

Part Four: Implementation, Review and Monitoring

Explanation

The CMS is implemented through the Department's annual business planning process. Within the overall directions set by the CMS, the annual business plan will detail the relative allocation of effort and funds to the objectives and implementations of the CMS. The business plan must also be in accord with national priorities and the direction of Government.

Processes for review and amendment of the CMS are provided for in sections 17H and 17I of the Conservation Act. The procedures for review and amendment are the same as those for preparation and approval of the CMS as set out in section 17F.

A review of the CMS as a whole or in part may be initiated at any time by the Director-General after consultation with the Conservation Board. The entire CMS must be reviewed not later than ten years after its approval, although the Minister may extend this period.

Amendments to the CMS may be initiated at any time by the Director-General after consultation with the Conservation Board.

Where the proposed amendment is of such a minor nature that the Director-General and Conservation Board consider the amendment will not materially affect objectives or implementation, the simple process of paragraphs (k) and (p) of section 17F will apply and no formal public consultation will be required. Major amendments require formal public consultation, as set out in section 17F, before they can be considered for approval by the Conservation Board and NZ Conservation Authority.

Conservation Boards are independent community-based environmental bodies established under the Conservation Act in 1990 [*see Appendix 7*]. Members are appointed for 3 year terms by the Minister of Conservation from public nominations.

The Wellington Conservation Board has 10 nominated members drawn from tangata whenua, scientific, conservation and recreation groups, local government and a co-opted member to provide the Board with advice on marine sciences.

The functions of Conservation Boards are established by section 6M of the Conservation Act. Included in their functions are recommending the approval of CMSs to NZ Conservation Authority, approving CMPs and advising on the implementation of CMSs and CMPs.

A process will be established for the Wellington Conservation Board to evaluate progress in achieving the objective and implementation provisions of the CMS, at three yearly intervals throughout the 10 year life of the CMS. The Business Plan and 3 yearly evaluation will provide for monitoring of progress on implementing the CMS.

Implementing CMS

The Business Plan process of the Department will determine the extent to which the CMS is implemented each year, but it does not provide formal opportunities for community involvement. To provide for community input, the Department offers the Conservation Board an opportunity, when the Department begins priority setting for the next financial year, to offer advice on the Business Plan. The Conservation Board would make reference at that time to the CMS and any other Department planning documents and the existing and previous year's business plans, in offering its advice to the Department.

Keeping CMS relevant

The Department anticipates that the CMS will need to be regularly evaluated within its 10 year life, to maintain its relevance to the Department's activities.

The Department will evaluate the CMS once every 3 years, in consultation with the Conservation Board.

Evaluations may result in major or minor amendments to the CMS.

Objectives

- 1 Ensure that the CMS is incorporated into the annual business planning processes, and implemented accordingly.
- 2 Consult with the Conservation Board on implementation of the CMS.
- 3 Ensure this CMS remains an effective planning document through monitoring, and subsequent reviews and amendments.

Implementation

- 1 Prepare annual Business Plans and work programmes with regard to the provisions of the CMS.
- 2 Consult annually with the Conservation Board on the formulation of the Business Plan.
- 3 Convene a meeting of the Conservation Board in the middle of each Board's three-year term to monitor implementation and recommend appropriate responses to changing circumstances.
- 4 Review or amend the CMS when:
 - Directed by Director-General of Conservation.
 - General policy or government directions represent a significant departure from provisions of the CMS.
 - Monitoring indicates that the provisions in the CMS are impractical or have been superseded by new information or evidence.
 - The Department intends to prepare a CMP but there is no provision in the CMS.
 - The 3 yearly evaluation by the Conservation Board indicates issues substantive enough to warrant it.