanga	Sovereignty, authority and self determination
	Wahi Tapu	Sacred place
Wahi Taoka	Wahi Taonga	Sacred Treasure

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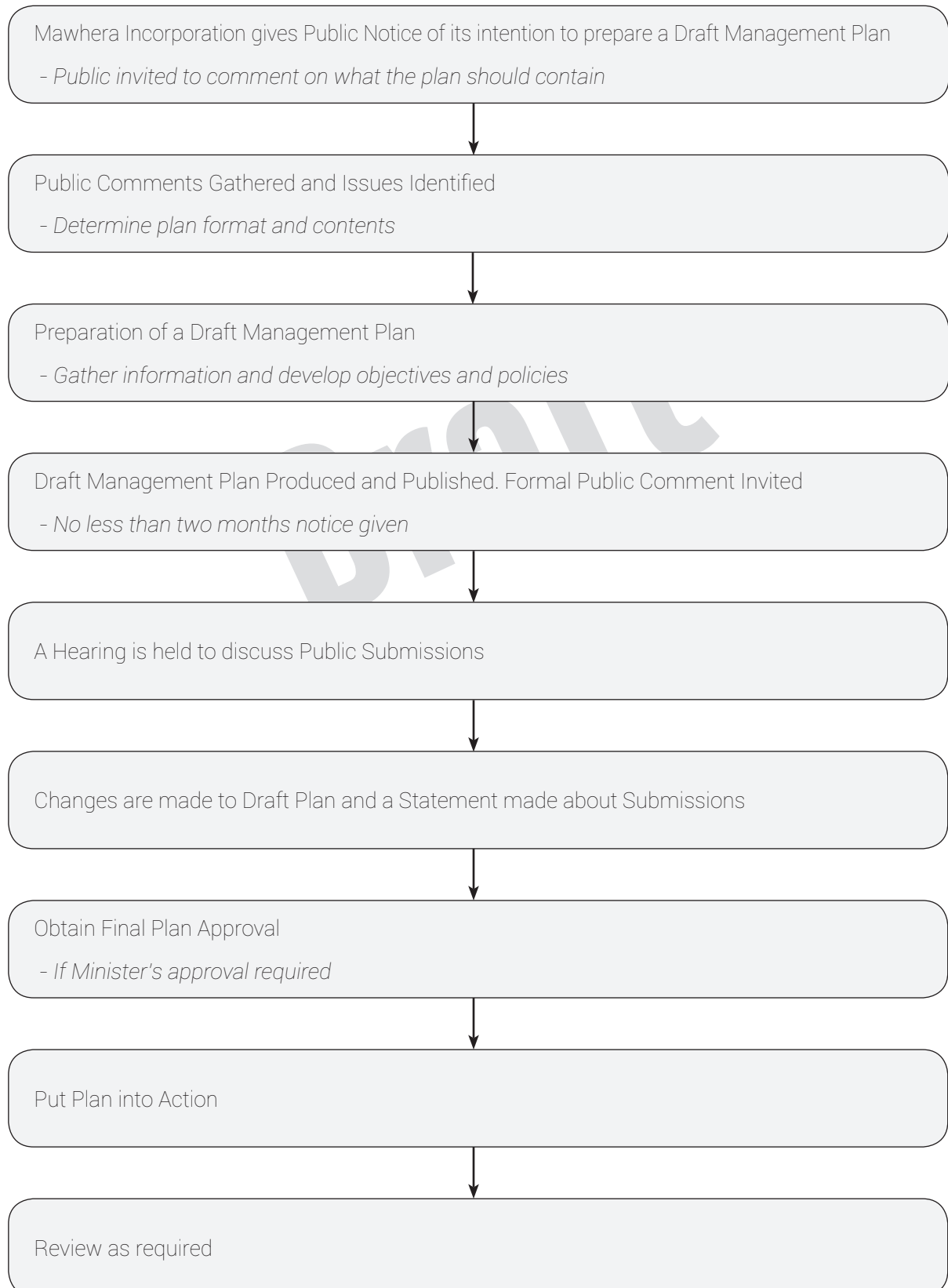
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Draft

Appendix 1

Management Plan preparation procedure under the Reserves Act 1977



Appendix 2

List of Huts, Bridges and Tracks within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve

Huts		Bridges		Tracks	
Harman Hut	<i>Maintain</i>	Harman Swing Bridge	<i>maintain</i>	Arahura Valley Track	<i>maintain</i>
Mudflats Hut	<i>Maintain</i>	Mudflats Swing Bridge	<i>maintain</i>	Newton Creek Track	<i>maintain</i>
Lower Arahura Hut	<i>Maintain</i>	Newton Creek Swing Bridge	<i>maintain</i>	Arahura – Styx Saddle Track	<i>maintain</i>
Top Olderog Hut	<i>Retain</i>	Olderog Swing Bridge	<i>maintain</i>	Olderog / Jade Creek Access Track (overgrown)	<i>non-maintain</i>
Lower Olderog Hut	<i>Retain</i>			Newton Range Track (overgrown)	<i>non-maintain</i>
Newton Creek Hut	<i>Retain</i>				
Newton Range (Bivouac)	<i>Retain</i>				
Campbell Range (Bivouac)	<i>Retain</i>				

The figure above shows the facilities listed in the Deed of Settlement: Attachment 13.2. Beside these in italics are the future management directions provided by the Recreation Facilities Review. The directions for these different categories are as follows:

Maintain

Sites will be maintained as required under the Quality Conservation Management regime.

Retain

Applies to huts and structures. Retain means that a hut or structure will be kept until such time that it fails the standards. At this point the hut or structure will be considered for removal.

The hut or structure may still be shown in visitor information i.e. publications and maps.

Non maintain

This primarily refers to tracks. For tracks no longer maintained all structures will be removed, but in some cases track markers may be left until they naturally disappear i.e. through windfalls or falling off. Such a track will not be included in visitor information i.e. publications and maps. Both the tracks in the Waitaiki Historic Reserve that fall within this category will have their markers left.

Five unlicensed huts exist within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve along Waitaiki / Jade Creek

Appendix 3

Common Name / Māori Name / Scientific Name

Taonga species, as listed in the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, are indicated with an asterisk

Māori Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
	<u>Plants</u>	
Kopoti	Aniseed	<i>Anisotome aromatica</i>
Tawai*	Beech	<i>Nothofagus</i>
	Blue Tussock	<i>Poa colensoi</i>
Kapuka*	Broadleaf	<i>Griselinia</i>
	Broad-leaved Snow Tussock	<i>Chionochloa flavescens</i>
	Bush Rice Grass	<i>Microlaene avenacea</i>
	Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus</i>
Kaikawaka	Cedar	<i>Libocedrus</i>
	Coprosma	<i>Coprosma pseudocuneata</i>
Totara*	Hall's Totara	<i>Podocarpus hallii</i>
Haumakoroa	Haumakoroa	<i>Pseudopanax simplex</i>
Kamahi*	Kamahi	<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>
	Leatherwood	<i>Olearia colensoi</i>
	Mid-ribbed Snow Tussock	<i>Chionochloa pallens</i>
Miro*	Miro	<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>
	Mountain Daisy	<i>Celmisia</i>
	Mountain Holly	<i>Olearia ilicifolia</i>
	Mountain Neinei	<i>Dracophyllum traversii</i>
Houhi*	Mountain Ribbonwood	<i>Hoheria</i>
	Mountain Toatoa	<i>Phyllocladus alpinus</i>
Horopito	Pepperwood	<i>Pseudowintera colorata</i>
	Pink Pine	<i>Halocarpus biformis</i>
Tawheowheo	Quintinia	<i>Quintinia acutifolia</i>
	Red Mountain Heather	<i>Archeria traversii</i>
Rimu*	Rimu	<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>
	Snow-patch Grass	<i>Chionochloa oreophila</i>
Rata*	Southern Rata*	<i>Metrosideros umbellata</i>
Taramea*	Spaniard	<i>Aciphylla</i>
Other Fauna		
Peka peka	Long-tailed Bat	<i>Chalinolobus tuberculatus</i>
		<i>Powerelliphanta r. rossiana</i>
		<i>Deinacrida occidentalis</i>

Appendix 3 – continued

Māori Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
	<u>Fauna - Indigenous Birds</u>	
Kahu*	Australasian Harrier	<i>Circus approximans gouldi</i>
Tuturiwhatu	Banded Dotterel	<i>Charadrius bicinctus</i>
Korimako*	Bellbird	<i>Anthornis m. melanura</i>
Koau*	Black Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae</i>
Kowhiowhio	Blue Duck	<i>Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos</i>
Pipipi	Brown Creeper	<i>Finschia novaeseelandiae</i>
Parera*	Grey Duck	<i>Anas s. superciliosa</i>
Riroriro*	Grey Warbler	<i>Greygone igata</i>
Kaka*	Kaka	<i>Nestor m. meridionalis</i>
Kea*	Kea	<i>Nestor notabilis</i>
Koekoea*	Long-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Eudynamis taitensis</i>
Ruru koukou*	Morepork	<i>Ninox n. novaeseelandiae</i>
Karearea*	New Zealand Falcon	<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i>
Kotare*	New Zealand Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon sancta vagans</i>
Kereru*	New Zealand Pigeon	<i>Hemiphaga n. novaeseelandiae</i>
Pihoihoi*	New Zealand Pipit	<i>Anthus n. novaeseelandiae</i>
Titipounamu*	Rifleman	<i>Acanthisitta c. chloris</i>
Putakitaki	Paradise Shelduck	<i>Tadorna variegata</i>
Pukeko	Pukeko	<i>Porphyrio p. melanotus</i>
Tauhou	Silvereye	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>
Pipiwaharuroa*	Shining Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>
Karoro*	Southern Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>
Piwakawaka*	South Island Fantail	<i>Rhipidura f. fuliginosa</i>
Torea	South Island Pied Oyster Catcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus finschi</i>
Miromiro*	South Island Tomtit	<i>Petroica m. macrocephala</i>
	Spur Winged Plover	<i>Vanellus miles novaehollandiae</i>
Tui*	Tui	<i>Prosthemadera n. novaeseelandiae</i>
	Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica neoxena</i>

