

Annual Report *of the* New Zealand Conservation Authority

Te Pou Atawhai Taiao O Aotearoa

FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2010 TO 30 JUNE 2011

Presented to the Minister of Conservation and tabled in the House of Representatives pursuant to section 6E of the Conservation Act 1987

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Front cover photo: Mount Aspiring/Tititea.
Photographer: Y. Sprey 2011.

Page 12 photo: Bob McDowall.
Photographer: Brian Stephenson

Back cover photo: Basalt columns, Chatham Island.
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15 August 2011

Hon Kate Wilkinson
Minister of Conservation
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Minister

I submit, in terms of section 6E of the Conservation Act 1987, the annual report of the New Zealand Conservation Authority for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. The Act requires that the Authority shall in each year report to the Minister on the exercise of its functions and powers.

The past 12 months have been notable for events outside the immediate responsibility of the Authority – the Canterbury earthquakes and the Pike River mine disaster, which resulted in loss of life and, amongst other consequences, disruption to the business of the Department of Conservation. In addition to these events, Authority member Bob McDowall died after a short illness.

Nevertheless, the Authority has had a productive year. Highlights were the approval of the Stewart Island/Rakiura Conservation Management Strategy and Rakiura National Park Management Plan, the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan partial review, and the Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan; working with the Department on its framework and national policy positions to guide the review of conservation management strategies; advising the Department on aerial trophy hunting and you on the Game Animal Council; and submitting on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.

The Authority greatly appreciated your attendance at its April 2011 meeting.



Don Ross
Chairperson
New Zealand Conservation Authority

Mission Statement

To ensure for the people of New Zealand that the richness of New Zealand's natural and cultural heritage is valued, restored, maintained, and cared for by all, in order to enhance our environment and quality of life.

The New Zealand Conservation Authority members



Left to right: John Nankervis, Catherine Tudhope (manager), Waana Davis, Linda Conning, Hon Kate Wilkinson (Minister of Conservation), Kay Booth, Brian Stephenson, Don Ross (chairperson), Louise Savage, Mike Browne, Hally Toia, Yvonne Sharp.



Bob McDowall



Basil Morrison



Charles Crofts

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1. OVERVIEW OF THE 2010–2011 YEAR

The Authority met on six occasions during the year: in August, October and December 2010, and in February, April and June 2011. The October meeting was held at Henga Lodge on Chatham Island, and the February meeting was held in Bluff for the first day and in Dunedin for the second day. All other meetings were held in Wellington.

A wide range of issues of national long-term importance for public conservation resources were discussed by the Authority during the year. The three most significant are identified below.

- Heli-hunting or aerial-assisted trophy hunting: whether consistent with the purposes of gazetted wilderness areas and compatible with the benefit, use and enjoyment of national parks by other users; first debated in the context of the West Coast *Te Tai o Poutini* Conservation Management Strategy, and again this year in the context of the Olivine Wilderness Area and the Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan and the 2011 concessions for this activity.
- Proposal to establish a New Zealand Game Animal Council: the Authority provided the Minister of Conservation with advice on this.
- The proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity: the Authority made a submission.

The Department of Conservation (the Department) continued to prepare for the review of conservation management strategies (CMSs), and the Authority kept up to date with progress and participated in the development of national policy approaches to key issues.

The Authority approved the Stewart Island/Rakiura CMS, the Rakiura National Park Management Plan, the Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan and a partial review of the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan.

At its June meeting, the Authority received a partial review of the Tongariro National Park Management Plan and resolved to submit on the Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Management Plan due to its importance for the effective management of Abel Tasman National Park.

The Authority continued regular interaction with the Director-General of Conservation (the Director-General) and senior departmental staff. The Director-General's focus was imbedding the Department's vision and direction; restructuring the senior management team, responding to budget reductions and November's Pike River mine disaster, and supporting staff affected by the Canterbury earthquakes.

The Authority is committed to continuing its work in restoring and preserving the indigenous natural values of New Zealand. The Authority believes that the CMSs, national park management plans (NPMPs) and Visitor Strategy are important for articulating the principles underpinning conservation management (including visitor management) in New Zealand and for providing certainty as to how public conservation land will be managed.

2. INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

The Authority is a statutory advisor to the Minister of Conservation and to the Director-General of the Department of Conservation on conservation issues of national importance. It was established by section 6A of the Conservation Act 1987.

The functions of the Authority are set out in section 6B of the Conservation Act 1987, and in the National Parks Act 1980, the Wildlife Act 1953, the Marine Reserves Act 1971, the Reserves Act 1977, the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 and the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978. It also has specified responsibilities, set out in treaty claims settlement legislation, with regard to consultation with tangata whenua.

The Authority has the important function of approving the 10-year conservation management strategies and national park management plans that guide the management of public conservation resources by the Department.

The Authority is committed to the partnership model for the management of public conservation resources between New Zealanders and the Department. This is embodied in its existence and the member make-up, and likewise the conservation boards. The conservation boards are also part of the 'conservation with communities' ethic of the Department.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

The Minister appoints the 13 Authority members including the Chairperson.

The members are selected in consultation with the Minister of Tourism (two appointments), the Minister of Māori Affairs (two appointments), and the Minister of Local Government (one appointment); on the nomination of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (one appointment); and on the recommendation of the Royal Society of New Zealand (one appointment), Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (one appointment), and Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand (one appointment). In addition, four members are appointed after receipt of nominations from the public. This process ensures that a wide range of perspectives, life experiences and geographical knowledge contribute to the advice provided, and decisions made, by the Authority.

Members of the Authority are appointed for three-year terms. A mix of new appointments and reappointments every three years ensures continuity and retention of institutional knowledge. The current terms of appointment for all members expired on 31 May 2011, but new appointments had not been made by then and the members were still in office as at 30 June 2011.

4. MEETINGS

The Authority met for five two-day meetings and one one-day meeting during the year. Four meetings were held in Wellington, one on Chatham Island and one split between Bluff and Dunedin.

In addition, the Authority held two workshops with key departmental staff developing the Conservation Management Strategies Framework. See also section 6.2(b).

4.1 Attendance record of members at meetings of the Authority

Member	Number of meetings attended (6 held)
Kay Booth	5
Mike Browne	5
Linda Conning	6
Charles Crofts	2
Waana Davis	5
Bob McDowall*	2
Basil Morrison	4
John Nankervis	4
Don Ross	5
Louise Savage	6
Yvonne Sharp	6
Brian Stephenson	6
Hally Toia	5

*Resigned December 2010 due to poor health.

5. BUDGET, FEES AND ALLOWANCES

The Authority's budget for 2010/11 was \$137,500. Fees and allowances are paid in accordance with the Fees and Travelling Allowances Act 1951. The chairperson receives a daily meeting fee of \$290, and other Authority members receive a daily meeting fee of \$215. Members may be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses incurred while engaged on Authority business.

6. THE CONSERVATION ACT 1987

6.1 Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 states: "This Act shall so be interpreted and administered as to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi." As a body established under the Conservation Act 1987, section 4 applies to the Authority in the discharge of its functions.

6.2 Functions of the Authority

(a) Advise the Minister on Statements of General Policy

General Policy is the highest level of statutory planning for conservation outcomes. No changes were proposed or made to General Policy in the reporting period.

(b) Approve Conservation Management Strategies

A conservation management strategy (CMS) is a 10-year statutory document. Its purpose is to implement General Policy and to establish objectives for the discharge of the Department's functions in the area covered by the strategy, and for recreation, tourism and other conservation purposes. The CMSs are developed by departmental planning staff in partnership with local conservation boards, and there are opportunities for input from the public, tangata whenua and other interested parties.

While most CMSs are now older than 10 years, their review was put on hold in December 2009 while a national framework was developed.

CMS Framework

In November 2010, the Director-General approved a standard framework to be used for all CMSs.

The purpose of the CMS Framework is to ensure that each CMS is strategic; demonstrates how it fits into the national conservation and recreation picture; provides for local flavour and identifies community priorities at the regional and local level; and has legal and policy interpretation, process, format and publication standards that are consistent with other CMSs. Pressure has come from the public and the business sector for CMSs to state clearly the conservation management principles and priorities for each area and thus provide certainty about, and confidence in, the Department's management.

