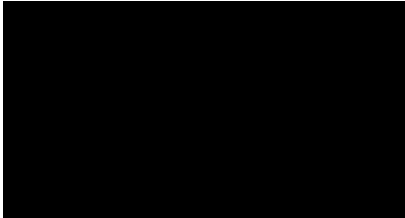


31 May 2024

Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 16 April 2024, in which you asked for information relating to the Lower Selwyn Huts settlement. On 15 May we extended the timeframe for response to 31 May. We then responded to parts 1, 3 and 4 of your request on 27 May.

We have considered part 2 of your request under the Official Information Act 1982, in which you asked information relating to the Conservation General Policy (CGP) and General Policy for National Parks (GPNP) - background documents in relation to Policy 10 CGP (in particular policy 10(h)) and Policy 9 of the GPNP (in particular policy 9(h)).

Your questions and our answers are below:

Copies of:

- i. *The initial draft policy 10 of the Conservation General Policy and the parallel draft policy 9 from the General Policy for National Parks*

Please refer to items 1, 2 and 3 listed in the table below.

- ii. *Any comments on those draft policies from the New Zealand Conservation Authority (prior to public notification)*

Please refer to item 3 listed in the table below.

- iii. *Any submissions on those two draft policies, including submissions made at any public hearing.*

I regret that I am not able to provide you this information, as there are over 1600 submissions in scope and the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research (section 18(f) of the Official Information Act refers). I have borne in mind section 18B of the Official Information Act but concluded that use

of this provision would not assist in this case. A list of submitters can be found in item 7, pages 133-163 of the documents provided; however, the names of personal submitters have been redacted to protect privacy. Details of organisational submitters has been released, and you are invited to review this list and make a separate request for submissions of interest.

- iv. *The New Zealand Conservation Authority draft versions sent to the Minister of Conservation along with the summary of submissions on the two policies and any comments of the NZCA.*

Please refer to items 12,14 and 15 listed in the table below.

- v. *Any comments of the Minister of Conservation if s/he did not approve the draft policies and sent those back to the Director-General for revision before approving it.*

Please refer to items 14 and 15 listed in the table below.

- vi. *Any advice from or reports by the Department in relation to the above two policies and reasons for the different wording in Policy 10(h) of the CGP and 9(h) of the GPNP.*

Items 1-15 listed in the table below covers all advice and reports identified, except for two emails containing legal advice that are withheld under section 9(2)(h) of the Official Information Act – to maintain legal professional privilege. Explanations for the amended wording of the Conservation General Policies and why it differed from the initial drafting based on work done to draft the General Policy for National Parks is largely covered in page 209-212 of the attached package (page 36-39 of Item 12).

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed below, subject to personal information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1	08/2003	Draft General Policies National Parks Act - public consultation	Released in full
2	3/09/2003	General Policy briefing material for NZCA members and DOC staff participating in the national briefing round, August - November 2003	Released in full
3	19/12/2003	Comments from the NZCA on the Draft Conservation General Policies	Released in full
4	04/2004	DOC Internal submission from Community Relations Manager, Canterbury Conservancy	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)
5	04/2004	DOC Internal submission from Management Planner and Statutory Land Management Officer, Canterbury Conservancy	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)

6	28/04/2004	Memo for Director-General - General Policy for Conservation Act and Related Legislation - big issues to be considered for revision	Released in full
7	05/2004	Submissions Analysis on Draft GPNP and CGP (including list of submissions)	Released in full
8	28/07/2004	Email advice - FW: Draft NPGP - Chapter 9	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)
9	28/07/2004	Email advice - Re: Draft notes on Chapter 9 teleconference	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)
10	29/07/2004	Email - Chapter 9 - comments by [redacted] on revised text	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)
11	10/2004	Written statement explaining the proposed amendments to the draft General Policy notified in August 2003	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)
12	20/10/2004	Email - Comments on General Policy 18 Oct version	Withheld in part, section 9(2)(a)
13	26/11/2004	Letter from Minister of Conservation, Hon Chris Carter to Chair NZCA with comments on their draft of GPNP	Released in full
14	26/11/2004	Revised Draft General Policy Conservation Act and Related Legislation (From DG DOC to NZCA for its consideration and comment to the Minister of Conservation)	Released in full
15	08/2015	NZCA Meeting Papers - Canterbury CMS	Released in full

In making my decision I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding. You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached documents may be published on the Department's website.

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please contact Government Services by email to [governmentservices@doc.govt.nz](mailto:governmentservices@doc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā

Sam Thomas  
 Director Policy  
 Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*