Appendix 3 – continued

Māori Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Weka*	Western Weka	<i>Gallirallus australis australis</i>
Kakariki*	Yellow Crowned Parakeet	<i>Cyanoramphus a. auriceps</i>
	<u>Fauna - Introduced Birds</u>	
	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina sp.</i>
	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
	Canada Goose	<i>Branta Canadensis</i>
	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs gengleri</i>
	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis britannica</i>
	Hedge Sparrow	<i>Pruenella modularis occidentalis</i>
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer d. domesticus</i>
	Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea cabaret</i>
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis arvensis</i>
	Songthrush	<i>Turdus philomelos clarkei</i>
	Starling	<i>Sturnis v. vulgaris</i>
	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citronella caliginosa</i>

Appendix 4

Attachment 13.1 Deed of Settlement (Schedule 107 Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998)

Special conditions and restrictions subject to which the Waitaiki Historic Reserve is vested

1. The Waitaiki Historic Reserve is to be vested in the Mawhera Incorporation and held in trust by the Mawhera Incorporation for the purposes of a historic reserve, subject to the following conditions and restrictions:
 - a) the Minister and his or her agents or assigns, shall have access into, over and through the Waitaiki Historic Reserve for the purpose of monitoring rare and endangered species, as well as general eco-system monitoring, provided that the Minister or his or her agents or assigns give the Administering Body at least 25 Business Days notice before it takes such action;
 - b) there shall be, at no charge, non-commercial public access into, over and through the Waitaiki Historic Reserve;
 - c) hunting shall continue to be permitted within the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, subject to and consistent with the management plan for the Waitaiki Historic Reserve;
 - d) the Crown shall retain ownership of, and the Minister of Conservation shall be responsible for the maintenance of, the huts and bridges within the Reserve listed in *attachment 13.2* of the deed of settlement and as shown on *Allocation Plan SS 429/5 (SO 12499)* at the cost of the Crown, and shall retain any revenue derived from those huts. In maintaining those huts and bridges the Minister of Conservation may decide at his or her sole discretion to modify or remove any of those huts or bridges and may, but is not obliged to, replace any such hut or bridge, provided that the Minister of Conservation gives the Mawhera Incorporation at least 25 Business Days notice before it takes such action.
 - e) the Crown shall be responsible for the maintenance of the tracks within the Reserve listed in *attachment 13.2* of the deed of settlement and as shown on *Allocation Plan SS 429/5 (SO 12499)* at the cost of the Crown. In maintaining those tracks the Minister of Conservation may decide at his or her sole discretion to modify or close those tracks, provided that the Minister of Conservation gives the Mawhera Incorporation at least 25 Business Days notice before it takes such action;
 - f) the Minister of Conservation and his or her agents or assigns shall have full, unrestricted access into, over and through the Reserve for the purposes of inspecting and maintaining the huts, bridges and tracks within the Reserve listed in *attachment 13.2* of the deed of settlement, provided that the Minister of Conservation gives the Mawhera Incorporation at least 25 Business Days notice before it takes such action; and
3. nothing in paragraphs **(d) to (f)** shall require the Minister of Conservation to give the Mawhera Incorporation notice in accordance with those paragraphs where it is unreasonable or impracticable to do so. However, in the event that the Minister

of Conservation takes action pursuant to this paragraph **1(g)** without giving notice to the Mawhera Incorporation, the Minister of Conservation shall give notice to the Mawhera Incorporation of the actions taken as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

3. Any notice to be given pursuant to paragraphs **1(a)** and **(d) to (f)** shall be sent or delivered to:

Proprietors of the Mawhera Incorporation

c/- Ashton Wheelans Limited

PO Box 13 042

CHRISTCHURCH

Facsimile: 03 365 4098

Telephone: 03 366 7154,

or such other address as may be notified in writing to the Minister of Conservation by the Mawhera Incorporation from time to time.

3. The conditions and restrictions set out in *paragraphs 1(a) to (c)* shall be subject to any management plan approved by the Minister of Conservation for the Waitaiki Historic Reserve.



2014



Fox River Bridge (southern section) land disposal

6. In March the Authority received a letter (attached) from the Department seeking formal support for a land disposal within the Westland *Tai Poutini* National Park.
7. In 2013 NZTA realigned the southern approach to the Fox River Bridge to improve the safety of the approach to the bridge. At the time this required the acquisition of 863 m² of land.
8. The Department is now looking to formally dispose of the land through a Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Bill, to exclude that area of land from the National Park.
9. I recommend that the Authority formally approve this action.



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

File: PAC 11-01-123

18 March 2015

Catherine Tudhope
Statutory Bodies Advisor
New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10-420
WELLINGTON

Dear Catherine

FOX RIVER BRIDGE – SOUTHERN APPROACH – ROLD PROCESS

Further to earlier correspondence and preliminary support of the proposal to realign the southern approach to the Fox River bridge at Fox Glacier, the Department now seek formal support from the Authority for the Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Bill (ROLD) action.

In 2013, The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), through OPUS, realigned the southern approach to the Fox River Bridge, after obtaining the Section 55 National Park Act 1980 consent. The realignment required the acquisition of approximately 863 m² of land that is part of Westland *Tai Poutini* National Park. The Authority and West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board gave preliminary support for this proposal in 2013.

The realignment of State Highway 6 required the disturbance of regenerated native vegetation in the park. The disturbance was considered no more than minor given the already highly modified nature of the area and through discussions with the Department it was established that the vegetation affected was of low conservation value.

The work was deemed to be the most practical means of improving the safety of the approach to the bridge. There have been no issues with the physical realignment of the road.

I now seek formal support from the NZ Conservation Authority to the Minister's agreement that a clause may be inserted in the next Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Bill to exclude approximately 863 m² of land from the Westland *Tai Poutini* National Park.

I look forward to your response in due course, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Pollard
Partnership Ranger
Hokitika Office

RECEIVED
20/3/15

NZCA

File Reference:

SBA-13-10

Ron Hazeldine

From: Catherine Tudhope
Sent: Monday, 25 February 2013 10:21 a.m.
To: Ron Hazeldine
Subject: Fox Bridge approach
Ron

Our phone conversation of 11 February and your follow-up letter refer.

Sorry I didn't get back to you earlier. I had asked Mike Browne to look at the site and advise whether there is any significant vegetation within or close to the proposed clearance area; then I was away last week. Anyway, no reply from Mike and Kay Booth, Chair, NZCA prepared to accept that road upgrade is inevitable and sensible to make use of unexpected funding to progress it now.

Catherine

Our File: PAC 11-01-123

Wrong date.
24 June 2008

Catherine Tudhope
Statutory Bodies Advisor
New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10-420
WELLINGTON

Dear Catherine

**PROPOSED ROAD WIDENING OF SOUTHERN APPROACH TO THE
FOX RIVER BRIDGE**

I refer to our telephone conversation on 11 February 2013.

This is an extract from an email received from Opus regarding the proposal to undertake some road works on the southern approach to the Fox River bridge at Fox Glacier;

Opus on behalf of the NZTA are undertaking an Area Wide Treatment (AWT) of a section of SH6 immediately south of the Fox River bridge. This work is planned and is a part of the 2012/2013 AWT funding. It has recently eventuated that this planned work (and multiple others) will come in under budget therefore funds are available for additional works. It has been proposed that the Fox River bridge southern approach realignment project could be undertaken with these additional funds. This project has been previously investigated and designed but subsequently put on hold due to funding constraints.

The project entails realigning SH6 to the east so that visibility is improved when approaching the bridge from the south. The realignment will require the highway to encroach into the Westland National Park by a maximum of 10m for approx 150m before joining back up with the existing Highway.

For the project to go ahead a Section 55 agreement (DoC), NoR – Alteration to Designation and Outline Plan (WDC) need to be worked through. However given the late addition of this project timeframes are tight; for the works to be viable they would need to commence in a maximum of 3 weeks (04 March 2013).

I would appreciate the NZCA giving preliminary approval to this proposal so that work can commence within the very tight timeframe that Opus has identified, but subject to the Department carrying out its formal consultation and approval process as would normally occur.

I have also sought a similar response from the West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board.

