



## Briefing: Government Appointments to be made in 2025 – MOC

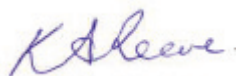
<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	22 January 2025
<b>Action sought</b>	Note the contents of the briefing and attachments, and then forward to the APH Secretary in Cabinet Office.	<b>Priority</b>	Normal
<b>Reference</b>	24-B-0637	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7845548
<b>Security Level</b>	In Confidence		
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Low No identified risks; for information only.	<b>Timeframe</b>	Due to Cabinet Office on 30 January 2025
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – Organisation Forms		
<b>Contacts</b>			
<b>Name and position</b>			<b>Phone</b>
Rick McGovern-Wilson, Manager Statutory Appointments			s9(2)(a)

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopoto ā kaiwhakahaere

1. On 17 December 2024, your office received a request from Cabinet Office for a schedule of Organisations Forms for government appointments to be considered by Cabinet Appointment and Honours Committee (APH), highlighting those that are due to be made in 2025 [Notice CO (24) 6 refers].
2. This briefing provides the Organisation Forms for all appointments in the conservation portfolio that are considered by APH. All planned vacancies for 2025 are shown on the Organisation Forms in bold.
3. On 26 March 2024 Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee authorised you to continue directly appointing members to 'minor' boards [APH-24-MIN-0039 refers]. This briefing includes a table showing upcoming vacancies for minor boards, for your information.

## We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	<b>Forward</b> the attached Organisation Forms to Cabinet Office	Yes / No



Date: 15/01/2025

Kelley Reeve  
Director Governance and Government  
Services

Date: / /

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

## Purpose – Te aronga

1. This briefing provides you with Organisation Forms detailing appointments to be considered by the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH) within the Conservation portfolio during 2025.

## Background and context – Te horopaki

2. Each year, the Cabinet Office requests Organisation Forms from agencies for every entity for which their agency is responsible, where appointments are to be considered by APH in the upcoming year.
3. The Organisation Forms for entities in the Conservation portfolio are supplied in Attachment A with the upcoming vacancies highlighted in bold font.
4. The Organisation Forms are to be submitted to the APH Secretary, by your office, no later than 30 January 2025. Cabinet Office compiles this information into a schedule for Ministers of all planned vacancies in the coming year, allowing them to nominate suitable candidates.
5. On 26 March 2024 Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee authorised you to continue directly appointing members to 'minor' boards [APH-24-MIN-0039 refers]. This briefing also includes a table showing upcoming vacancies for minor boards, for your information.

## Appointments in 2025

6. The following entities have vacancies where appointments are required to be considered by APH in 2025.

Entity	Vacancies	Date of term expiry
Aotea Conservation Park Advisory Committee	10	30 June 2025
Conservation Boards (14 out of 15)	54	30 June 2025
Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve Board	7	5 March 2025
Nature Heritage Fund Committee	3	31 May 2025
New Zealand Conservation Authority	6	30 June 2025
Ngā Whenua Rāhui Komiti	3	30 June 2024
Predator Free 2050 Ltd Board	2	30 November 2025
Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Board	2	31 July 2025
Taupō Nui-a-Tia Management Board	4	30 June 2023
Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī (Taranaki Maunga)	4	n/a (new entity)
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	

**Appointments to 'minor' boards**

7. The following entities are considered 'minor' and you have delegation to directly appoint people to these entities [APH-24-MIN-0039 refers]. They do not require consideration by APH. This information is included in this briefing for your awareness.

Entity	Vacancies	Date of term expiry
Eastwoodhill Trust Board	1	30 August 2025
Guardians of Lake Wanaka	1	Carrying vacancy
Molesworth Steering Committee	1	28 February 2025
Pakaitore / Moutoa Gardens Historic Reserve Board	1	Carrying vacancy
Tapuae Marine Reserve Advisory Committee	8	30 June 2025
Te Tapatoru a Toi / Ngāti Awa Joint Management Committee	1	30 October 2025

**Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru**

8. There is no risk in providing this information.

**Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

9. Your office will send this material to the APH Secretary by 30 January 2025.

**ENDS**



# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Aotea Conservation Park Advisory Committee - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The Aotea Conservation Park Advisory Committee is established by the Minister of Conservation pursuant to section 56(1) of the Conservation Act 1987.

The purpose of the advisory committee is to represent iwi and local community interests and provide advice to the Director-General of Conservation about the management of the Aotea Conservation Park on Great Barrier Island (Aotea). The committee only has advisory powers and holds no statutory functions.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Kenneth Fortzer	M	Great Barrier Island	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2019	30/06/2025
Nicola MacDonald (Resigned)	F	Auckland		01/03/2016	30/06/2025
Hope Munro	F	Great Barrier Island		01/07/2019	30/06/2025
Michael Ngatai	M	Auckland		01/07/2019	30/06/2025
Lewis (Opo) Ngawaka	M	Great Barrier Island		01/07/2019	30/06/2025
Joanne Limpus O'Reilly	F	Great Barrier Island		01/07/2022	30/06/2025
Donald Prince	M	Great Barrier Island		01/07/2022	30/06/2025

<b>Marilyn Stephens</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Great Barrier Island</b>	s9(2)(a)	<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Valmaine Toki</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Great Barrier Island</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Jason Wii (Resigned)</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Auckland</b>		<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Anne-Marie Houng Lee	F	Kohukohu	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Messey Maahia Nathan	M	Auckland		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Mina Pomare-Pieta Chairperson	F	Panguru		01/07/2021	30/06/2026
Tui Qauaqau Te Paa <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa</i>	F	Ahipara		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Wallace Rivers <i>Nominee of Te Runanga o NgaiTakoto</i>	M	Auckland		01/07/2020	30/06/2026
Joanne (Jo) Shanks	F	Kaingaroa		01/07/2021	30/06/2026
Sheridan Waitai <i>Nominee of Ngāti Kuri</i>	F	Tikipunga		17/12/2015	30/06/2026
Maria Wiki <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri</i>	F	Kaitaia		01/07/2024	30/06/2027

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Northland Conservation Board - Conservation***

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Ralph Correa	M	Whangarei	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Alex Flavell-Johnson</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Kaipara</b>		<b>01/07/2024</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Karen Joyce-Paki	F	Kaipara		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Nyree (Nyze) Porter Chairperson	F	Kaeo		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
<b>Elizabeth (Liz) Witehira</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Hikurangi</b>		<b>01/07/2024</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Vacancy</b>					
<b>Vacancy</b>					

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

### *Auckland Conservation Board - Conservation*

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
<b>Achyut Aryal</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Auckland</b>	s9(2)(a)	<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Rahul Chopra</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Auckland</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Repeka George-Koteka	M	West Auckland		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Alan Goldman	M	Auckland		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Nerissa Henry	F	Auckland		01/07/2022	30/06/2026
Mervyn Kerehoma <i>Nominee of Ngāti Whātua roopu entity</i>	M	Auckland		07/07/2020	30/06/2026
Shane Lavery	M	Auckland		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Tori Ngataki <i>Nominee of Waiohau Tamaki roopu entity</i>	F	Te Kauwhata		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Gael Ogilvie Chairperson</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Auckland</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Chris Severne</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Auckland</b>		<b>01/07/2024</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>

Fred Wilson <i>Nominee of Waiohūa Tāmaki roopu entity</i>	M	Waiuku	s9(2)(a)	16/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Vacancy</b>					

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Waikato Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
<b>Flora Bartholomew</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Te Kuiti</b>	s9(2)(a)	<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Alexia Becroft	<b>F</b>	Taupiri		01/07/2024	30/06/2026
Robin (Rob) Chappell Chairperson	<b>M</b>	Coromandel		07/07/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Shelley Langton-Myers</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Pokeno</b>		<b>01/07/2021</b>	<b>20/06/2025</b>
Nagarajah Manoharan	<b>M</b>	Hamilton		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Charlotte Muggeridge	<b>F</b>	Hamilton		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Aroon Parshotam	<b>M</b>	Hamilton		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
David Pattemore	<b>M</b>	Morrinsville		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Gaylene Roberts</b> <i>Nominee of Kahui Ariki</i>	<b>F</b>	<b>Tokoroa</b>		<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Vacancy</b>					

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Bay of Plenty Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Michal Akurangi	F	Whakatane	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2024	20/06/2027
Ora Barlow Co-Chairperson	F	Te Kaha		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Sara Carly	F	Tauranga		07/07/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Laura Crossan</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Te Puke</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Pim De Monchy</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Tauranga</b>		<b>16/08/2023</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Erin Green</b> Co-Chairperson	<b>F</b>	<b>Whakatāne</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Lyndal Kennedy	F	Tauranga		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Matthew (Matt) Newman	M	Tauranga		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Te Maiora Rurehe	M	Rotorua		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Tim Taylor	M	Tauranga		01/07/2024	30/06/2027



# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***East Coast Hawke's Bay Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Douglas (Doug) Bailey	M	Hastings	s9(2)(a)	07/07/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Lois Easton</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Gisborne</b>		<b>16/08/2023</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Rena Kohere Co-Chairperson	F	Gisborne		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Nicola McCartney	F	Gisborne		01/07/2021	30/06/2026
<b>John Meneer</b> Co-Chairperson	<b>M</b>	<b>Wairoa</b>		<b>07/07/2021</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Keri Ropiha</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Porangahau</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Peter Simpson	M	Havelock North		01/07/2024	30/06/2027

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Tongariro Taupō Conservation Board - Conservation***

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Jamie Grant <i>Nominee for Te Korowai o Wainuiārua</i>	M	Taupō	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Clinton (Clint) Green	M	Turangi		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Karen Grimwade	F	Auckland		07/07/2020	30/06/2026
Jaqueline Iorangi	F	Turangi		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
George Potaka	M	Ohakune		01/07/2024	30/06/2026
Hannah Rainforth <i>Nominee for Ngā Waihua o Paerangi Trust</i>	F	Whānganui		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Michael Richardson	M	Taupō		01/07/2022	30/06/2025

Tā Tumu Te Heuheu <i>Direct descendent of Te Heuheu Tūkino</i>	M	Taupō	s9(2)(a)	01/09/1998	Statutory position
<b>Te Ngaehe Wanikau</b> <i>Nominee for Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa</i>	<b>M</b>	<b>Turangi</b>		<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Martin Wikaira	M	Turangi		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Georgina (Honey) Winter</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Raetihi</b>		<b>01/07/2018</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
<b>Andrew (Drew) Castle</b> Chairperson	M	Inglewood	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2019	30/06/2025
<b>Bruce Clarkson</b>	M	Hamilton		01/07/2022	30/06/2025
Claire Dowsett	F	Whanganui		01/07/2022	30/06/2026
Murray Fisher	M	New Plymouth		01/07/2024	30/06/2026
Paora Haitana <i>Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui Trust nominee</i>	M	Whanganui		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Liana Poutu</b> <i>Recommendation of Taranaki Māori Trust Board</i>	F	New Plymouth		01/07/2015	30/06/2025
Erica Riddle	M	Feilding		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Jill Sheehy</b>	F	Whanganui		01/07/2022	30/06/2025
Christopher (Chris) Smith	M	Whanganui		01/07/2021	30/06/2027

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Wellington Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Sara Arhaim	F	Wellington	s9(2)(a)	07/07/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Carla Bates Co-Chairperson</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Wellington</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Ross Browne	M	Lower Hutt		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Pamela (Pam) Crisp</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Lower Hutt</b>		<b>16/08/2023</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Sally Lee	M	Fielding		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Nicole McCrossin</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Wellington</b>		<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Anahera Nin	F	Wellington		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Ashley Webby	F	Masterton		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Asher Wilson - Goldman Co-Chairperson</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Paraparaumu</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Chatham Islands Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Robin (Rob) Chappell	M	Coromandel	s9(2)(a)	16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Peter de Lange Chairperson	M	Auckland		01/07/2018	30/06/2027
Levi Lenauze	M	Chatham Island		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Eileen Moffat	F	Chatham Island		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Greer Patterson	F	Chatham Island		01//07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Denis (Denny) Prendeville</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Chatham Island</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Natasha Sweeney</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Chatham Island</b>		<b>01/07/2024</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board - Conservation***

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Serean Adams	F	Nelson	s9(2)(a)	16/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Scott Burnette</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Nelson</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Nicky Eade	F	Picton		01/07/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Lorraine Hawke</b> <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	<b>F</b>	<b>Kaikoura</b>		<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Clinton (Clint) McConchie <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	M	Kaikoura		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
<b>Brian McGurk</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Nelson</b>		<b>16/08/2023</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Bill O'Leary	M	Nelson		01/07/2024	30/06/2027

Rima Piggott	F	Motueka	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2017	30/06/2025
Jennifer (Jen) Skilton	F	Nelson		16/08/2023	30/06/2027
Hon Nicky Wagner	F	Nelson		01/07/2024	30/06/2026
Aneika Young Chairperson	F	Nelson		01/07/2018	30/06/2027



# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Veronica Baldwin	F	Christchurch	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2019	30/06/2027
Ashely Cassin	F	Hokitika		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Danual (Dan) Cattermoul	M	Greymouth		01/07/2022	30/06/2027
Michael (Mike) Legge Chairperson	M	Westport		01/07/2021	30/06/2026
<b>Lucretia Maitland</b>		<b>Hokitika</b>		<b>01/07/2024</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Katrina (Katie) Milne	F	Kumara		07/07/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Lisa Steenhauer</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Westport</b>		<b>01/07/2021</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>John Taylor</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Reefton</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Francois Tumahai <i>Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu nominee</i>	M	Hokitika		01/07/2024	30/06/2027

Barry Wards	M	Wellington	s9(2)(a)	016/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Rob Wilson</b> <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	<b>M</b>	<b>Harihari</b>		<b>01/07/2021</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Courtney Bennett	F	Christchurch	s9(2)(a)	01/07/2022	30/06/2025
Robert Brears	M	Christchurch		16/08/2023	30/06/2025
Rachael Evans	F	Christchurch		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Joseph Hullen <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	M	Kaiapoi		01/09/2007	30/06/2025
Philip Hulme	M	Christchurch		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
Michael McMillan <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i> Chairperson	M	Temuka		07/07/2020	30/06/2026
Paul Milligan	M	Christchurch		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Jana Newman	F	Christchurch		01/07/2024	30/06/2027

<b>Rachel Robilliard</b> <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	<b>F</b>	<b>Southbrook</b>	s9(2)(a)	<b>01/07/2019</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Sarah Severinsen <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	<b>F</b>	Christchurch		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Richard Suggate</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Diamond Harbour</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Brendan Winder	<b>M</b>	Christchurch		16/08/2023	30/06/2026

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Otago Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Barbara Anderson	F	Dunedin	s9(2)(a)	16/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Carl Barlev</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Dunedin</b>		<b>01/07/2024</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Tumai Cassidy <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	M	Dunedin		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Rachael Cooper Co-Chairperson	F	Wanaka		16/08/2023	30/06/2027
Mark Eliote	M	Wanaka		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
Dean Fraser <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i> Co-Chairperson	M	Dunedin		07/07/2020	30/06/2024
<b>Anna Gillooly</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Dunedin</b>		<b>16/08/2023</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Graham Hall	M	Dunedin		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Neil Harraway</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Dunedin</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Finley Ross	M	Hawea		16/08/2023	30/06/2026

Vacancy					
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# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Southland Conservation Board - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Conservation boards have functions and powers under several Acts, primarily the Conservation Act 1987 as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, and the National Parks Act 1980. The Board is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Joanne (Jo) Bagrie	F	Mataura	s9(2)(a)	16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Mark Bryan	M	Winton		01/07/2021	30/06/2027
<b>Stewart Bull</b> <i>Nominee of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	<b>M</b>	<b>Invercargill</b>		<b>01/07/2017</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Roger Hodson	M	Invercargill		01/07/2024	30/06/2027
<b>Alexandra (Alex) McCrossin</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Queenstown</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Jennifer (Jen) McGirr</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Queenstown</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Keith McRobbie	M	Gore		16/08/2023	30/06/2026
Sharon Salmons	F	Stewart Island		01/07/2024	30/06/2026

<b>Shona Sangster</b> Chairperson	<b>F</b>	<b>Stewart Island</b>	s9(2)(a)	<b>01/07/2018</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Vacancy</b>					
<b>Vacancy</b> <i>Nominee of Te</i> <i>Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>					



# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve Board – Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve Board is appointed under section 30 of the Reserves Act 1977 for five-year terms to manage both the Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve and Kaka Point Historic Reserve, close to the Abel Tasman National Park.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Maria Fillary	F	Mapua	s9(2)(a)	February 2015	05/03/2025
Roy Grose (ex officio)	M	Nelson		June 2016	05/03/2025
Christopher Hawkes Chairperson	M	Nelson		2010	05/03/2025
Lee-Anne Jago	F	Kaiteriteri		06/03/2020	05/03/2025
Tim King	M	Richmond		2005	05/03/2025
Renee Thomas	F	Richmond		06/03/2020	05/03/2025
Aneika Young	F	Nelson		06/03/2020	05/03/2025