At the end of the reporting period, the reviews of the CMSs for Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Otago and Southland including subantarctic islands had been initiated. The review of the Canterbury CMS was delayed due to the major earthquake in September 2010 and subsequent aftershocks affecting Canterbury and surrounding areas and those who lived and worked there.

Stewart Island/Rakiura CMS

The Authority received the Stewart Island/Rakiura CMS at its April 2010 meeting, along with the Rakiura National Park Management Plan (NPMP). The review of the CMS and the development of the NPMP occurred concurrently to ensure an integrated approach to public conservation lands on Stewart Island/Rakiura, and an efficient process.

The Authority approved the two documents in February 2011 during its meeting at Te Aroha Marae, Bluff, in the presence of representatives of both the Department and the Southland Conservation Board.

(c) Approve Conservation Management Plans

Conservation management plans are generally approved by conservation boards; no conservation management plans were approved by conservation boards or the Authority in the reporting period. See also section 7.2.

(d) Review the Effectiveness of the Department's Administration of General Policies

The Authority did not review the effectiveness of the Department's administration of Statements of General Policy during the reporting period. In the process of approving statutory planning documents, the Authority seeks to satisfy itself that they gave effect to the two Statements of General Policy appropriately.

(e) Investigate or Advise on Conservation Matters of National Importance

The Authority considered a number of matters of national importance during the year.

Establishment of a New Zealand Game Animal Council

The Minister sought the Authority's views on the recommendations of the Game Animal Council Establishment Committee.

The Authority believed the GAC Establishment Committee's recommendations would generate increasing conflicts, escalate costs, and undermine the statutory objective of integrated management of public conservation land.

Heli-hunting or aerial-assisted trophy hunting

During the reporting period, the Department processed requests for commercial aerial-assisted trophy hunting for the 2011 season. It also continued work towards the issuing of longer-term aerial-assisted trophy hunting concessions, but no public notification of terms of the proposed concessions occurred.

The Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan had notified that there be no aerial-assisted trophy hunting in the national park. Most submitters and the Otago Conservation Board supported this view.

Because of the legal requirement for decision makers to consider every concession application on its merits, and based on advice it received on the interpretation of the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, the Authority was unable to include a ban on aerial-assisted trophy hunting within Mount Aspiring National Park even though it considered the activity inappropriate there. Arguments that this activity amounts to effective control of wild animals and contributes meaningfully to the preservation of native species in national parks in general, and the Olivine Wilderness Area in particular, have not been demonstrated in the Authority's view.

Proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

The Authority supported the development of a national policy statement for indigenous biodiversity but considered that the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity did not achieve the stated purpose because it addressed only extremely rare and threatened indigenous biodiversity.

The Authority opposed biodiversity offsetting for nationally and regionally rare habitat types. They are already so limited in extent, fragmented and degraded, that offsetting is inappropriate. The Authority believes such habitats should be protected in situ.

Rivers

The Authority is preparing a paper that it hopes will stimulate discussion about the values of rivers and contribute towards the achievement of comprehensive protection for a fully representative range of rivers in their natural state.

Aquatic weeds

In December, as part of its wider interest in all aspects of freshwater, Paul Champion, Principal Scientist – Freshwater Biosecurity at NIWA, accepted an Authority invitation to educate it about aquatic weeds, the problems associated with them, and management programmes currently in place to control them.

Marine conservation

In April, the Department gave the Authority a presentation on the work it is doing for conservation in the marine environment.

World Heritage Area reporting

The Department fulfilled a major UNESCO World Heritage Area reporting requirement during the year and included both the relevant conservation boards and the Authority in that process. Two of New Zealand's World Heritage Areas encompass national parks and the third is the subantarctic islands.

(f) Change of Status

The Authority did not consider or make any proposals for the change of status or classification of areas of national and international importance during the reporting period. It did, however, obtain from the Nature Heritage Fund Committee a list of land purchases the Minister has, over the years, approved for addition to national parks that are yet to complete the addition process. The Authority will be seeking the support of the relevant conservation boards to work with their conservancies to progress the additions. A premium price has often been paid for these purchases because of their values and location adjoining or within national park boundaries.

(g) Walkways (repealed)

(h) Education and Publicity

Copies of minutes and agendas and other information regarding the Authority's functions and activities (including meetings, which are open to the public) can be found on its website: www.conservationauthority.org.nz.