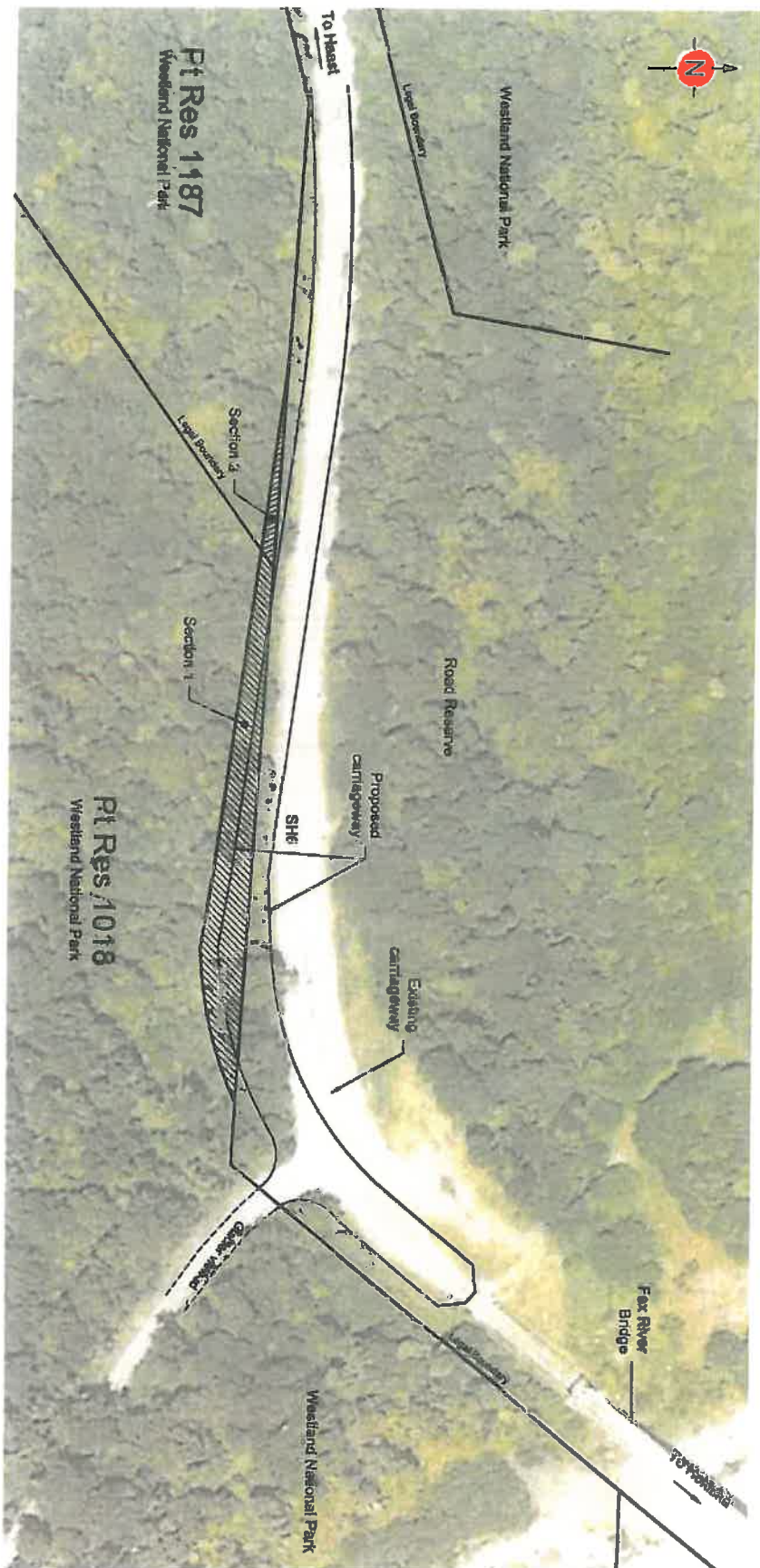
Yours faithfully



Ron Hazeldine
Community Relations Officer
for Conservator

Department of Conservation
Private Bag 701
Sewell Street
HOKITIKA

Phone 03 756 9100
Direct Dial 03 756 9168



LAND TO BE ACQUIRED FOR ROAD			
Shown	Description	Title Reference	Area
Boundary 1	Pt Res 1018	NZCG 1980 p 415	0.0782 ha
Boundary 2	Pt Res 1187	NZCG 1980 p 416	0.0071 ha

Note: Boundaries and dimensions subject to final survey.



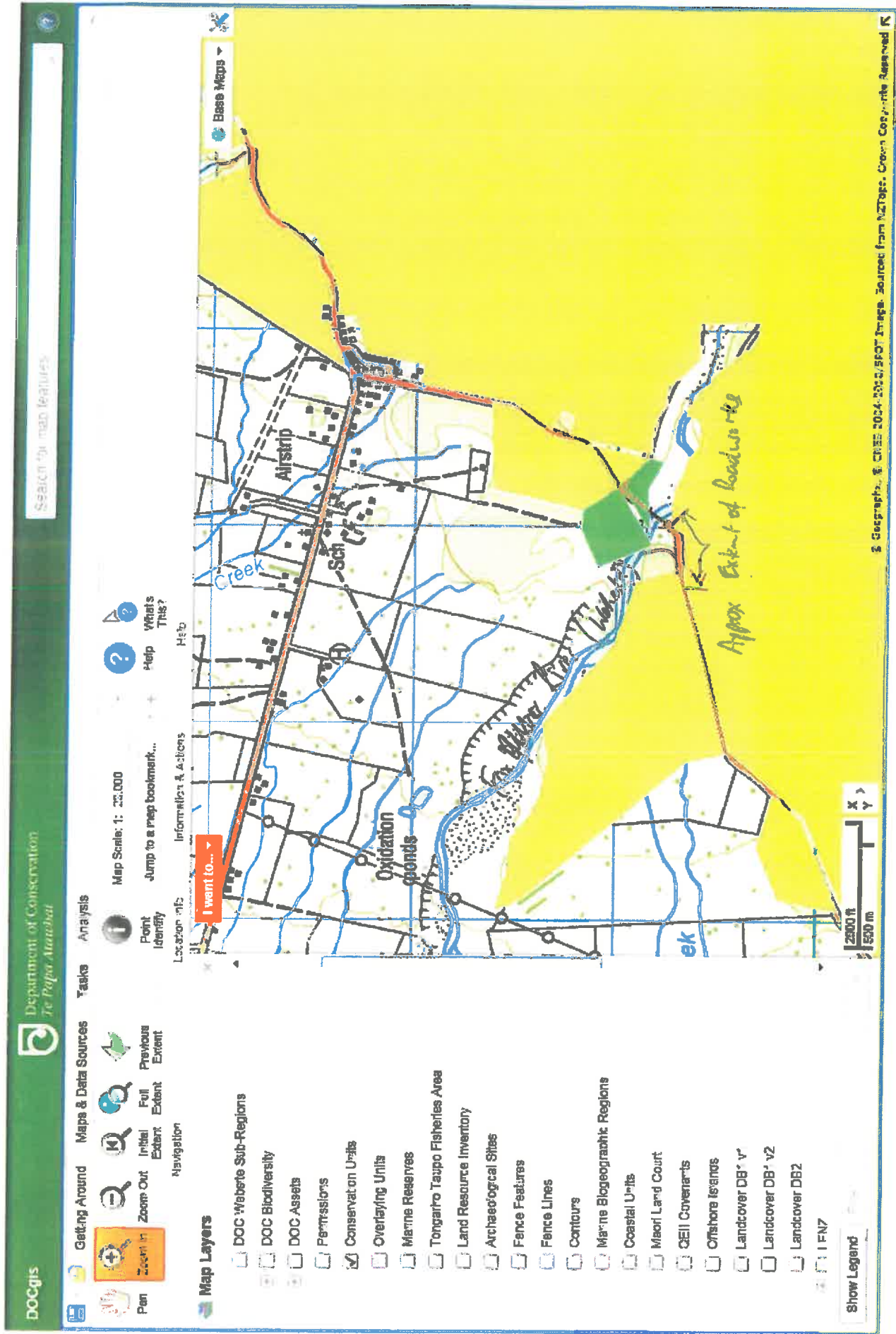
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Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Value
1	Proposed Carriageway	1.0	km	10.0
2	Existing Carriageway	1.0	km	10.0
3	Road Reserve	1.0	km	10.0
4	Legal Boundary	1.0	km	10.0
5	Section 1	1.0	km	10.0
6	Section 2	1.0	km	10.0
7	Legal Boundary	1.0	km	10.0
8	Section 1	1.0	km	10.0
9	Section 2	1.0	km	10.0
10	Legal Boundary	1.0	km	10.0



Updated Plan

REGION 12, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100		FOX RIVER BRIDGE		APPROACH IMPROVEMENTS		SOUTHERN APPROACH	
LAND REQUIREMENT PLAN		FOR CONSENT		1		RT	



Conservation Boards' Draft Code of Practice

10. As part of an ongoing programme of work for Conservation Boards developing national templates for work programmes derived from the Letter of Expectations they receive from the Crown, and guidelines for reporting on those programmes, the Partnerships Group have also developed a draft Code of Practice. This is attached on the following pages.
11. This need was identified at the biennial Conservation Board Chairs' Conference in November 2014, and had been raised previously by some of the Chairs who were concerned by the behaviours being exhibited at their Board meetings.
12. The NZCA does not currently have a Code of Practice, and I propose that some consideration be given to adopting to Conservation Boards' COP once it has been adapted for the Authority's use.
13. I welcome feedback from members, and will work with the Chair to finalise it.