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

### *Nature Heritage Fund Committee - Conservation*

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The Nature Heritage Fund was established in 1990 as a Ministerial Committee under section 56 of the Conservation Act 1987, to help achieve the objective of the Indigenous Forest Policy. It seeks to protect through acquisition or agreement remaining natural indigenous eco-systems of high ecological value for preservation of biodiversity in indigenous flora and fauna, to safeguard their heritage value and ensure that nature conservation on private land is an integral part of sustainable lands ethics.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
David Barnes	M	Lower Hutt	s9(2)(a)	21/07/2023	31/05/2026
<b>Aroha Te Pareake Mead</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Wellington</b>		<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
<b>Susan (Sue) Rickman</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Turangi</b>		<b>13/07/2017</b>	<b>31/05/2025</b>
<b>Gina Solomon</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Kaikoura</b>		<b>13/07/2017</b>	<b>31/05/2025</b>
John Whitehead	M	Te Anau		21/07/2023	31/05/2026

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

### *New Zealand Conservation Authority – Conservation*

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority) is established under section 6A of the Conservation Act 1987. It is closely involved in conservation planning and policy development affecting the management of public conservation lands administered by the Department of Conservation. The functions of the Authority are set out in the Conservation Act 1987, the National Parks Act 1980, the Crown Minerals Act 1991, the Wildlife Act 1953, the Marine Reserves Act 1951, the Reserves Act 1977, the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978, the New Zealand Walkways Act 1990, the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, and the Forests (West Coast Accord) Act 2000.

The functions it exercises most frequently are the consideration and approval of strategic planning documents for the Department of Conservation viz. conservation management strategies and national park management plans, proposed changes to the designation of lands, and the consideration of conservation issues of national importance.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
<b>Tāne Davis</b> <i>Nominated by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</i>	M	Invercargill	s9(2)(a)	07/10/2018	30/06/2025
<b>Greg Duley</b> <i>Public nomination</i>	M	Canterbury		01/07/2022	30/06/2025
Edward Ellison <i>Public nomination</i>	M	Dunedin		01/01/2019	30/06/2026
<b>Sally Gepp</b> <i>Recommended by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of NZ</i>	F	Nelson		07/08/2020	30/06/2025

Ina Kara-France <i>In consultation with the Minister for Māori Development</i>	F	Auckland	s9(2)(a)	04/08/2023	30/06/2026
Michael (Mick) Abbott <i>Recommended by Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ</i>	M	Waitati		31/05/2024	30/06/2026
Aroha Te Pareake Mead <i>In consultation with the Minister of Tourism</i>	F	Wellington		01/07/2022	30/06/2026
<b>Takura (Tak) Mutu</b> <i>In consultation with the Minister of Tourism</i>	<b>M</b>	<b>Rotorua</b>		<b>25/04/2021</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Wendy Nelson <i>Recommended by the Royal Society of NZ</i>	F	Wellington		07/08/2020	30/06/2026
<b>Marjorie (Jill) Pettis</b> <i>In consultation with the Minister of Local Government</i>	<b>F</b>	<b>Martinborough</b>		<b>04/08/2023</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Shadrach Rolleston <i>Public nomination</i>	M	Tauranga		04/08/2023	30/06/2026
<b>Metiria Stanton Turei</b> <i>Public nomination</i>	<b>F</b>	<b>Dunedin</b>		<b>01/07/2022</b>	<b>30/06/2025</b>
Puna Wano-Bryant <i>In consultation with the Minister for Māori Development</i>	F	Waitara		31/05/2024	30/06/2026

## APH Organisation Form

### Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Ngā Whenua Rāhui Komiti - Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The Ngā Whenua Rāhui Komiti was established in 1991 as a Ministerial Committee under Section 56 of the Conservation Act 1987 to help achieve the Indigenous Forest Policy. The Ngā Whenua Rāhui Fund seeks to formally protect indigenous ecosystems on Māori owned land, with special emphasis to recognise the cultural and spiritual values that Māori associate to their lands. The Ngā Whenua Rāhui Komiti is serviced by the Department of Conservation.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Mere George	F	Rotorua	s9(2)(a)	22/12/2021	30/06/2025
Mavis Mullins	F	Dannevirke		03/09/2008	30/06/2026
John Paki	M	Wellington		01/07/2014	30/06/2024
Tyronne Smith	M	Turangi		01/01/2023	30/06/2026
Dr Janis Walker	F	Russell		22/12/2021	30/06/2025
Martin Wikaira	M	Wellington		01/01/2023	30/06/2026

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Predator Free 2050 Ltd – Conservation***

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Predator Free 2050 Limited (**the Company**) was established on 1 November 2016 as a Crown-owned charitable company listed in Schedule 4A of the Public Finance Act 1989. The purpose of the Company is to contribute to the Government's Predator Free 2050 programme for the eradication of possums, rats, and mustelids from New Zealand. The Company's work program is expected to be closely aligned to, and supportive of, the DOC-led Predator Free 2050 strategy.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Dr Bruce Campbell	M	Kerikeri	s9(2)(a)	12/11/2024	30/11/2027
<b>Denise Church</b> Chairperson	<b>F</b>	<b>Wellington</b>		<b>20/12/2022</b>	<b>30/11/2025</b>
Katie Milne	F	Kumara		13/03/2019	30/11/2027
<b>Estelle Pērā-Leask</b> (resigned)	<b>F</b>	<b>Bluff</b>		<b>13/03/2019</b>	<b>31/05/2025</b>
Michael (Mike) Slater	M	Hokitika		28/07/2023	31/05/2026

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust Board – Conservation***

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust Act 1977 established a trust to encourage and promote the provision, protection, and enhancement of open space for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of New Zealand.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Philip Hume <i>Having regard for the interests of conservation</i>	M	Christchurch	s9(2)(a)	06/08/2023	31/07/2026
<b>Alan Livingston</b> Chairperson <i>Having regard for the interests of rural landowners</i>	M	Hamilton		<b>31/07/2020</b>	<b>31/07/2025</b>
Richard McDowell	M	Lincoln		06/08/2023	31/07/2026
<b>Karen Schumacher</b> <i>Having regard for the interests of Māori</i>	F	Inglewood		<b>31/07/2020</b>	<b>31/07/2025</b>
Elected by membership of the Trust					
<b>Donna Field</b>	F	<b>Rakaia Gorge</b>	s9(2)(a)	<b>11/03/2016</b>	<b>10/03/2025</b>
<b>Graham Mourie</b>	M	<b>Paremata</b>		<b>11/03/2019</b>	<b>10/03/2025</b>

# APH Organisation Form

## Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

***Te Poari Whakahaere O Taupō-Nui-a-Tia  
Taupō-Nui-a-Tia Management Board – Conservation***

## Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

The Board is appointed in accordance with the 2007 Deed of Settlement to control the management of the beds of Taupō waters (i.e. the beds of Lake Taupō and certain tributaries including the Waikato river from the outlet of Lake Taupō to and including Huka Falls). The Board is to manage the beds as if they were a recreation reserve under section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977, and as if it were an administering body under the Reserves Act.

## Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Mike Britton	M	Wellington	s9(2)(a)	01/06/2017	30/06/2023
Chris Johnston	M	Taupō		01/06/2017	30/06/2023
Anna Park	F	Taupō		01/06/2017	30/06/2023
Paul White	M	Taupō		01/04/2019	30/06/2023

There are four other members on the Board, who are appointed by the Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board.



## APH Organisation Form

### Organisation and Responsible Portfolio

*Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī – Conservation*

### Brief Outline of the Functions and Responsibilities of the Organisation

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is established under Subpart 1 of Part 3 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kahui Tupua 2024 / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2024. The purpose of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī is to be the human face and voice of Te Kāhui Tupua. Its functions are to act and speak for and on behalf of Te Kāhui Tapua, and to perform functions in relation to Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki in accordance with this Act, Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo, and the National Parks Act 1980.

### Current Membership

Name	Gender Identity*	Region	Ethnicities (and Iwi if applicable)	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term
Vacancy					
Vacancy					
Vacancy					
Vacancy					

The Minister of Conservation is responsible for appointing four members of the Board. There are a further four members of the board appointed by the Trustees.

