

Key Messages

Conservation needs community support.

To achieve conservation outcomes the department will need to be consistent with the government's commitment to creating genuine partnerships with community, voluntary and iwi/Maori organisations, where meaningful relationships are strong and respectful.

We value and respect community contributions.

Staff need to value, respect and support the contributions communities and associates make and can make to conservation. Building relationships that recognise diversity and that are based on honesty, trust and integrity, will take time and will require effort, reflection, and active engagement.

We know when to lead, when to follow, when to let go.

We need to be clear about the various roles the department can play, and when each is appropriate. There are times when the department needs to act as a conservation leader. On other occasions, tangata whenua or communities should take the lead, with the department possibly providing technical support or guidance. While observing our statutory accountabilities, we need to learn how to involve others in deciding what and how we protect our conservation, cultural and recreational heritage.

We have confidence in the department's expertise.

We need to confidently communicate departmental priorities and what we can and cannot do. There are things which must be done to ensure that the maintenance and restoration of our natural, cultural and recreational heritage is not compromised.

Implementation needs leadership.

Area Managers, Conservators and Community Relations Managers have particularly important roles in leading the department through the changes this strategy is proposing.

The strategy falls into two parts: the first focuses on 'How We Work' - the underlying organisational culture; the second on 'What We Do' - the range of ways we engage with communities.

Conservation with Communities Strategy Summary

1. HOW WE WORK		
1.1 Building DOC Capability <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workplace culture• Working style• Staff skills• Integrating work	1.2 Understanding Communities	1.3 Building and Maintaining Relationships
2. WHAT WE DO		
2.1 Sharing Conservation Work <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partnerships• Opportunities to participate• Community skills	2.2 Developing Conservation Commitment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness• Education	