No new educational material was produced during the reporting period.

(i) Priorities for Expenditure by the Department of Conservation

The Authority advised the Minister and the Director-General of its priorities for expenditure for the 2012 to 2015 business planning round. These are outlined below.

The protection of indigenous biodiversity at priority places with an emphasis on animal and plant pest and wild animal control.

The cost of deferring pest control would most certainly result in escalated costs and further decline in the health of protected ecosystems and New Zealand's special fauna and flora. Since pest control underpins New Zealand's clean and green brand, the Authority feels its contribution to the conservation economy is of greater importance than upgrading visitor facilities. Pest control has long been a priority for the Authority and continues to be so, despite the current political and economic climate.

The protection of freshwater habitats and biodiversity.

The Authority was disappointed that the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management made no provision for the protection of freshwater biodiversity. Nevertheless, it recommends that the Department work closely with regional councils as they incorporate the policy's objectives into their planning documents to seek benefits for conservation.

Statutory management planning.

Statutory planning has been identified as a priority by the Authority since 2005. This is because it is the means by which the community can have a say at a strategic and long-term level about how it would like public conservation resources managed by the Department. It also avoids ad-hoc decision making.

The Authority has been delighted that progress is finally being made with updating conservation management strategies so they are fit for purpose; however, it remains concerned at the aged state of many of the national park management plans. It was therefore anxious to hear that the statutory planning capacity of the Department is being cut by 20 percent. While the Authority understands that the Department needs to make savings, it is disappointed that the Department is making such a significant reduction in this activity, which engages openly and directly across so many sectors of society and provides an opportunity to consider all points of view on an equal basis.

(j) New Zealand Fish and Game Council Liaison

Section 6B(1)(i) of the Conservation Act 1987 provides for the Authority to liaise with the New Zealand Fish and Game Council (NZF&GC). The Authority and NZF&GC provided each other with copies of agendas and meeting papers during the reporting period. There was no attendance at each other's meetings.

(k) Ministerial Delegations

The Minister did not delegate any ministerial powers or functions to the Authority during the reporting period.

6.3 Powers of the Authority

(a) Establishment of Committees

The Conservation Act enables the Authority to establish committees to carry out functions or tasks delegated by the Authority.

The committees that were active during the reporting period were:

- Rivers
- Future of Pest Management
- Kahurangi National Park Management Plan Partial Review
- Stewart Island/Rakiura CMS and Rakiura National Park Management Plan
- Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan
- Proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

- Tongariro National Park Management Plan Partial Review (established 23 June)
- Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Management Plan (established 23 June)

(b) Advocacy

The Authority advocated its interests by making several submissions and attending workshops and hearings, by posting submissions and advice on its website, and by informal personal contacts. Refer also to section 6.2 (e) Conservation Matters of National Importance.

7. FUNCTIONS UNDER THE NATIONAL PARKS ACT 1980

7.1 General Policy for National Parks

The Authority did not review, or make any changes to, the General Policy for National Parks in the reporting period.

7.2 National Park Management Plans

Kahurangi National Park Management Plan Partial Review

The Authority received the proposed amendments to the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan at its April 2010 meeting, following a partial review of the plan by the Department. The partial review covered the following issues: (1) mountain-biking on named tracks; (2) private accommodation on the Heaphy Track; (3) horse-riding concessionaire access to Puponga Farm Park; (4) access provisions for aircraft; and (5) hunting access restrictions. The plan was approved on 8 December 2010.

Rakiura National Park Management Plan

The Authority received the Rakiura National Park Management Plan from the Southland Conservation Board at its June 2010 meeting. It was approved by the Authority at its February 2011 meeting held in Southland. See also section 6.2 (b).

Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan

The Authority received the Mount Aspiring National Park Management Plan from the Otago Conservation Board at its August 2010 meeting. Members of the Committee travelled to Queenstown at the beginning of November to visit the Forbes Mountains, the Routeburn road end, and Chinaman's Bluff, and for discussion with representatives of the conservancy and the Board. Concurrent with the Authority's consideration of the Plan, the Department was developing policy around aerial-assisted trophy hunting, and this delayed the Authority's progress with approving the plan. See also section 6.2(e). The plan was approved on 23 June 2011.