## Briefing: Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 delegations

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	24 January 2025
<b>Action sought</b>	Agree to, and sign, the attached Instrument of Delegation	<b>Priority</b>	High
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0009	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7861029
<b>Security Level</b>	<b>In Confidence</b>		

<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Low If not signed, the risk of you and the Director-General failing to deliver within statutory timeframes is high.	<b>Timeframe</b>	4 February 2025 Delegations must be in place before 7 February 2025, which is when applications under this Act may be lodged. If the delegations are not in place by then, decisions will need to be made by you or the Director-General.
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – Instrument of Delegation		

<b>Contacts</b>	
<b>Name and position</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Jonty Somers, Chief Legal Adviser	s9(2)(a)
Rosemary Broad, Solicitor	s9(2)(a)

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopoto ā kaiwhakahaere

1. The Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 was enacted to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. You and the Director-General of Conservation have powers under this Act.
2. Creating delegations for some of these powers is essential for DOC to be able to deliver its role in the fast-track approvals process.
3. The particulars of the proposed delegations and the rationale for them are set out below.

## We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	<b>Agree</b> to the proposed delegations under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.	Yes / No
b)	<b>Sign</b> the attached Instrument of Delegation.	Yes / No



Date: 24/01/2025

Ruth Isaac  
Deputy Director-General  
Policy and Regulatory Services

Date: / /

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

## Purpose – Te aronga

1. This briefing seeks your agreement to the creation of delegations of powers under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). This is a key step for DOC to be able to deliver the fast-track approvals process.

## Background and context – Te horopaki

2. The Act came into force on 23 December 2024. Under the Act, you have powers to provide written comments on referral applications, give effect to land exchanges, give effect to the amendment and revocation of covenants, and more. The Director-General has powers to provide written comments on applications, provide reports to the panel, and more.
3. There are no delegations for these functions. Therefore, any decisions under the Act currently need approval from either you or the Director-General, depending on the relevant power.
4. Attachment A contains the proposed Instrument of Delegation, detailing the sections where you or the Director-General have powers, and which of these powers we recommend are delegated.
5. The proposed levels of delegation are similar to existing DOC delegations for other similar legislation (e.g. the Resource Management Act 1991, the Covid-19 Recovery

Fast-track Consenting Act 2020, the Crown Minerals Act 1991), to the extent that equivalent powers exist.

6. We do not propose the delegation of all powers under this Act. For example, your powers to call in decisions that may impose significant risks on the Crown, and your power to make decisions where a panel has chosen to transfer that decision to you, are not proposed to be delegated.

### **Recommended delegations**

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7. The powers we recommend being delegated which originate with you are:
  - Providing written comments where invited on referral applications.
  - Deciding if conditions imposed on a land exchange are complied with.
  - Notifying land exchanges in the Gazette, and doing anything necessary to effect a land exchange, if preconditions are met.
  - Giving effect to amendments to or revocation of conservation covenants.
  - Giving effect to access arrangements on public conservation land.
8. The powers we recommend being delegated which originate with the Director-General include:
  - Providing written comments where invited.
  - Being consulted with and being notified by various parties.
  - Preparing reports on the use of public conservation land, land exchanges, and where required or requested under section 51.
  - Inviting written comments and running the land exchange application process.
  - Providing further information where requested by the panel convener.
  - Providing comments on draft conditions.
9. We generally recommend delegating powers to manager level due to the short timeframes under the Act, which make operational efficiency essential. Relevant timeframes include 15 working days to determine whether an application is complete, 10 working days to comment on an application, and 30 working days to give effect to a land exchange or amendment of conservation covenant if preconditions are met.
10. The specific powers we propose to be delegated are set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation.

### **Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru**

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11. We consider the risks of these delegations are low. There is an inherent risk regarding inconsistencies in decision-making with delegated power. This risk is managed by the existing mechanisms in the delegations, such as guidance in the Preamble which applies to all delegations. This guidance ensures that controversial decisions are escalated to a higher level of authority, if the delegate thinks they should be escalated.
12. The risks of not having delegations in place is high. If staff cannot demonstrate the legal authority to make a decision on behalf of you or the Director-General, that decision is vulnerable to judicial review. Also, the timeframes set out under the Act are unlikely to be met if decision-making is not delegated.

### **Consultation – Kōrero whakawhiti**

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13. No consultation has been undertaken as it has not been considered necessary given the administrative nature of the subject matter in this briefing.

### **Financial implications – Te hīraunga pūtea**

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14. Some of these delegated powers relate to cost recovery (through the Environmental Protection Agency, or from the applicant directly). These delegations are important to ensure DOC can recover for actual and reasonable costs incurred in the fast-track approvals process.

### **Legal implications – Te hīraunga a ture**

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15. DOC's legal team assisted in the preparation of this briefing and the Instrument.
16. If delegations are not in place, it will be difficult or impossible for DOC to comply with the statutory timeframes in this Act, and undesirable legal consequences may flow from that.

### **Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

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17. If you and the Director-General approve and sign the attached Instrument of Delegation, the delegations will be published on the DOC intranet to be available for all staff to reference.

**ENDS**

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Attachment A

**Instrument of Delegation**  
**for the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024**

PURSUANT to section 57 of the Conservation Act 1987 I, TAMA POTAKA, Minister of Conservation, HEREBY AMEND the Preamble to Instruments of Delegation dated 1 September 2023 and FURTHER DELEGATE to PENNY NELSON, the Director-General of Conservation, such of my powers, functions and duties under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 as specified in the Schedule to this Instrument.

I AUTHORISE the Director-General of Conservation to SUB-DELEGATE those powers, functions and duties to the holders for the time being of the positions specified in the Schedule to this Instrument.

The exercise of the powers, functions and duties is SUBJECT to the provisions of the Preamble to the Instruments of Delegation dated 1 September 2023 and any special conditions specified in the Schedule to this Instrument.

<u>SIGNED</u> at Wellington	)	
by <u>HONOURABLE</u>	)	
<u>TAMA POTAKA</u>	)	_____
Minister of Conservation on	)	HON TAMA POTAKA
.....)		

PURSUANT to section 58 of the Conservation Act 1987 and Schedule 6 clause 2 of the Public Service Act 2020 I, PENNY NELSON, Director-General of Conservation, HEREBY DELEGATE and SUB-DELEGATE those powers, functions and duties specified in the Schedule to this Instrument to the holders of the positions set out therein, and subject to the same conditions as are set by the Minister in this Instrument.

<u>SIGNED</u> at Wellington	)	
by <u>PENNY NELSON</u>	)	_____
Director-General of Conservation on	)	PENNY NELSON
.....)		

## Definitions:

D means Director-General

DDG means any Deputy Director-General

DRS means Director Regulatory Systems Performance, Director Regulatory Authorisations, and Director Treaty Negotiations and Land

DO means Director Operations

PRDM means Permissions Regulatory Delivery Manager

FTAM means Fast-track Applications Manager

MPRS means any Manager in Policy and Regulatory Services where such a decision is within the scope of their role description

M means Minister of Conservation

OM means Operations Manager

The column marked 'X' indicates the source of the power, either M for the Minister, or D for the Director-General.

The column marked 'O' will be updated with the version number of the delegation once it is in place.

SECTION	SUMMARY OF POWERS	LIMITATION OF POWERS	O	X	DELEGATION
11	Be consulted by the applicant before they lodge a referral application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
17	Provide written comments where Minister for Infrastructure has invited them on a referral application.			M	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
17	Provide written comments where Minister for Infrastructure has invited them on a referral application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
18(3)	Be consulted on preparation of report on Treaty settlements and other obligations by the responsible agency.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
19(3)	Prepare a report in relation to use of public conservation land, in consultation with every owner, administrator, or manager of the land who is not the Crown.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
20	Provide information requested by the Minister for			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS

SECTION	SUMMARY OF POWERS	LIMITATION OF POWERS	O	X	DELEGATION
	Infrastructure on a referral application.				
28	Receive notice of Minister of Infrastructure's decision to refer a project.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
29	Be consulted by the authorised person for the project before a substantive application is lodged.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
33	Receive land exchange application from applicant and give written notice of receipt to the panel convener.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
34(1)	Decide whether a land exchange application is complete and within scope.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
34(3)	Return the land exchange application information to the applicant if s 34(2) is not met.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
35(1)	Invite written comments on the proposed land exchange.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
35(3)	Provide a report on land exchange to the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 6 clause 26.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
35(5)	Invite written comments on the draft land exchange report.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
35(7)	Be consulted by panel convener regarding time frame for land exchange report.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
36	Receive notice of withdrawal of land exchange application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
38(4)	Receive notice of determination that a project is a priority project.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
39(4)	Be notified if an activity is determined to not be an ineligible activity.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
45(1)	Receive notice of withdrawal of substantive application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
46(1)	Be consulted by EPA regarding completeness of substantive application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS



SECTION	SUMMARY OF POWERS	LIMITATION OF POWERS	O	X	DELEGATION
47(1)	Be consulted by EPA regarding whether there are competing applications for substantive application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
51(1)(a)	Provide advice on substantive application following request from EPA.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
51(1)(b)	Provide report on specified approval in accordance with s 51(2) following request from EPA.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
53(2)(k)	Provide written comments on a substantive application to a Panel.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
53(3)	Invite comments from any person considered appropriate, in respect of proposed land exchange applications.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
55	Forward copies of comments received in respect of proposed land exchange to the applicant.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
57	Appear, be heard, be represented, and call evidence at hearing.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
61(1), 62(3), 64(4), 65(4), 66	Be notified of the suspension of processing, resumption of processing, and/or return of a substantive application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
67(2)	Provide, or decline to provide, further information requested under s 67(1).			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
68(2)	Provide advice to the Panel if requested under s 68(2)(a).			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
70(1)	Provide comments on draft conditions to a panel before panel grants an approval under s 81.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
76(5)	Provide further information or advice to the Minister of Conservation, if requested, if decision is called in by or transferred to, Minister of Conservation.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
79	Be consulted on the time frame to be set by the panel convener for a panel decision.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS

SECTION	SUMMARY OF POWERS	LIMITATION OF POWERS	O	X	DELEGATION
86	Be satisfied that conditions imposed on a land exchange under clause 31 of Schedule 6 are complied with.			M	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
88	Be served with a decision document for the substantive application.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
90(3)	Provide information requested to the EPA under s 90.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
91	Discuss with iwi or hapū how information may be disclosed under s 90.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
99	Appeal to High Court and Supreme Court, on a question of law, where comments have been provided by the Director-General.	Must be referred to DOC Legal Services to seek Solicitor-General approval.		D	DDG
100(3)	Serve a notice of appeal.	Must be referred to DOC Legal Services for advice.		D	DDG, DRS
100(6)	Notice of intention to appear.	Must be referred to DOC Legal Services for advice.		D	DDG, DRS
104 (Cost recovery)	May request EPA to recover costs recoverable under s 104.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
Sch 3 cl 13	Provide comments on resource consent applications through s 53(2)(m)(i).			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
Sch 6 cl 21	Ensure compensation in relation to a concession granted is applied to land administered by the Department of Conservation with the objective of achieving positive effects.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
Sch 6 cl 34	Notify land exchange in Gazette, and do anything necessary to effect the exchange, if preconditions met.			M	DDG, DRS, PRDM, DO, OM, FTAM, MPRS

SECTION	SUMMARY OF POWERS	LIMITATION OF POWERS	O	X	DELEGATION
Sch 6 cl 47	Give effect to amendment or revocation of covenant.			M	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, DO, OM, MPRS
Sch 7 cl 7(2)	Vary or replace a wildlife approval on application by the holder of the approval.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
Sch 7 cl 7(4)	Revoke a wildlife approval.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
Sch 11 cl 5 (or reflect this at 53(2)(m)(vi))	Provide written comments on applications for access arrangements.			D	DDG, DRS, PRDM, FTAM, MPRS
Sch 11 cl 11	Give effect to access arrangements on public conservation land.			M	DDG, DRS, PRDM, DO, OM, FTAM, MPRS



## Briefing: New Zealand Conservation Authority appointments 2025 – statutory vacancies

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	24 January 2025
<b>Action sought</b>	Sign the attached letters seeking recommendations for appointment to statutory vacancies on the New Zealand Conservation Authority.	<b>Priority</b>	Normal
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0015	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7853120
<b>Security Level</b>	In Confidence		
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Low Delays in making appointments could impact the effectiveness of the Authority.	<b>Timeframe</b>	7 February 2025
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – Letters for signing		
<b>Contacts</b>			
<b>Name and position</b>			<b>Phone</b>
Rick McGovern-Wilson, Manager Statutory Appointments			s9(2)(a)

### Executive summary – Whakarāpopoto ā kaiwhakahaere

1. The New Zealand Conservation Authority has six upcoming vacancies in 2025; four of these are statutory positions.
2. For the four statutory positions, you are required to consult with the following: Minister for Tourism, Minister of Local Government, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, and the Royal Society of Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand.
3. This briefing provides letters for you to sign, which will begin the consultation process.

### We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	<b>Sign</b> the attached letters seeking recommendations for appointment to statutory vacancies on the New Zealand Conservation Authority.	Yes / No



Date: 23/01/2025

Kelley Reeve  
Director Governance and Government  
Services

Date: / /

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

## Purpose – Te aronga

1. This briefing seeks your signature on the consultation letters to the Minister for Tourism, Minister of Local Government, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, and the Royal Society of Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (**Forest and Bird**). The letters seek recommendations for an appointment to the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the **Authority**).

## Background and context – Te horopaki

2. The Authority is established under section 6A of the Conservation Act 1987 (Act). Its main function is to advise you and the Director-General of Conservation on conservation matters of national importance and approving statutory conservation management strategies.
3. The Authority has 13 members appointed by you in accordance with section 6D of the Act. This year, there are six vacancies; four of these are statutory positions, and the remaining two are public positions.
4. Consultation is required for the four statutory vacancies, as per section 6D(1) of the Act.
  - 1 person appointed after consultation with the Minister of Tourism
  - 1 person appointed after consultation with the Minister of Local Government
  - 1 person nominated by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu
  - 1 person appointed on the recommendation of Forest and Bird
5. Letters are included in Attachment A to begin this consultation process.

## Membership

6. The table below shows the current membership of the Authority, the members with terms expiring in 2025 are highlighted in bold.

Name	Nominating agency	Term expiry
Mick Abbott	Federated Mountains Club of New Zealand	30 June 2026
Edward Ellison	Public nominee	30 June 2026
<b>Tāne Davis</b>	<b>Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</b>	<b>30 June 2025</b>
<b>Greg Duley</b>	<b>Public nominee</b>	<b>30 June 2025</b>
<b>Sally Gepp</b>	<b>Forest and Bird</b>	<b>30 June 2025</b>
Ina Kara-France	Minister for Māori Development	30 June 2026
Aroha Mead	Minister of Tourism	30 June 2026
<b>Tak Mutu</b>	<b>Minister of Tourism</b>	<b>30 June 2025</b>
Wendy Nelson	Royal Society of New Zealand	30 June 2026
<b>Jill Pettis</b>	<b>Minister of Local Government</b>	<b>30 June 2025</b>

Shad Rolleston	Public nominee	30 June 2026
<b>Metiria Stanton Turei</b>	<b>Public nominee</b>	<b>30 June 2025</b>
Puna Wano-Bryant	Minister for Māori Development	30 June 2026

7. A public nomination process for the two vacancies arising from public nominees will commence on 12 February 2025.

### **Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru**

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8. There is low risk in carrying out this process, however delays in making these appointments could hinder the effectiveness of the Authority.

### **Treaty principles (section 4) – Ngā mātāpono Tiriti (section 4)**

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9. Section 6D(1)(ca) of the Act provides for one person to be appointed on the nomination of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

### **Consultation – Kōrero whakawhiti**

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10. Letters to the Minister for Tourism, Minister of Local Government, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, and Forest and Bird are included in Attachment A. Signing these letters will satisfy the consultation requirements in section 6D(1) of the Act.

### **Financial implications – Te hiraunga pūtea**

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11. Fees for Authority members and expenses are paid from Vote Conservation and set in accordance with the Cabinet Fees Framework. The fees are currently \$450 per day for members, and \$700 per day for the Chair.

### **Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

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12. Your office will organise for the signed letters to be processed.
13. Once a list of recommended appointments has been received for each position, the Department may further refine the recommendations into a shortlist for your consideration.

**ENDS**

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4 February 2025

Ref: 25-B-0015

Justin Tipa  
Kaiwhakahaere  
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu  
[kaiwhakahaere@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:kaiwhakahaere@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

Tēnā koe Mr Tipa

## **NZ Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa appointments**

The New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa (Authority) is a statutory body which provides strategic advice to me and the Director-General of Conservation, and approves statutory management strategies and plans which guide the management of public conservation land and waters by the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai.

One member is appointed on the nomination of Te Rūnanga of Ngāi Tahu, in accordance with section 6D(1)(ca) of the Conservation Act 1987. Tāne Davis was appointed on nomination by Ngāi Tahu in October 2018, re-appointed in August 2020, and again in 2023. Tāne's third term expires on 30 June 2025.