CONSERVATION BOARD CODE OF PRACTICE

Context

Conservation Boards are independent bodies, established by statute. Each Board represents the community of interest in the work of the Department, and conservation in general, within the area of jurisdiction of that Board.

There are 14 Conservation Boards, each with a defined geographical area and up to 12 members. Board members are appointed by the Minister of Conservation. Terms of appointment are usually for three years. Conservation Boards generally meet up to 5 times per year.

Purpose

This Code of Practice provides a framework for the successful operation of Conservation Boards, including:

- Roles of Boards;
- Responsibilities of Board members; and
- Key legislative functions.

Role

Conservation Boards work within a conservation partnership between the Department of Conservation, the Minister of Conservation and the public. As the public voice for community input into conservation, Boards are independent, trusted advisors to the Department and the New Zealand Conservation Authority.

Boards help to grow conservation by:

- Contributing a strategic perspective to conservation planning, policy development and decision-making as a well-informed voice of the community;
- Exercising powers of recommendation and approval for statutory management planning documents;
- Advising on the implementation of statutory planning documents; and
- Advocating for conservation outcomes, including in public forums and statutory planning processes.

Responsibilities of Conservation Board members

Members are expected to:

- Fulfil their role responsibly, and at all times act in good faith and in the best interest of the Board and the community;
- Conduct themselves in a professional, courteous and respectful manner, working as a team;
- Be collaborative; share information which is relevant to the proper conduct and operation of the Board's business;

- Participate fully, frankly and constructively in Board discussions and bring the benefit of their particular knowledge, skills and abilities to the Board table;
- Listen carefully and show respect for the views of others;
- Use best endeavours to attend all Board meetings, unless there is another unavoidable commitment, in which case apologies must be given to the chair or servicing staff with as much advance notice as possible;
- Prepare thoroughly for each meeting by reading all meeting materials and familiarising themselves with the content of all correspondence received by the Board; and
- Respect decisions reached by the Board even if a minority of members disagree with the decision.

Members will often have diverse connections with community groups, trusts and professional associations. It is expected that members will actively develop new and ongoing relationships with groups so they can contribute the perspectives and concerns sourced from those networks to the Board table, along with their own knowledge and expertise. However it is important that members do not fulfil their roles with only one interest group or sector in mind – all members should seek to use Board diversity to achieve the best outcomes for conservation.

Increasing knowledge about conservation

Conservation Board members must have or seek to gain knowledge on relevant issues affecting conservation in their area. All members should make independent attempts to be informed about matters that come before the Board and contribute their perspectives, as all members have equal rights and responsibilities under the Conservation Act.

Engagement with community and Treaty partners

To exercise their role, Boards need to build strong relationships with communities, seeking information and feeding information back to communities of interest. To support individual member's community links and networks, meetings should be held in different parts of the Board's area to enable community attendance.

Engagement with community and volunteer groups, iwi and manawhenua will enable the Board to

- provide advice to the Department about the perspectives, opportunities and concerns raised; and
- raise the profile of the Board and promote the role that the Board plays in achieving enhanced conservation outcomes for the benefit of the community.

Relationships with the Department of Conservation

The skills and expertise of Boards are a positive resource that can work hand in hand with the Department in achieving greater conservation outcomes. Strong working relationships between Board members and the Department's senior managers and Board servicing officers are important to maximize the benefit of these skills. These relationships need to be based on honest and open dialogue, as well as trust and respect.

Board members should use these relationships as a source of support for increasing their knowledge of conservation; seeking views of communities, iwi and manawhenua; and engaging with the media.

Treaty of Waitangi relationships

Boards have a responsibility to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. All Board members need to consider how they are contributing to this outcome. It is essential that Board members are briefed and become knowledgeable about iwi and manawhenua as well as Treaty settlements that have implications for public conservation land. Further information can be found in the factsheet: **Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987**.

Financial responsibilities

Board members must be conscious that Board meetings and activities are taxpayer-funded. Members must take appropriate measures to ensure that the Board uses resources efficiently, economically and effectively.

Role of Conservation Board Chair

The chair of a Conservation Board is elected from within its members. The chair has a responsibility for to provide effective strategic leadership for the Board, including through:

- Setting the agenda for all meetings, in consultation with Board members and Departmental servicing staff;
- presiding at all the meetings that she/he attends;
- maintaining an impartial role and sum up the debate on any issue in a balanced way to reflect the views that have been expressed;
- encouraging participation by all members and work towards achieving a consensus; and
- being a public face of the Board in community meetings or when engaging with media.

Work across boundaries

It is important for each Conservation Board to liaise with its neighbouring Board(s) to promote consistency and avoid duplication when dealing with cross boundary issues and other issues of mutual interest.

Relationship with New Zealand Conservation Authority

Boards should draw to the attention of the Authority matters which they believe may warrant consideration at a national level. The Authority will consult some or all Boards from time to time on matters with national or regional application.

Procedures

Confidentiality

The proceedings and papers of Conservation Boards are subject to the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. Further information about meeting confidentiality can be found in the Factsheet for Board members: **When should information be treated as confidential?**

Conflict of Interest

Board members should declare any actual or potential conflicts of interest, and take appropriate steps with the guidance of the chairperson or Departmental servicing officer when the Board is discussing matters in which members have an interest. Further information about conflicts of interest can be found in the Factsheet: **Conflicts of Interest**.

Managing advocacy and speaking to the media

The Board can only speak with one voice when advocating for conservation outcomes in public processes or speaking to the media. Each Board will need to determine who will speak on its behalf on a particular issue. Boards should strive to reach a consensus on any messages that are released to the public.

Reporting framework

The Board reports annually to the New Zealand Conservation Authority about activities undertaken in the course of a financial year. The Board receives an annual Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation, and submits a work programme to the Minister about how it intends to meet those expectations.

Induction

Members new to the Board will have the benefit of an induction programme aimed at deepening their understanding of the roles of the Board and the Department of Conservation. Material for Board member inductions will include the Conservation Board factsheets that have been developed by the Department as well as this Code of Practice.

Committees

Committees may be formed in order to facilitate efficient decision-making on matters that have come before the Board. The Code of Practice will apply to those committees.

Review

This Code of Practice should be treated as a living document. Individual Boards may wish to incorporate material specific to local circumstances that do not detract from the overall intent of the Code.

Functions

Key functions for Conservation Boards set out in legislation:

Conservation Act 1987 (section 6M)

The functions of each Board shall be—

- a) to recommend the approval by the Conservation Authority of conservation management strategies, and the review and amendment of such strategies, under the relevant enactments;

- b) to approve conservation management plans, and the review and amendment of such plans, under the relevant enactments;
- c) to advise the Conservation Authority and the Director-General on the implementation of conservation management strategies and conservation management plans for areas within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- d) to advise the Conservation Authority or the Director-General—
 - i. on any proposed change of status or classification of any area of national or international importance; and
 - ii. on any other conservation matter relating to any area within the jurisdiction of the Board:
- e) to liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matters within the jurisdiction of the Board; and
- f) to exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Minister under this Act or any other Act.

National Parks Act 1980 (section 30)

The functions of each Board shall be—

- a) to recommend management plans, and the review or amendment of such plans, for national parks within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- b) to consider and determine priorities for the implementation of management plans for national parks;
- c) to make recommendations to the Minister for the appointment of honorary rangers;
- d) to review and report to the Director-General or the New Zealand Conservation Authority, as appropriate, on the effectiveness of the administration of the general policies for national parks within the jurisdiction of the Board;
- e) to give advice to the Director-General or the New Zealand Conservation Authority—
 - i. on the interpretation of any management plan for a national park; and
 - ii. on any proposal for the addition of land to any national park or the establishment of a new national park; and
 - iii. on any other matter relating to any national park within the jurisdiction of the Board.

Note

This is not an exhaustive list of Board functions under the Conservation Act and National Parks Act. Conservation Boards also have functions under other Acts administered by the Department of Conservation as well as Treaty settlement legislation. Departmental staff will be able to advise Boards about the functions that are relevant to the matters that the Board is considering.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Warren Parker, NZCA Chair

Subject: **Chair's Report**

1. This has been a busy month with the potential Paparoa National Park addition consultation, discussion on ways to get the scheduled CMSs to the June meeting (rather than have all three to be deferred), responding to the Wilderness Magazine article and involvement in the interview panel (with Waana) for the two DD-G roles. I comment further on some of these matters below.
2. Rick has moved 'mountains' to coordinate consultation with the West Coast stakeholders and iwi for the possible addition of land (including that which encompasses the Pike River mine area) to the Paparoa National Park. This is reported fully in a separate paper for this meeting. Thank you Judy, Gerry and Rau for your assistance with and time commitment to the consultation.
3. It is frustrating that the three scheduled CMSs may not yet make the June meeting. The Southland CMS delay due to the late decision to add southern ocean islands is most understandable. Nevertheless, the timeline for NZCA to receive the CMS has been in place since mid-2014. A consequence of lateness is letters from the Chairs have had to be sent to the Associate Minister seeking an extension of the statutory period for the review of their respective CMS. This matter has been brought to the D-G's attention as it will impact the Authority's work programme (and ability to get other things done) for the balance of the year.
4. A response to Barbara Morris' article "Community Voice or Muzzled Lip-Service?" (April 2015), which was critical of aspects of Conservation Boards, was prepared and submitted to the editor on 8 May.
5. Members should give thought to whether the NZCA submits on the Climate Change consultation document. This must be submitted by 3rd June. Climate change will have a profound effect on conservation lands and marine environments over the next two decades, and can contribute to meaningful reduction in New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions.
6. There are important topics on the June agenda – resolving matters related to Stewardship Land faster, hopefully two CMSs, honey bees and Predator Free NZ. Rick and I are continuing to investigate holding a future meeting – perhaps in August – by video conference or Skype.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Rick McGovern-Wilson, NZCA Executive Officer