Tongariro National Park Management Plan Partial Review

At the end of the reporting period, the Authority received a partial review of the Tongariro National Park Management Plan proposing the approval of over-snow vehicles for passenger conveyance on the three ski fields; the approval of commercial use of the Tongariro Alpine Crossing (walking) and the Old Coach Road (mountain bikes); and changes to commercial transport arrangements within the park.

7.3 Additions to, and Deletions from, National Parks

Addition and deletion of land – Abel Tasman National Park, Anchorage

In the previous reporting period, the Authority resolved to support an 'exchange' of land at Anchorage in Abel Tasman National Park on the recommendation of the Nelson/Marlborough Conservation Board. This involves revoking national park status over some land (612 m²) that has been encroached upon by a neighbouring landowner, in return for some shoreline kānuka-dominated forest (680 m²), which will be added to the Park. In April, it approved an amendment to the proposal so that the areas involved are 650 m² revoked and 700 m² added.

Addition and deletion of land – Westland National Park, State Highway 6

The Authority resolved to support an 'exchange' of land at Smithys Creek on State Highway 6 for the purposes of highway improvements. The approximate areas involved were 0.4579 hectares revoked and 0.548 hectares added.

Deletion of land – Westland National Park

The Authority supported the exclusion from Westland National Park of 12 hectares of land that had been subject to a long-term grazing licence on the understanding that 20 hectares of privately owned forested land between the grazed area and the national park was to be exchanged for the grazed land and added to the park.

Purchase of land for national park addition – Westland National Park, Waiho Beach

The Authority was advised at its October meeting of a purchase by the Nature Heritage Fund of 377 hectares of kahikatea forest and associated wetland at the mouth of the Waiho River for addition to the Westland National Park. It asked the West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservation Board for a recommendation on whether or not this area should be added to the Park. A response had not been received by the end of the reporting period.

7.4 National Park Investigations

Proposal for a Kauri National Park in Northland

The Authority wrote to the Director-General of Conservation on 12 February 2010, requesting a formal investigation of areas proposed by the Department of Conservation and Te Iwi o Te Roroa as to their suitability for national park status. All the areas identified are within the rohe of Te Roroa. The Director-General released a discussion document on May 2011 inviting public comment by 18 July 2011.

7.5 National Park Determinations

The Authority considered a request from the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association: “That the Whitetail deer herd in Rakiura National Park be recognised as a valued recreational hunting and wild meat resource for the local and national deerstalking communities through a National Parks Act section 4(2)(b) Determination to remove the threat of extermination of the deer in Rakiura National Park and to recognise and protect:

- The herd’s one hundred and four year historic association with Stewart Island; and
- The importance and recreational attraction of the Whitetail deer herd to Stewart Island nationally to recreational hunters and the local community for recreation and wild food provision, and for their economic contribution to the local, regional and national economy”.

The Authority sought the advice of the Southland Conservation Board. The Board advised that recreational hunting is well recognised in the Rakiura National Park Management Plan, and hunting opportunities are well accommodated within the objectives and policies established to protect the indigenous biodiversity of the Park.

The Authority noted that the Stewart Island/Rakiura conservation management strategy (in draft at the time but since approved) identified that the outcome sought from hunting is the regeneration of canopy and sub-canopy native plant species. The priority for departmental management of whitetail deer on Stewart Island/Rakiura is to conduct vegetation monitoring to better determine the impact that deer have on forest health.

The Authority also noted that the Rakiura National Park Management Plan identified that the priorities for deer control in the National Park are maintaining current deer-free areas such as existing deer-free islands; preventing the establishment and colonisation of the National Park by deer species not presently found in the National Park; and maintaining the general welfare of the National Park’s indigenous species, habitats and ecosystems, and scenic and landform values, with an emphasis on specified priorities.

The Authority, after due consideration, declined to make the determination sought. It took into account the values and resources of the National Park and the draft policies referred to above, the submission process associated with the draft documents, the consultation that followed that process, and the purposes of the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, together with the direction in section 4(2)(b) to exterminate introduced animals as far as possible.