I am writing to seek your nomination for appointment to this upcoming vacancy, for a term beginning 1 July 2025 and expiring on 30 June 2028. A response by 14 March 2025 would be most appreciated, in order for me to make timely appointments.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mauriora

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**





4 February 2025

Ref: 25-B-0015

Nicola Toki  
Chief Executive  
Forest & Bird Te Reo o Te Taiao  
[n.toki@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:n.toki@forestandbird.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Ms Toki

## **NZ Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa appointments**

The New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa (Authority) is a statutory body which provides strategic advice to me and the Director-General of Conservation, and approves statutory management strategies and plans which guide the management of public conservation land and waters by the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai.

One member is appointed on the recommendation of Forest & Bird Te Reo o Te Taiao, in accordance with section 6D(1)(e) of the Conservation Act 1987. Sally Gepp was appointed in August 2020, and re-appointed in 2023. Sally's second term expires on 30 June 2025, and is eligible for re-appointment.

I am writing to seek your nomination for appointment to this upcoming vacancy, for a term beginning 1 July 2023 and expiring on 30 June 2028. A response by 14 March 2025 would be most appreciated, in order for me to make timely appointments.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mauriora

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Tama Potaka'.

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**



4 February 2025

Ref: 25-B-0015

Hon Simon Watts  
Minister of Local Government  
Parliament Buildings

Tēnā koe Simon

## **NZ Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa appointments**

The New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa (Authority) is a statutory body which provides strategic advice to me and the Director-General of Conservation, and approves statutory management strategies and plans which guide the management of public conservation land and waters by the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai.

Before I make appointments to the Authority, I consult with you as the Minister of Local Government on one of those appointments, in accordance with section 6D(1)(c) of the Conservation Act 1987. Jill Pettis was appointed to this position in August 2023, Jill's term expires 30 June 2025, and is eligible for re-appointment.

I am writing to seek your recommendations for appointment to this upcoming vacancy, for a term beginning 30 June 2025 and expiring on 30 June 2028.

A response by 14 March 2025 would be most appreciated, in order for me to make timely appointments.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mauriora

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Tama Potaka'.

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**



4 February 2025

Ref: 25-B-0015

Hon Louise Upston  
Minister for Tourism and Hospitality  
Parliament Buildings

Tēnā koe Louise

## **NZ Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa appointments**

The New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao o Aotearoa (Authority) is a statutory body which provides strategic advice to me and the Director-General of Conservation, and approves statutory management strategies and plans which guide the management of public conservation land and waters by the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai.

Before I make appointments to the Authority, I consult with you as the Minister of Local Government on one of those appointments, in accordance with section 6D(1)(b) of the Conservation Act 1987. Takurua Mutu was appointed to this position in April 2021, and re-appointed in 2023. Tak's second term expires 30 June 2025, and is eligible for re-appointment.

I am writing to seek your recommendations for appointment to this upcoming vacancy, for a term beginning 30 June 2025 and expiring on 30 June 2028.

A response by 14 March 2025 would be most appreciated, in order for me to make timely appointments.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mauriora

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Tama Potaka'.

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**



## Briefing: Vote Conservation 2025 March Baseline Update

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	17 February 2025
<b>Action sought</b>	Approve, sign and forward <b>one soft copy</b> of the letter and attachments to the Minister of Finance (hard copies are no longer required).	<b>Priority</b>	Normal
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0004	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7878327
<b>Security Level</b>	In Confidence		

<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Low	<b>Timeframe</b>	1pm on Monday 24 February 2025
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – draft letter from Minister of Conservation to Minister of Finance Attachment B – Table 2: Baseline Changes Report for the 2025 March Baseline Update		

Contacts	
Name and position	Phone
Jan Tait, National Management Accounting Manager	s9(2)(a)
Nick Mayo, Chief Financial Officer	s9(2)(a)
Mike Tully, Deputy Director-General, Organisation Support	s9(2)(a)

## Executive summary – Whakarāpopoto ā kaiwhakahaere

1. This briefing seeks your approval for technical changes to Vote Conservation appropriations in the 2025 March Baseline Update (MBU). These changes require joint Ministerial agreement between yourself as the Appropriation Minister (Minister of Conservation) and the Minister of Finance.
2. There are two baseline updates during the fiscal year – in March and in October. The MBU is a technical update allowing agencies to update baselines to reflect Cabinet and joint Ministerial decisions that have taken place since the 2024 October Baseline Update (OBU) and other technical adjustments to appropriations.<sup>1</sup>
3. This briefing provides a summary of the changes outlined in Attachment A – a draft letter addressed to the Minister of Finance (the Letter).
4. DOC recommends that you approve the proposed technical changes and sign and forward a soft copy of Attachments A and B to the Minister of Finance by 1pm Monday 24 February 2025.
5. With advice from Treasury, the Minister of Finance will review the Letter and advise you of the outcome around Monday 17 March 2025.

### We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	<b>Approve, sign and forward</b> one soft copy of the letter (Attachment A and B) to the Minister of Finance	Yes / No



Date: 17/02/2025

Mike Tully  
Deputy Director-General, Organisation  
Support

For Director-General of Conservation

Date: / /

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

<sup>1</sup> As per Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 2: Proposals with Financial Implications and Financial Authorities.

## Purpose – Te aronga

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1. To seek your approval for technical changes to Vote Conservation appropriations in the 2025 March Baseline Update (MBU).
2. The accompanying letter (Attachments A and B, the Letter) seeking joint Ministerial approval of the technical changes is due with the Minister of Finance by 1pm Monday 24 February 2025.

## Background and context – Te horopaki

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3. Cabinet decisions on the Budget are realised through an Estimates and Appropriations (Estimates) Bill. Appropriations are the legal basis by which Parliament authorises government to incur expenses and capital expenditure.
4. Any changes that require Cabinet approval should be considered as part of the annual Budget process.
5. Some 'minor and technical' changes to baselines can be approved by joint agreement between the relevant appropriation Minister (in this case, you) and the Minister of Finance.
6. There are two baseline updates during the financial year – in March (MBU) and in October (OBU). This MBU process allows agencies to update baselines to reflect Cabinet and joint Ministerial decisions that have taken place since the 2024 OBU and other technical adjustments to appropriations, such as moving funds across financial years where this meets the strict Cabinet office rules.<sup>2</sup>
7. The rules simultaneously aim to ensure that fiscal management is transparent and accurate for Parliament and the public throughout each financial year, and not to reward poor financial management or decisions by departments. The adjustments made at baseline updates are either technical in nature or are the result of Cabinet decisions or factors outside of DOC's control and are not a reflection on DOC's performance.
8. Generally, a key area for scrutiny in baseline updates is the level of underspend each year, which the rules reflect can be the result of:
  - matters outside of a department's control (acceptable for transfers to future years, so long as the funding is still required);
  - internal problems such as poor delivery discipline or lack of capability (generally not acceptable under the rules for transfers to future years); or
  - 'overfunding' or structural problems in the way that services are funded through appropriations, particularly where the issues arise year-on-year (indicating a potential requirement to improve fiscal management or policy settings around the funding for those services, to address the underlying causes of the pattern).

## Contents of the Update

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9. The Vote Conservation 2025 March Baseline Update includes the following:

### ***Changes requiring approval of Joint Ministers***

#### Expense and capital transfers from 2024/25 to outyears – Departmental and Non-departmental

10. Operating expenses or capital expenditure may be:
  - departmental (incurred by a department like DOC); or

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<sup>2</sup> Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 2: Proposals with Financial Implications and Financial Authorities.

- non-departmental (incurred on behalf of the Crown, e.g., DOC funding a third party, like Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, to do conservation work).
11. As amounts in appropriations are approved for a particular financial year (unless it is a multi-year appropriation), any unspent funding at the end of that financial year is returned to the Crown.
  12. While we plan to spend funding within the approved financial year, for reasons outside of our control, expenditure on some programmes and projects can be delayed and needs to be spent in the following financial year (or outyears). Expense and capital transfers are needed to do this.
  13. In these cases, we recommend that you propose an expense or capital transfer in your letter to the Minister of Finance to enable DOC to spend allocated money in subsequent financial years. A summary of proposed expense and capital transfers is attached to this briefing (Annex A).
  14. Many proposed expense and capital transfers are 'Locked In', where the final amount of the proposed transfer is known.
  15. In other cases, where the final amount to be transferred is not known until the end of the financial year, we recommend you propose an 'In-principle' expense and capital transfer. The actual amount for transfer is then confirmed once known, usually as part of OBU.
  16. If the Minister of Finance does not agree to the proposed transfers, then the funding that is not spent in this financial year will be returned to the Crown as underspend and will no longer be available for Vote Conservation to spend.