Subject: **Conservation Board liaison reports**

NZCA Strategic Priority and/or the Relevant DOC SOI Goal	NZCA's performance
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Authority: a) Note the written and verbal conservation board liaison reports presented.
Context	Authority members are encouraged to attend at least one conservation board meeting or field trip per annum. Authority members are required to provide written liaison reports to the NZCA no later than two weeks before the following NZCA meeting, when there are substantive matters to report. Late papers or a verbal report will be accepted only where there is a board meeting within two weeks prior to an NZCA meeting. They shall also be taken as read.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Gerry McSweeney, West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board Liaison

Subject: **Liaison report for the West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board meeting on 19 May 2015**

The WCTP Conservation Board met in Reefton, heart of the West Coast gold fields, on April 30 2015. The morning was joint meeting in Reefton with the Nelson-Marlborough Conservation Board. The afternoon was a WCTP Board meeting that included consultation with Rick, Judy and Gerry from NZCA about the Pike River Section 7 investigation. On 1 May the two Boards joined on a field trip to view Oceana Gold's operation near Reefton.

The West Coast Board has this year given priority to:

- **Ensuring the DOC pilot restructuring delivers beneficial conservation outcomes.**
- **Seeking the elevation of West Coast stewardship land to specially protected status**
- **Maintaining a close interest in Battle for our Birds and effective pest control throughout the West Coast.**
- **Monitoring the performance of the logging of wind thrown timber from West Coast conservation lands.**
- **West Coast CMS and Paparoa National Park Management Plan review.**
- **Monitoring tourism access to the retreating Glaciers.**

I have maintained close contact with Board Chair Dr Mike Legge and Board members in between meetings. I had sought Dr Legge's thoughts on the Paparoa National Park boundaries on an earlier occasion. Their Board views on the Pike River Section 7 investigation will be incorporated in the NZCA report on this study. There was general scepticism about the feasibility and wisdom of attempting to construct a Great Walk across the wilderness summit and flanks of the Paparoa Range, particularly with the economic constraints on the department.

1. **There is frustration at the length of time the implementation of the DOC administration pilot review is taking.** The consensus view is that a return to a single point administration for the management of the extensive West Coast conservation lands is urgently needed. Particular concerns were that the services/delivery section of DOC is generally the major point of contact between users, neighbours and the West Coast community and this direct

contact rather than an indirect relationship through the Partnership Division needs to be re-instated asap.

2. **The WCTP Board has a sub-committee gathering material for a proposed South Westland Rainforest National Park.** This may culminate in a Section 8 National Park investigation request to the NZCA.
3. **There is support for an expanded Mokihinui addition to Kahurangi National Park well beyond just looking at the bed of the river.** This was the Board's original request to the NZCA. I sensed that the Board would be likely to support a Section 7 investigation in preference to a Section 8 much larger investigation because of the extensive consultation and information gathering that has already occurred prior to the Mokihinui Dam proposal being withdrawn. The Mokihinui was included in the Section 8 study area prior to the creation of Kahurangi National Park but was excluded from the Park on creation in part because of the hydro dam proposal for the river.
4. **There is majority support and enthusiasm for the Battle for our Birds programme.** Te Runanga o Makaawhio does not support aerial 1080 operations and their Board representative expressed that view. Other Board members are delighted that DOC is taking pro-active steps to safeguard biodiversity across so much of the land that it manages. Of particular note from Board members was the incorporation of the majority of Kahurangi National Park in the programme. The presentation about BFOB by Dr Graeme Elliott to the joint Boards was so good, NZCA members invited Graeme to give a similar talk to the NZCA.
5. **Concern has been expressed about the removal of windthrown rimu logs from the Lake Kaniere Scenic Reserve.** Some Board members had thought that Scenic Reserves were excluded from the logging legislation but this is not the case. Exclusion from logging applies only to World Heritage Forests, the White Heron Nature Reserve, Ecological Areas and National Parks on the West Coast.
6. **Westland Black Petrel and Paparoa National Park Specially Protected Area (SPA);** The Board received a public presentation about a joint DOC/Conservation Volunteers track and viewing platform construction under way on the Te Ara Taiko "Nature Reserve" next to the SPA. The development may be in conflict with the provisions of the West Coast CMS. It apparently has been carried out without a resource consent and without consultation with the immediate neighbours, the Forest and Bird Society Dick Jackson Memorial Private Reserve. It highlights the challenge DOC can face as a regulator while at the same time seeking to be a conservation partner.
7. **There remains an issue with absence of tourism representation on the WCTP Conservation Board:** There is no tourism representation in a region where this industry has almost the greatest engagement in NZ with

conservation land for tourism. There is also no representation from the 400km – half the West Coast region - south from Hokitika.

8. **Haast-Hollyford Road construction through the World Heritage Area:** Te Runanga o Makaawhio have advised that they are totally opposed to the construction of a wilderness highway to link Haast with the Hollyford and Milford. Haast- Hollyford Road Ltd have responded by stating that they will go over Makaawhio's head to Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu (TRONT) and that TRONT have signalled they may support the road. Forest and Bird has challenged the claim that a road reserve exists through the World Heritage Area and presented Westland District Council with a legal opinion citing a Privy Council ruling that overturns any suggestion that a road reserve could be said to have been laid out through this area. Practically the only route possible for the road is a coastal route. West Coast Penguin Trust surveys this year have revealed a total of nearly 1,000 pairs of Fiordland Crested penguin – Tawaki nesting from the Cascade River south to Awarua Point. Considered the second rarest of the world's 18 penguin species, Tawaki breeding areas would be destroyed by a coastal road. NZCA probably should make it clear to the Minister of Conservation that under no circumstances would NZCA agree to this road construction because of its disastrous ecological impact.
9. **Access to the Fox Glacier terminal is now just as difficult as to the Franz Josef Glacier terminal.**

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Jo Breese, Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board Liaison

Subject: **Liaison report for the Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board meeting on 10 April 2015**

The board has continued to build its capacity with the day-long meeting being divided into a morning training workshop and the afternoon for the meeting. I was not able to attend their meeting. The report is based on a conversation with the chair of the board.

1. Training workshop: Bees and related issue of concessions.

Bees

Catherine Beard, DOC Scientist, led a workshop on bees and related management issues. The board found it very helpful and have requested a follow up session. The board is now much more alert to issues around bee concessions and are concerned that there is not a lot of data, or measuring of pressures on the ecosystem from bees and honey production. The majority of beehive concessions are in the Whanganui River Area.

Concessions

The board is concerned about the way concessionaires are charged and the relatively high costs of compliance for small scale operators. These are a crippling burden. The board through its strategy is trying to support a conservation economy that is grounded in local communities and local resources. They are concerned that the cost of compliance makes concessions unattractive to small local operators. They are looking for local benefits and this includes iwi. It was noted that iwi have rights and interests in concessions.

2. Meeting

Public forum

As part of the board's meeting process they hold a public forum. They have been presented previously with a petition and this meeting was a follow-up regarding the use of 1080 in the Whanganui River. They have asked the board to review its use. The Board and DOC have reiterated support for a case by case base approach to use of aerial 1080. The group felt last time there was inadequate consultation and they are requesting open discussion about the tools available. They want to understand what DOC is doing to develop and use alternatives. The board undertook to assemble a group of people to have the conversation as requested by the group.

Conservation board member

The board has a member who has repeatedly been grazing stock within the national park with no authority. His behaviour is considered unbecoming for a board member and it is understood that further action is intended.

Next Foundation and pest and weed eradication in Taranaki National Park

The board is informally very positive about the proposed pest and weed control of the maunga in conjunction with the Next Foundation. They are hopeful the 8 iwi requiring consultation will be supportive of the proposal.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Mick Clout, Waikato Conservation Board Liaison

Subject: **Liaison report for the Waikato Conservation Board meeting
on 19 & 20 May 2015**

The Waikato Conservation Board met at Kaueranga (Thames) on 19/20 May.

Items on the agenda included:

- Whitebait harvesting: the Board is awaiting the response from DOC to concerns that it raised in December 2014, regarding exploitation of whitebait.
- 1080 regional consent application.
- Beehive concession application in the Whangamarino (discussion).
- Kauri dieback (presentation).
- National Wetland Trust (discussion).

This was the last WCB meeting for two long-serving members of the Board (Arthur Hinds and Dell Hood), both of whom have made great contributions over the years.

The Waikato Conservation Board (under the chairmanship of Mark Brough) continues to be a proactive and effective group. The next Board meeting is scheduled for 18 August in Hamilton.

REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 & 3 June 2015

Prepared By: Jo Breese, IUCN Liaison

Subject: **IUCN report for May 2015**

IUCN National Committee met in Wellington on 31 March

I attended this meeting on behalf of NZCA – I absented myself for a portion of the meeting to attend and speak on behalf of NZCA at Catherine Tudhope's farewell. Main agenda items were:

1. Regional meetings
 - a. Regional Co-ordination meeting report (Neil Gilbert, Ann Brower, Andrew Bignell) - attached
 - b. Preparations for the Oceania Regional Forum: 13-15 July 2015
 - i. Finalising the Oceania Regional Programme (currently in preparation)
 - c. The new Director General of IUCN (appointed late 2014) - Inger Andersen will attend this meeting and is likely to visit New Zealand following the Forum.
2. Regional Symposium

Proposal for a Regional Symposium – draft outline attached for a dialogue focused on governance in early 2016. NZCA may wish to consider participation and or support for this event.
3. Outcomes to the World Parks Congress in Sydney

All attendees shared their reflections on the main findings from the Congress and the responses reflected the breadth of the congress. All noted that at such a meeting provides a vast array of learning and networking opportunities and all had found things of relevance to their work. General view was that it could not continue to grow and greater focus and quality control in the future will be necessary.
4. Progress on Resolutions from the 2012 Jeju World Congress

The Committee have followed up in writing requesting a progress report on the motion proposed by NZCA with support for all the committee and adopted by IUCN. The original motion is attached for your reference.

 - i) Revised Motions process (13 April electronic voting). Jo Breese, subsequent to the meeting, exercised the vote for the NZ government agencies (consulted on

preferences) for reform to the voting IUCN World congress voting arrangements to allow intercessional electronic voting. The motion was passed.

5. Tongariro National Park

The Committee discussed the potential effects on the World Heritage status of Tongariro National Park, which may arise out the Tuwharetoa Treaty Settlement, as the Waitangi Tribunal have recommended the creation of a Statutory Authority, comprising the Crown and ngā iwi o te kāhui maunga, for the governance and management of Tongariro National Park. The Committee reply to the correspondent who brought this to their attention is attached.

The next meeting is 13 June and my apologies have been made.

Jo Breese 19 May 2015

Regional Coordination report

To: NZ IUCN Members

Fm: Neil Gilbert, NZ IUCN Chair

Date: 14 March 2015

IUCN Regional Coordination Meeting

Suva, Fiji, 5 - 6 March 2015

Summary

This was a positive and constructive regional dialogue. Albeit an 11th hour affair, the Oceania Regional Office (ORO) put significant effort into running a worthwhile and constructive two-day meeting. There was genuine interest from the ORO to engage, provide information and to listen to member's ideas and feedback.

New Zealand concerns over member engagement were heard and acknowledged.

Outcomes to the discussions included: agreement on practical measures for increased regional communication, a proposal for a regional symposium, a timetable for preparation of the Oceania Regional Programme 2017 - 2020 and useful preparations for the Oceania Regional Forum meeting in July.

Background

The rationale for the meeting arose from discussions held among regional councilors, members and the regional office on the margins of the world park congress (Sydney, November 2014). At the time concerns were expressed over the lack of cohesion in the region among members, commission members and the regional office. It was felt that whilst IUCN provides significant regional value, current activities and initiatives are not always relevant to, nor engaging of members. As a result (and certainly within New Zealand) a number of members are questioning their IUCN involvement, with the risk of a loss in regional membership.

It was suggested that a regional coordination meeting be held to address these concerns. The ORO offered to organize and host such an event.

Although somewhat chaotic and last minute in its organization, the meeting took place on 5 and 6 March, in Suva, Fiji.

Meeting structure

The two-day meeting was split between context setting and progress reports on day 1, lead by the ORO. Day 2 was devoted to discussions on opportunities for action, including preparations for the regional forum. A meeting schedule is attached (attachment 1). A list of attendees is also attached (attachment 2).

Progress and Programs

The Regional Director, Taholo Kami, provided a review of the development of the Regional Office since 2007 and offered some reflections for the next quadrennial programme. Key points he made included:

ORO development:

- Now 42 people in the Regional Office (RO). 18 Pacific members. \$7.9 million budget.

- ORO began with a focus on activity in the Pacific as that was the priority Taholo heard from members
- IUCN aims to be the partner of choice for regional governments.
- Limited core funding and support from HQ means the RO is project dependent rather than project driven.
- Australian and New Zealand governmental contributions traditionally go to SPREP.
- The ORO – SPREP relationship has not always been easy. ORO has attempted to position itself in the environmental / social space focusing on policy development and leadership, engaging governments at the national level, developing coalitions, building regional networks, and establishing platforms for dialogue.

The next phase:

- Issues for consideration in the next regional programme might be:
 - o Sustainable cities
 - o Transportation
 - o Biosecurity
 - o Ocean planning and MPAs (from the incremental to the substantial)
- High level convening under consideration by ORO includes:
 - o Pacific Ocean Summit (planning is underway for this to take place on the margins of the Hawaii World Congress)
 - o Pacific Coalition of leaders on green growth
 - o Pacific water dialogue
 - o Forestry ministers retreat
 - o Pacific-wide conference on bech-de-mer and the future of coastal fisheries

The Regional Director noted that he saw “big impact” targets for 2020 including enhanced, large-scale ocean management and greening Pacific economies.

Regional Projects

The project leaders from the ORO talked us through eight key projects that are ongoing and which will be carried over into the next programme period.

1. **Communication programmes** reconnecting people with nature. We were apprised of a multi-media approach to awareness raising in Papua New Guinea (fully funded by the PNG Government), which involves a range of TV commercials, symposia, workshops, education programmes and community events; all aimed at returning pride in local communities and nature.
2. **BIOPAMA** in the Pacific. The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme (BIOPAMA) aims to address threats to biodiversity in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, while reducing poverty in communities in and around protected areas. The programme aims to enhance existing institutions and networks by using the best available science and knowledge for building capacity to improve policies and better decision-making on biodiversity conservation, protected areas management and access and benefit sharing. NB: Landcare Research has been involved in data and information management for this project.
3. **CEPF** – Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, provides grants to help protect biodiversity hotspots. IUCN ORO was successful in its bid for funding to support a range of projects aimed at protecting biodiversity hotspots in east Melanesia.
4. **MACBIO** – the Marine Coastal Biodiversity project is being jointly implemented by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and IUCN Oceania,

supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The project will undertake economic assessments of marine and coastal ecosystems in the five project countries on a national and regional level compatible to the global TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) programme in order to contribute to national development plans. The project will assist governments to use seascape-level planning to re-design MPA networks, and will demonstrate effective approaches to site management, including payment for ecosystem services.

5. **Environmental Law Programme.** The ORO continues to promote the implementation of environmental law and policy in the region under this global initiative. An emerging aspect of this is a proposal to establish a **Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance (PCEG)** – see separate document.
6. **Water and Wetlands.** In Oceania, the IUCN Water and Wetlands programme strives to address the underlying issues affecting water and wetland resources through a number of initiatives including: the Mangrove Ecosystems for Climate Change Adaptation & Livelihoods (MESCAL) project, and the Fijian kai fishery project which aims to improve livelihoods of rural communities in Fiji by increasing economic benefits from the kai fishery by addressing food safety issues.
7. **Energy Projects** which aims to transition Pacific Island States to ecologically sustainable energy systems. The ORO is keen to expand this programme also to cover the transport sector and waste to energy initiatives.
8. **Leadership and Green Growth**, which aims to facilitate the sustainability dialogue among national and regional leaders.

These presentations generated a useful discussion on how regional members can engage with such projects and initiatives and the current lack of a systematic approach to involving members and commissions. It was recognized that opportunities for engaging members in projects was important and that ORO should seek to disseminate information among members at an early stage in project development, e.g. through the members Portal. Opportunities for member involvement might include: collaboration, joint funding initiatives, or direct responses to project related RFPs. The proposed establishment of a Pacific Centre for Environmental Governance was noted as a current example of a new initiative in which members may wish to be involved.

Enhancing regional engagement

Against the backdrop of delivering the One Programme within the Oceania region, the meeting traversed ideas and opportunities for enhancing cooperation among, and engagement of regional members and commission members. Proposals ranged from short-term practical opportunities to longer-term conceptual ideas and included, inter alia:

- Enhanced use of the members Portal for awareness raising and information sharing;
- The holding of joint regionally focused symposia, workshops or webinars e.g. between members or between the regional Committees;
- Establishing member/commission advisory groups for certain projects;
- Establishing issue specific regional networks;
- Establishing “focal point” or regional coordination offices in centres throughout the region, including in Australia and New Zealand.

The meeting agreed that there were immediate practical steps that can be taken to improve member engagement through the ORO:

1. Improved use of the IUCN **Members Portal**. The ORO agreed to work with members to update the Portal and ensure regular availability of information through the Portal. Members were also asked to make sure that their own information was up-to-date and accurate.
2. The holding of a **regional symposium** within the next 12 months. New Zealand offered to host this sometime between October 2015 and February 2016, and the ORO agreed to seek funding to support it. A small working group will be established to organize the event. Ideas were explored for a symposium theme. Co-operative environmental governance was generally agreed to be topical and relevant to the PCEG proposal.
3. Establishing an **Oceania dialogue**. The principle of enhanced regional engagement among members/commissions was widely endorsed. The meeting expressed a preference for practical steps to be taken to improve regional engagement e.g. points 1 and 2 above. Further opportunities to run “dialogue” events would be the Oceania Regional Forum in July (see below) and the planned New Zealand-hosted symposium.