8. RESERVES ACT 1977

8.1 Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Management Plan

The Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Management Plan prepared by the Department of Conservation and Tasman District Council was released for public submissions on 8 June with a closing date of 8 August 2011. Many people think that the Abel Tasman Foreshore is part of the adjoining national park. Due to its extent and because it is one of the main gateways to the park, its management has a considerable impact on the park.

The Authority resolved to review the Plan to see if it appropriately complements the Abel Tasman National Park Management Plan and make a submission.

9. MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS

9.1 JD Stout Trust

The Authority is a trustee of the JD Stout Trust. The Trust makes donations or interest-free loans for conservation and cultural purposes. The Trust met once during the reporting period. Waana Davis is the Authority's representative on the Trust.

9.2 The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

The Authority is one of 10 members of the New Zealand Committee of the IUCN. The committee meets quarterly. John Nankervis is the Authority's representative on the Committee. Linda Conning attended the IUCN jointly sponsored conference 'Sharing Power' held in January 2011.

10. CONSERVATION BOARDS

10.1 Conservation Board Nominations

The Minister is required to consult with the Authority prior to appointing members to conservation boards.

On 31 March 2011, the Authority provided its advice on appointments with effect from 1 September 2011.

10.2 Authority/Conservation Board Liaison

One Authority member acts as liaison with each conservation board. This liaison includes annual attendance at board meetings and informal liaison with the board chairperson, which is reported back to the Authority at each meeting.

10.3 Conservation Board Boundaries

The Minister adjusted the boundaries between the Taranaki/Whanganui and Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Boards and the Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservation Board so that the Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservancy and the Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservation Board have matching areas of jurisdiction.

10.4 Annual Reports

The 13 conservation boards have not yet provided the Authority with their annual reports for the year ended 30 June 2011, in accordance with section 6O of the Conservation Act 1987. Once complete, these reports will be available from the boards. Their addresses are given at the end of this report and can also be found at www.conservationboards.org.nz by selecting 'Conservation boards by region'.

10.5 Implementation of Conservation Management Strategies

Most conservation boards have adopted a systematic process for monitoring progress of the implementation of the CMS for their region and for providing advice to

the Department's conservancies in that respect. The boards report on this monitoring in their annual reports.

Under the Conservation General Policy, the Department is required to provide each conservation board with a report (at least annually) on the implementation of the CMS for its region.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

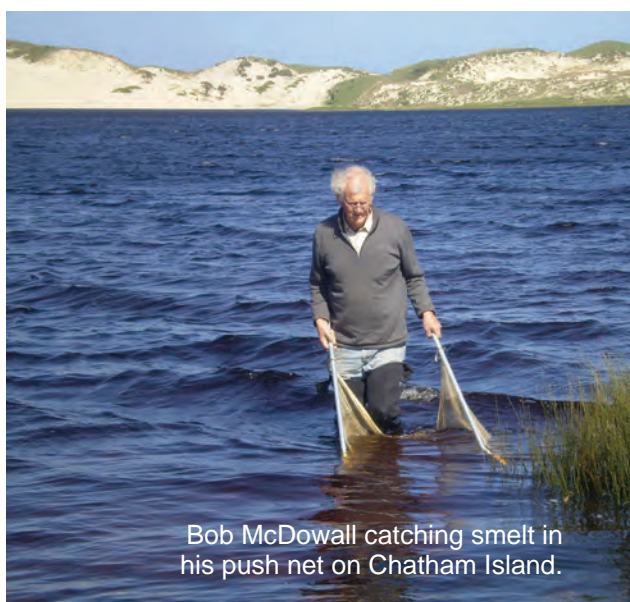
Sincere thanks are due to the staff of the Department who have attended our meetings or serviced, supported and briefed the Authority during the reporting period.

Special thanks to the Director-General, Al Morrison, with whom we have enjoyed some robust debates; Catherine Tudhope, whose knowledge is invaluable to our work; Doris Johnston and Marie Long for working with us on policy and planning issues; and Elena Sedouch and Katrina Edwards for servicing the Authority.

Thanks to my Authority colleagues and all conservation board members. They are generous with their time and willingly apply their skills and draw upon their diverse life experiences to the work of the Authority and conservation boards. The Authority and the conservation boards are examples of conservation with communities, which the Director-General has identified as essential if the Department is to make gains for conservation.