#### Fiscally Neutral Adjustments

17. Fiscally neutral adjustments (FNAs) are used to transfer funding between appropriations and/or departmental capital within a single financial year. This is done in order to match spending accurately to appropriations, and to ensure that appropriations are not breached by overspending.
18. We recommend that you propose several FNAs, to:
  - reprioritise funding between departmental output expenses;
  - swap departmental IVL (operating) funding to departmental capital to fund the capital projects in the Cathedral Cove area and transfer a total sum of capital that covers ten years of the required operating expenses through a capital to operating swap to fund the ongoing annual maintenance and depreciation costs;<sup>3</sup>
  - additional swaps of departmental operating funding to departmental capital to fund the capital components of several new approved projects in 2024/25;
  - transfer of funding to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) to support works for the protection of a waka discovered in the Chatham Islands; and
  - transfer funding from departmental capital to non-departmental capital expenditure to enable work to continue on the Cleddau River flood protection project and the Hump Ridge Great Walk project.

#### Forecasting Adjustments

19. We recommend that you propose an increase in baseline funding for subscriptions to international organisations to accommodate rising fees and fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

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<sup>3</sup> In accordance with the requirements of Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 2, paragraph 35.



### Other Technical Changes

20. In some cases, technical adjustments are required for the compliance of accounting standards and often have no cash impact. For example, we recommend adjustments in appropriations to cover the anticipated increase in provision for bad and doubtful debts and impairments in the value of Public Conservation Land.
21. Technical adjustment can be made where changes do not impact the overall appropriation, for example we recommend adjusting the indicative spending profile of a multi-year appropriation (MYA) with the overall appropriation limit remain unchanged.
22. We also recommend that you approve additional technical changes, including to:
  - transfer funding from the departmental capital to departmental operating expenses in regard to Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) projects. This provides operating funding for Information Systems projects that up until 2022 were treated as capital expenditure but are now classified as operating expenditure, in accordance with a revised interpretation of the Intangible Assets accounting standard. A new approach is being explored to fund future SaaS operating expenses within the existing baseline, thereby avoiding future capital to operating swaps.
  - adjust appropriations to reflect the impact on capital charges arising from swaps between operating and capital expenditures proposed in this exercise.
  - shift unspent mining compensation revenue received in 2024/25 to 2025/26 (under the authorisation of CAB Min (14) 26/5).

### Other Matters that Require the Authority of the Minister of Finance

23. We recommend that you propose to establish a new non-departmental appropriation to cover potential impairment costs for the Metservice and Chateau buildings, which may be required following a revaluation in the current financial year, and seeking baseline funding for this appropriation.
24. We also recommend that you seek an approval for the exemption from end-of-year performance reporting for the following non-departmental appropriations:
  - Predator Free New Zealand (MYA) and its associated annual appropriation Predator Free 2050 Limited, under Section 15D(2)(a) and 15D(2)(b)(i) under the Public Finance Act.
  - Impairment of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment and Impairment of Public Conservation Land, under Section 15D(2)(a) and 15D(2)(b)(ii) under the Public Finance Act.

### Other Cabinet decisions

25. We have made appropriation changes as per the recent Cabinet approval (SOU-24-MIN-0138 refers), to recognise the impairment in value of Public Conservation Land as part of Treaty of Waitangi Settlements in relation to the Kororipo Pa Historic Reserve.
26. These appropriation changes can be found in Attachment A and B.

### **Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru**

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27. We have mitigated the risk of fiscal errors in the Letter with thorough internal quality assurance and a pre-review by the Treasury.

### **Consultation – Kōrero whakawhiti**

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28. The Treasury has been consulted on the content of the update (Attachment A and B) and will provide separate advice directly to the Minister of Finance.



### **Financial implications – Te hīraunga pūtea**

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29. If this update is approved by you and subsequently the Minister of Finance, DOC's baselines will be updated to reflect the changes summarised in CFISnet Table 2 (see Attachment B).

### **Legal implications – Te hīraunga a ture**

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30. There are no legal or legislative implications of this update.

### **Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

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31. To secure joint Ministerial agreement on the changes in the Letter, you are required to forward the Letter (Attachment A and B) to the Minister of Finance by 1pm on Monday 24 February 2025.
32. Outcomes will be confirmed via a response letter from the Minister of Finance around Monday 17 March 2025 and you are required to counter-sign the letter.
33. DOC can then process the approved budget changes.

**ENDS**

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## Annex A - Summary of Expense Transfer Requests

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
<b>Departmental Locked In Expense Transfer</b>				
Biodiversity Programmes	(645)	645		
Conservation Services Programme	(916)	916		
Dam Safety Programme	(1,126)	1,126		
Hump Ridge Great Walk Project	(120)	120		
Implementing Southeast Marine Protection	(1,012)	1,012		
Milford Opportunities Project	(700)	700		
Revitalising the Hauraki Gulf programme	(460)	460		
Taranaki Crossing project	(100)	100		
Treaty Settlement Implementation costs	(8,692)	1,612	7,080	
Waitangi Endowment forestry assets	(3,371)	3,371		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(17,142)</b>	<b>10,062</b>	<b>7,080</b>	
<b>Departmental In Principle Expense Transfer</b>				
Biodiversity Programmes	(400)	400		
Cape Brett lighthouse conservation	(250)	250		
Implementing Southeast Marine Protection	(368)	368		
IVL and IVL funded projects	(20,222)	20,222		
Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) programmes	(5,500)	5,500		
Trade in Endangered Species (TIES) Act	(1,100)	1,100		
Treaty Settlement Implementation costs	(100)	100		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(27,940)</b>	<b>27,940</b>		
<b>Non-departmental Locked In Expense Transfer</b>				
Community Conservation Funds	(12,750)	6,719	4,259	1,772
Loss on Disposal of Crown PPE	(2,172)	2,172		
Nature Heritage Fund (operating)	(6,031)	6,031		
Nature Heirtage Fund (capital)	(1,845)	1,845		
Pike River Memorial and Museum (capital)	(921)	921		
South Island Landless Natives Act (SILNA)	(4,495)	4,495		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(28,214)</b>	<b>22,183</b>	<b>4,259</b>	<b>1,772</b>
<b>Non-departmental In Principle Expense Transfer</b>				
Community Conservation Fund	(4,947)	4,947		
Hump Ridge Great Walk Project (capital)	(1,214)	1,214		
Loss on Disposal of Crown PPE	(6,109)	6,109		
Nature Heritage Fund (capital)	(1,696)	1,696		
Nature Heritage Fund (operating)	(100)	100		
Vesting of Reserves	(3,130)	3,130		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(17,196)</b>	<b>17,196</b>		



24 February 2025

Hon Nicola Willis  
Minister of Finance  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON

## 2025 March Baseline Update

### Submission for Vote Conservation

#### Introduction

This report covers those items affecting the baseline for appropriations in Vote Conservation for the 2025 March Baseline Update.

I confirm that none of the changes contained in this update require Cabinet decisions at this time.

The Table 2 referred to below is attached to this letter.

The proposed changes to baselines are as follows:

#### Changes Requiring Approval of Joint Ministers

##### Expense or Capital Transfers

These are proposals to transfer funding across financial years, within the same appropriation or departmental capital injection. They are for expenditure the Department anticipated incurring in 2024/25, but which was delayed until 2025/26, 2026/27, or 2027/28.

They include 'Locked In' and 'In-principle' transfers for departmental and/or non-departmental, operational and/or capital expenditure. Where Locked In transfer proposals seek transfer of finalised amounts, In-principle transfers are proposed where the final amount to be transferred cannot be confirmed until after this baseline update.

Delays necessitating these transfers are caused by factors outside the Department's control.<sup>1</sup> An explanation for each proposed transfer is listed below, and the amounts are specified in Table 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 2, paragraph 38.

## ***Departmental Expense Transfers from 2024/25 to 2025/26 – Locked In and In-principle***

*Conservation with the Community: Locked In \$8.692m and In-principle \$0.100m*

This expense transfer request is related to the implementation of several **Treaty of Waitangi settlements**, which have been delayed due to ongoing engagement and consultation with iwi and other parties. These delays occur as parties discuss the best methods for fulfilling obligations, including timeframes, milestones, costing models, and outputs, before any further work such as reprioritising resources and building capability for ongoing delivery of the agreed outputs can proceed. I propose transferring \$1.612m to 2025/26 and \$7.080m to 2026/27 from the 2024/25 financial year.