Developing the next Oceania Regional Programme 2016 - 2020

A conversation was held on whether the next regional programme was a vehicle for guiding the ORO’s regional activities or a means of delivering IUCN’s Global Programme within the region through the ‘One Programme’ approach. The meeting was of the firm view that it should be the latter and this will require engagement by members and commission members equally in delivering the “One Programme”.

Drafting of the regional programme has begun and the first draft will be made available for comment at the end of May and a second draft in June with the final draft to be endorsed at the Regional Forum.

The meeting discussed a range of issues / topics / initiatives that might be included within the regional programme. These included:

- Antarctica
- Valuing ecosystem services
- Oceans
- Climate change – including mitigation and adaptation strategies
- Green growth
- World heritage
- Sustainable use of natural resources – notably coastal fisheries management
- Fisheries - including offshore and trans-boundary issues
- Terrestrial challenges – e.g. forestry management, species conservation, IAS

In developing the regional programme it was agreed that these issues should be consolidated where possible into three larger themes.

Preparing for the Regional Forum, Suva, Fiji, July 13 – 15, 2015

An outline programme for the regional forum was considered. Components of the programme will include:

1. **IUCN Oceania Regional Programme**. Consideration and endorsement of the programme as well as identification of methods and arrangements to deliver the programme including the possible development of a regional implementation plan.

2. **IUCN governance matters.** Consideration of Council proposals for governance improvements and reforms including for example new member categories and reforms proposed through the consultations on the Framework for Action for Strengthening the Union.
3. **IUCN motions process.** Development of motions to be presented by Oceania members to the World Congress.
4. **Review of past Oceania related Resolutions.** Review of progress against Oceania-relevant Resolutions agreed at the 2012 World Congress in Jeju.
5. **Preparations for the World Conservation Congress.** Consideration of Oceania member's activities including side events.

It was also agreed that the Regional Forum offered an opportunity for members to organize and run their own sessions on specific issues of relevance to them. The ORO will identify space in the Regional Forum for such sessions and will work with members to identify topics. Some amalgamation of these may be needed depending upon the number of expressions of interest.

A draft programme for the Ocean Regional Forum will be circulated for comment at the end of March / early April.

Other matters of interest

The Regional Director noted that the IUCN Director General would be attending the Regional Forum (it would be her first) along with a number of Commission Chairs. The Director General was also planning a visit to Wellington after the Regional Forum and the National Committee can expect a request to host the Director General for part of this time.

Appendices: Not included in NZCA paper
Agenda and attendees.

Oceania Regional Dialogue Proposal - DRAFT

“Exploring New Models of Environmental Governance in the Oceania Region”

Offer to host from: Lincoln University

Offer to sponsor from: IUCN-ORO

Offers to co-sponsor CEESP, CEL, Ngai Tahu?, WCPA?

Proposed dates: Feb 2016 (if we get in before the start of the academic year, we'd be able to offer cheap accommodation in the Halls of Residence.

Proposed concept:

This dialogue proposes to explore the new models of governance, both emerging and established, in the Oceania region. We propose to 1) catalogue these new models, 2) see which are unique and world-leading, and 3) start to explore social and environmental outcomes. All of 1, 2, and 3 above will inform and perhaps improve environmental governance in Oceania and beyond.

Oceania is at the forefront of new models of environmental governance. The solo actor sovereign state is no longer alone in the centre of environmental governance in the Pacific. For better or for worse, the state is now often in a position of co-governance with indigenous people, local communities, markets, or other states in trade or multi-lateral agreements.

Parks governance has expanded from the Tongariro model of state-owned National Parks, to indigenous co-governance land reforms in the Cape York Peninsula, and a world-first land owning itself at Te Urewera.¹ Similarly, conferring the rights of a person to the Wanganui River has implications for freshwater governance.

When the US passed its Endangered Species Act, the state and federal governments were rather alone in governing endangered flora and fauna. Now biodiversity trading, offsetting, and compensation schemes are now prominent in New South Wales and Victoria, and growing in NZ and elsewhere.

More broadly, inviolable single state sovereignty over environmental governance has changed in light of a proliferation of multi-lateral trade and environmental agreements. These trade agreements also influence a state's sovereignty over its territory. And finally, states have long engaged in international co-governance on the world's largest continent of Antarctica.

Other examples of the new and emerging models in evidence in Oceania include, but are not limited to: collaborative water governance,² market-based water quality governance,³ and market-facilitated water quantity allocation,⁴ and tradeable fish quotas.

A regional symposium on Pacific models of environmental governance is timely for many reasons. For the IUCN Region, it is hoped that this symposium will feed into the nascent Oceania Centre for Environmental Governance, and serve as a lever to attract funding for the Centre. For members, it is hoped that it will feed into a developing Oceania Dialogue between and amongst disparate members in a vast region.

¹ John Page and Ann Brower (in press). “The Four Dimensions of Public Property.”

² For example, Canterbury Water Management Strategy

³ For example, Taupo nutrient trading scheme

⁴ For example, the Murray-Darling Basin

Format:

Just as environmental governance is becoming more inclusive, we intend the Oceania Dialogue to be inclusive. The idea is that the programme will be a bottom-up, organic construction in which IUCN members and commission members from around the region will propose sessions on a topic related to a model of governance on display in Oceania. The examples given in this proposal are meant to be indicative, not prescriptive.

This is proposed to be a 2 day dialogue, outside of Christchurch. If members wish to organize field trips, they may do so for the 3d day. We would hope that the sessions will take a variety of forms – from roundtables, to traditional panels, to workshops, to walks in the Port Hills. The form of the sessions will depend entirely on what members propose.

It would certainly be good to produce some form of a Knowledge Product out of the conference. It would be especially good if that could tie into and help launch the Oceania Centre for Environmental Governance.

Indicative list of governance models to explore:

It is proposed that the Oceania Dialogue on Environmental Governance the Pacific Way consist of discussions including, but not limited to, the following types of topics:

- Indigenous co-governance, including but not limited to
 - Te Urewera
 - Wanganui River
 - Cape York peninsula land reforms
 - Iwi management of Waikato River, following Treaty Settlement
 - Pacific Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs)
- New Social Compact: towards a new ethic of conservation
- Collaborative governance
- Community-driven conservation
 - Locally Managed Marine Areas in the Marquesas managed by schools
- Market-facilitated governance
 - water
 - Taupo nutrient trading scheme
 - Murray-Darling
 - biodiversity
 - Offsetting
 - Compensation
 - Fish quotas
- International co-governance
 - World Heritage and RAMSAR sites
 - in Antarctica
 - What can we learn from Antarctica for the High Seas, if anything?
 - Are there are differences between management in EEZs and the high seas governed by WCPFC (Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission) or SPRFMO (South Pacific regional Fisheries Management Organisation)?
- CEL session: Court-facilitated governance -- management by litigation

WCC-2012-Res-003-EN

Prioritizing IUCN membership awareness and support

AWARE that IUCN is the oldest and largest environment and conservation network but general awareness of its presence, familiarity with its name or logo and understanding of its resources and accessibility are insufficiently known and recognized;

ALSO AWARE that knowledge and use of IUCN knowledge products, capabilities and networks can enhance and empower the work of so many, especially communities and others who work in conservation with insufficient resources and support;

BELIEVING that the information, advice, services, publications, resolutions, training materials, modules and opportunities, workshops, databases, expertise, information systems, global reach, convening power and other resources of IUCN are underutilized considering their value and accessibility particularly through Information Technology (IT);

RECALLING the ongoing work of the Union to raise awareness of its work and status in order to achieve its mission in negotiations, influencing and convening on many stages across the world;

AWARE that Members have to justify belonging to IUCN with their governments, staff or membership and argue the value of IUCN membership, and that Members in turn have many information products and activities that would be of interest to the Union broadly;

ACKNOWLEDGING that many units, staff of Members and members of Members, are unaware of their organizations' membership in the Union or of the resources available to them from IUCN or because of IUCN's work; and

BELIEVING that the materials for a focussed programme to raise awareness of IUCN, its mission and its work, to empower and build capabilities of staff and membership of Members and Commissions are already to be found in IUCN, but not always in a form or with training that would promote their use;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members and other relevant partners in line with the One Programme, to disseminate its resources through a programme focused on improving knowledge, understanding and application of IUCN's work and knowledge products among the membership and staff of Members and Commissions, as well as universities and other teaching institutions; and
2. ASKS that the progress of this Membership awareness and support programme be monitored and reported on to the next Congress.

Mr Derek Kelly
A.P.O Box 232
Ohakune 4660

10 April 2015

Dear Derek,

Re: Tongariro National Park: Te Kāhui Maunga: The National Park District Inquiry Report

Thank you for your letter of 3 February 2015 and subsequent telephone conversations.

Your letter was circulated to the New Zealand Committee of IUCN on 23 February and was discussed at the first available Committee meeting on 31 March.

The Committee was grateful to you for bringing the matter to its attention.

The Committee noted the findings and recommendations of the Tribunal notably that the Tribunal recommended that *"the Crown honour its Treaty obligations and restore the partnership intended by the 1887 Tūkei by making a new partnership arrangement for the national park. Under this partnership arrangement, Tongariro National Park would be made inalienable, removed from Crown ownership, and taken out of the control of the Department of Conservation. The park would then be held jointly by the Crown and by ngā iwi o te kāhui maunga under a new Act and in a new title. The park would also be managed jointly by a statutory authority comprising representatives from the Crown and ngā iwi o te kāhui maunga"*.