Conservation lost two giants during the year. Don Merton, who had been at the forefront of threatened species conservation for decades, and who achieved international renown for his pioneering work with the Chatham Island black robin and kākāpō, died early in 2011.

Bob McDowall, one of our number, died in February after a short illness. His death was a shock and loss not only for us but to the science community within which he held a position of stature. His contribution to knowledge of freshwater environments is unmatched. I thank him for his work on the Authority.



Don Ross
Chairperson
New Zealand Conservation Authority

12. SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

**Conservation management strategies:
Approval dates and/or status of reviews as at 30 June 2011**

Conservation management strategy	Date approved	Situation as at 30 June 2011
Northland	14 April 1999	In early stages of review
Auckland	30 June 1995	In early stages of review
Waikato	24 September 1996	In early stages of review
East Coast/Bay of Plenty	14 October 1998 (East Coast) and 4 December 1997 (Bay of Plenty)	Term extended by the Minister ¹ to 14 January 2010. Term extended by the Minister ¹ to 12 December 2009. Both still operative.
Tongariro/Taupo	30 May 2002	Operative
Whanganui	9 April 1997	Term extended by the Minister ¹ to 9 April 2009. Still operative.
Wellington/Hawke's Bay	13 March 1996 (Wellington) and 19 October 1994 (Hawke's Bay)	Term extended by the Minister ¹ to 13 March 2011 and Term extended by the Minister ¹ to 14 January 2010. Still operative.
Chatham Islands	12 August 1999	Term extended by the Minister ¹ to 2 August 2010.
Nelson/Marlborough	12 September 1996	Still operative
West Coast <i>Te Tai o Poutini</i>	15 August 2010	Operative
Canterbury Aoraki	14 June 2000	Still operative
Otago	15 August 1998	In early stages of review
Mainland Southland/West Otago	10 July 1998	In early stages of review
Stewart Island/Rakiura	9 February 2011	Operative
Subantarctic Islands (to be amalgamated with Mainland Southland/West Otago)	16 July 1998	In early stages of review

¹ The Director-General of Conservation subsequently put the review of CMSs on hold while a CMS national framework and natural heritage and destination management prioritisation tools were developed. The statutory expectation is that each CMS will be reviewed at 10-year intervals.

SECOND SCHEDULE

National park management plans: approval dates

National park management plan	Date approved
Abel Tasman	9 October 2008
Aoraki/Mount Cook	14 August 2004
Arthur's Pass	13 December 2007
Egmont	14 February 2002
Fiordland	21 June 2007
Kahurangi	14 June 2001
Mount Aspiring	23 June 2011
Nelson Lakes	10 October 2002
Paparoa	18 November 1992
Rakiura	9 February 2011
Te Urewera	13 February 2003
Tongariro	12 October 2006
Westland <i>Tai Poutini</i>	13 December 2001
Whanganui	1 March 1989

THIRD SCHEDULE

Conservation boards address list

Conservation board	Board address (c/- Department of Conservation)	Board Support Officer
Northland	PO Box 842, Whangarei 0140	Jeannie Hogarth
Auckland	Private Bag 68908 Newton, Auckland 1145	Raewyn Bennett
Waikato	Private Bag 3072 Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240	Des Williams
East Coast/Bay of Plenty	PO Box 1146, Rotorua 3040	Adele Davidson
Tongariro/Taupo	Private Bag 2, Turangi 3353	Louise Davies
Taranaki/Whanganui	Private Bag 3016, Wanganui Mail Centre Wanganui 4540	Louise Davies
Wellington/Hawke's Bay	PO Box 5086, Wellington 6145	Leigh Romanos
Chatham Islands	PO Box 114, Waitangi Chatham Islands 8942	Alex McKillop
Nelson/Marlborough	Private Bag 5, Nelson Mail Centre, Nelson 7042	Kay Switzer
West Coast <i>Tai Poutini</i>	Private Bag 701, Hokitika 7842	Mary-Anne Thorpe
Canterbury Aoraki	Private Bag 4715 Christchurch Mail Centre Christchurch 8140	Brenda Preston
Otago	PO Box 5244, Moray Place Dunedin 9058	Mark Clark
Southland	PO Box 743, Invercargill 9840	Gloria Harris



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