The Committee recognised that this recommendation was just that and that the findings of the Tribunal would need to be considered further prior to any actions being taken. Ongoing consideration will doubtless need to take into account the international World Heritage status of the site, as well as its national park status.

The Committee also noted that a change in the national governance arrangements for the property, were that to eventuate, would not in itself result in a loss of the area's World Heritage status and that a number of World Heritage sites benefit from a range of co-governance and co-management arrangements.

Nonetheless, the Committee agreed to maintain a watching brief on the issue and the Department of Conservation agreed also to alert the Committee to any actions arising from the Tribunal's findings.

I will undertake to report back to you if and when the Committee deliberates further on the issue.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Neil Gilbert
Chair
National Committee of IUCN

**NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (NZCA)
MAIL LOG FOR PERIOD 21 MARCH 2015 TO 15 MAY 2015**

INWARDS & OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE			
Date Received & File Reference	From	Topic	Comment/Status
15 May 2015 SBA-13-18	John Whitehead, Chair, Southland Conservation Board	Copy of letter to Minister of Conservation seeking time extension for Southland CMS	FYI
15 May 2015 SBA-13-08 SBA-09-05-08	Ron Hazeldine, Senior Land Advisor, DOC Hokitika	Proposed addition to Kahurangi National Park	Forwarded as part of the Friday email
15 May 2015 SBA-08-16-01	Robert Wynn-Williams, Chair, Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board	Copy of letter to Minister of Conservation seeking time extension for Canterbury CMS	FYI
14 May 2015 SBA-08-17-01	Pat Garden, Chair, Otago Conservation Board	Copy of letter to Minister of Conservation seeking time extension for Otago CMS	FYI
8 May 2015 SBA-13-06-01	Dr Mike Legge, Chair, West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board	Confirming WCTPCB support for the Pike River land addition proposal	Forwarded as part of the Friday email
7 May 2015 SBA-11-11	Mary-Anne Thorpe, BSO West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board	West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board meeting minutes for meeting held on 12 February 2015	FYI
6 May 2015 SBA-11-02	Raewyn Bennett, BSO, Auckland Conservation Board	Auckland Conservation Board agenda for meeting to be held on 13 May 2015	FYI
1 May 2015 SBA-09-06-02-05	Sir Mark Solomon KNZM, Kaiwhakahaere Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	Thank you letter	FYI
1 May 2015 SBA-11-01	Jeannie Hogarth Northland Conservation Board	Northland Conservation Board meeting agenda for 15 May 2015	FYI
24 April 2015 SBA-09-06-02-05	Auckland Conservation Board to Ministers of Conservation and Transport, cc to NZCA	Ship strike mortality of Bryde's Whale in Hauraki Gulf	Forwarded as part of the Friday email
22 April 2015 SBA-11-11	Mary-Anne Thorpe, BSO West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board	West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board meeting agenda for 30 April 2015	FYI
17 April 2015 SBA-11-14	Yvonne Service, BSO Southland Conservation Board	Confirmed minutes of February meeting 19.02.15	FYI
15 April 2015 SBA-11-12	Shirley Slatter, BSO Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board	Confirmed minutes of February meeting 13.02.15	FYI
14 April 2015 SBA-11-03 SBA-09-04	Mark Brough, Chair, Waikato Conservation Board	Concern over the link between recreation visitors and conservation, and the need for more research	Forwarded as part of the Friday email, and on the Agenda for the June meeting
10 April 2015 SBA-13-13	Robert Long, Gorge River, Haast	Submission against the Cascade-Hollyford Road	Forwarded as part of the Friday email
9 April 2015 SBA-11-11	Mary-Anne Thorpe, BSO West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board	Annual Report for 2013-2014	Forwarded as part of the Friday email
8 April 2015	Landcare Research	Kararehe Kino magazine	FYI
8 April 2015	Hon Maggie Barry, Minister	Regarding follow-up issues to the	Forwarded as part of

SBA-10-03	of Conservation	PCE's report on Stewardship Land	the Friday email
1 April 2015 SBA-11-14	Yvonne Service. BSO, Southland Conservation Board	Southland Conservation Board agenda	FYI
30 March 2015 SBA-11-13	Ainslee Hooper. BSO, Otago Conservation Board	Otago Conservation Board agenda	FYI
30 March 2015 SBA-11-12	Shirley Slater. BSO, Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board	Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board agenda	FYI
26 March 2015 SBA-03-04	Ecolink	Publication/newsletter	FYI
24 March 2015 SBA-11-11	Mary-Anne Thorpe BSO, Hokitika	Unconfirmed Minutes, West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board Meeting 12.02.15	FYI
24 March 2015 SBA-09-07-06	Andy Roberts DOC, Director Conservation Services Christchurch	Himalayan Tahr management	Will be circulated with papers for discussion and decision at April meeting

OUTWARDS CORRESPONDENCE			
Date Sent & File Reference	To	Topic	Comment
8 May 2015 SBA-03-11	Alistair Hall, Editor Wilderness Magazine	Response to article in April edition entitled "Community voice or muzzled lip-service"	Forwarded as part of the Friday email
17 April 2015 SBA-02-01	Sir Mark Solomon, TRONT	Thanking for his attendance at the April meeting	From Warren Parker, NZCA Chair
10 April 2015 SBA-06-01-01-13	Mary-Anne Thorpe, BSO West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board	Acknowledgement of Annual Report for 2013-2014	FYI
8 April 2015 SBA-13-06	Doris Johnston, DD-G P&RSG, DOC	Proposed additions to Paparoa National Park – confirming Areas B and C for proposed addition	From Warren Parker, NZCA Chair
31 March 2015 SBA-13-06	Doris Johnston, DD-G P&RSG, DOC	Proposed additions to Paparoa National Park – follow-up actions	From Warren Parker, NZCA Chair
27 March 2015 SBA-11-15	Chairpersons of Conservation Boards	Chair's letter from NZCA Meeting February 2015	FYI

NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (NZCA)
TE POU ATAWHAI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
2 & 3 June 2015

One hundred and forty third meeting, to be held at
Conservation House in Wellington, starting at 10.00am.

D means Decision required, A means Advice required, I means Information only

	AGENDA			
<i>Item</i>		<i>#</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Pages</i>
1	Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction – Chair's overview	I	-	
2	Apologies – receive	A	-	
3	Conflicts of Interest for the Meeting – identify	A	-	1-2
4	Minutes		-	
	4.1 – approve minutes for the meeting held on 7 April 2015	D	J	3-8
	4.2 – approve "in-committee" minutes for the meeting held on 7 April 2015 (expected to be taken "in-committee" with public excluded)	D	J	9-16
5	Status report – note progress in actioning resolutions from the meeting held on 7 April 2015	I	J	17-18
6	NZCA work programme 2015-2017 – summary of planned elements	I	J	19-22
7	Director-General's report	I	E	23-42
8	Investment Strategy for Intermediate Outcome 2 (Historic Assets) – Tata Lawton		E	43-44
9	DD-Gs' Environmental Scan – P&RSG		E	45-46
10	Update on Stewardship land – Marie Long	I	C	47-54
11	Land Status Proposals		C	55-64
12	Members' Environmental Scan	I	E	
Lunch				
13	Possible Additions to Paparoa National Park		C	65-66
14	Management Planning update – Sarah Bagnall		A/B	67-78
15	Honey Bees: biodiversity issues and commercial opportunities – Beth Masser	I	F	79-86
16	Presentation from Ken Hughey, Chief Science Advisor	I	E	87-88
17	Briefing on DOC's role in IPBES and National Science Challenges – Geoff Hicks	I	F	89-90
18	Presentation on Predator Free NZ – Devon McLean and Mick Clout	I	F	91-92
19	Battle for our Birds: overview – Graeme Elliot	I	F	93-94
-	Meeting adjourn for the day	I	-	
Day Two				
20	Tourism research – Waikato CB request	A	E	95-96
21	Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment – Jan Wright	I	-	97-102
22	NZCA Approvals		C	103-164
23	Representation and liaison		-	

	23.1 Chair's report	I	J	165-166
	23.2 Conservation Board liaison reports	I	J	167-186
24	Correspondence – receive the inwards and approve the outwards correspondence	D	J	187-188
-	Meeting close		-	

Strategic Priorities

A	Conservation Management Strategies
B	National Park Management Plans
C	Land Status change e.g. Stewardship land
D	Treaty of Waitangi
E	Strategic advice to the Minister and DG in the context of conservation in today's economy and strategic advice on public policy documents and legislation
F	Game Changers for Conservation: Pest control/biosecurity
G	Marine
H	Rivers and Freshwater
I	Effectiveness of the Department's conservation management
J	NZCA's performance

Meeting timetable

Tuesday 3 June

10.00	Meeting starts (morning session taken in Committee)
12.30 – 1.00	Lunch
3.00 – 3.15	Afternoon tea
5.30	Meeting concludes for the day

Wednesday 4 June

8.30	Meeting starts
9.00 – 10.00	Meet with Jan Wright, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
10.30 – 10.45	Morning tea
1pm	Lunch Meeting concludes