An In-principle transfer of \$0.100m is also proposed to address additional delays which may occur in the remainder of 2024/25 due to the same issues outlined above.

*Management of Historic Heritage: In-principle \$0.250m*

This Locked In transfer relates to the **Cape Brett Lighthouse Maintenance**, where the schedule for exterior repainting may be delayed into early 2025/26 financial year. The Department has been actively searching for suitable contractors; however, there is a limited pool of suppliers able to undertake this work in such a remote location. The tender review process is expected to be completed in mid-February, and there is a risk that suitable contractors may not be available to complete the work before the end of June 2025.

*Management of Natural Heritage: Locked In \$6.404m and In-principle \$12.967m*

Locked In transfer proposals are:

- \$3.371m related to the transfer of the **Waitangi Endowment forestry assets** to the Waitangi National Trust Board. This has been delayed while awaiting royal assent on enabling legislation, transfer of land titles, and finalising agreement with third parties. When finalised, the Department will require this funding to meet nondiscretionary obligations and give effect to Cabinet's decision (CAB (11) 1/7A refers).
- \$1.012m related to the **Implementing Southeast Marine Protection** programme. The planned implementation work has been extended into the next financial year due to the judicial proceedings initiated by the Otago Rock Lobster Industry Association (ORLIA), which sought to overturn decisions on the establishment of six marine reserves.
- \$0.916m related to the delivery of multiple projects under the **Conservation Services Programme** which is funded by conservation services levies collected via the Ministry for Primary Industries, under the Fisheries Act 1996. The initial contracting phase and project delivery timelines were set on an annual basis aligned with the fishing year (starting from 1 October), resulting in some milestones being pushed out and delayed to 2025/26.
- \$0.645m related to two **Biodiversity Programmes** aimed at developing new tools for pest animal control which have experienced delays. The delays in progress are due to consultation with stakeholders to avoid favoured hunting periods, waiting for critical data before conducting further social science research, the availability of iwi partners, suitable weather windows, and roll-out of third-party supplied technologies.

- \$0.460m related to the **Revitalising the Hauraki Gulf** project. The establishment of the new marine protected areas, along with the recruitment and equipping of necessary personnel, has been delayed due to the pending enactment of the Tikapa Moana Marine Protection Bill. This bill was expected to be passed in mid-2024 but has been delayed due to the change in Government.

In-principle transfer proposals are:

- \$11.099m related to qualifying projects funded from the International Visitor Levy (**IVL**). The funding is designated for projects that are often influenced by the unpredictable nature of weather conditions and the availability and ability of contractors to meet planned timelines, meaning the project delivery may be subject to delays. The in-principle transfer will enable the Department to accommodate any unforeseen delays in 2024/25.
- \$1.100m related to the proposed reform of the **Trade in Endangered Species (TIES) Act**. There has been a delay in the legislative reform due to changes in the Government's legislative priorities. The drafting of the Bill to replace the Act is nearly complete, but some scheduled work might be delayed into the 2025/26 year.
- \$0.400m related to the **Biodiversity Programmes** and \$0.368m related to the **Implementing Southeast Marine Protection** programme to address additional delays which may occur in the remainder of 2024/25 due to the same issues outlined above.

*Management of Recreational Opportunities: Locked In \$2.046m and In-principle \$9.123m*

Locked In transfer proposals are:

- \$1.126m related to the **Dam Safety Programme**. The original funding request at Budget 2022 included an estimated work schedule based on information available at that time. However, due to the introduction of new safety regulations (Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022) and MBIE's reassessment of thresholds in 2023, the Department is required to extend the actual work schedule and transfer funds to 2025/26 to work through the hydrological assessments and heritage assessments necessary for planning the work needed to bring the dams to a compliant standard.
- \$0.700m related to the **Milford Opportunities Project**. This has been delayed as the Department is awaiting a Cabinet decision on the future direction of the project, which has been postponed and is now expected in February-March 2025. Consequently, any further work to create and implement a programme of work will be delayed into the next financial year.
- \$0.120m related to the **Hump Ridge Great Walk Project**. This project has experienced delays due to protracted easement negotiation timelines and ongoing engagement with landowners, Māori Trustee and the Māori Land Court. The process is highly dependent on the availability of these parties and the timelines for processing the legal documents. The transferred funds will be used to fund easement fee payments and planned track maintenance in 2025/26.
- \$0.100m related to the **Taranaki Crossing project** funded through the Provincial Growth Fund. The scheduled maintenance has been further delayed to 2025/26

due to delays in capital works caused by the unavailability of contractors and materials, as well as adverse weather impacts.

An In-principle transfer of \$9.123m is also proposed, related to qualifying projects funded from the **IVL** appropriated in this category, as outlined above, there is a risk the projects may be delayed in this financial year.

*Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) programmes: In-principle \$5.500m*

There are several SaaS information technology projects currently in progress. Since the accounting treatment of implementation of SaaS changed in April 2021, these projects have been funded by departmental capital to operating swaps. Risks arise as the Department requests these swaps from departmental capital to fund the projects but might end up with underspends at yearend. This is because these projects often span multiple financial years, and scheduled work may be impacted by potential delays caused by third party delivery partners. In certain cases, the project contingency might not be required in the same year the swaps are made. To mitigate the risk of losing swapped funding due to unforeseen delays in 2024/25, an in-principle expense transfer is proposed.

***Non-Departmental Expense Transfers from 2024/25 to future years – Locked In and In-principle***

*Identification and Implementation of Protection for Natural and Historic Places MCA: Locked In \$10.526m (operating expenditure); \$1.845m (capital expenditure) and In-principle \$0.100m (operating expenditure); \$1.696m (capital expenditure)*

Locked In transfer proposals are:

- \$6.031m related to **Nature Heritage Fund** expenses, with a further transfer of \$1.845m in capital funding. These transfers relate to committed funds (such as land purchases, fencing and covenant costs) that will not be expended in the current financial year due to unanticipated delays including awaiting survey completion, delays in negotiations with third parties, unavailability of contractors, and seasonal timing, however will be required in 2025/26.
- \$4.495m for **South Island Landless Natives Act (SILNA)** to 2025/26. Delays are due to awaiting SILNA owners' agreement to offers made by the Department.

In-principle transfer proposals are:

- \$0.100m related to **Nature Heritage Fund** expenses, and a further transfer of \$1.696m in capital funding, as outlined above, to 2025/26.

*Community Conservation Funds: Locked In \$12.750m and In-principle \$4.947m*

These expense transfer requests reflect the lag that often occurs between committing to expenditure (approving a grant) and the disbursement of funds. Payments are approved and made upon the achievement of set milestones and the completion of projects, which occur over the calendar year. The proposed transfers relate to allocations that have been and will be contracted in the 2024/25 DOC Community Fund rounds but will not be disbursed until 2025/26. Additionally, they include funds committed through previous rounds that are being paid out over multiple years. Delays in disbursements also occur due to grant recipients' delay in meeting milestones, volunteer availability to set up and implement projects, and unfavourable weather events impacting seasonal planting and pest management cycles. Transferring the

funds into future years ensures the Department can make agreed disbursements when the contractual obligations are due.

It is proposed to transfer \$6.719m from 2024/25 to 2025/26, \$4.259m to 2026/27 and \$1.772m to 2027/28 as the Locked In transfer, and to transfer \$4.947m to 2025/26 as the In-principle transfer.

*Vesting of Reserves: In-principle \$3.130m*

This In-principle expense transfer specifically relates to the Carters Beach land and the Mount Iron scenic reserve and conservation areas, where the vesting process has been delayed due to extended legal and administrative procedures. These include consultation with iwi, pending legal challenges, final transfer of land title and publication in the New Zealand Gazette. The timing of each stage in the process may result in the vesting (and associated costs) being delayed until 2025/26.

*Hump Ridge Great Walk: In-principle \$1.214m (capital expenditure)*

The track work is nearing completion, however issues accessing the land over the past year has limited the type and amount of work that could be undertaken in some areas. Work has been further delayed on remote back country tracks where there is limited supplier availability. This delay may result in final delivery being pushed into 2025/26. The proposed In-principle transfer is intended to ensure the fulfilment of remaining contractual obligations.

*Loss on Disposal of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment: Locked In \$2.172m and In-principle \$6.109m*

The majority of the locked in transfer relates to the transfer of the Waitangi Endowment Forest (land) to the Waitangi National Trust Board and the non-departmental loss on disposal that the Department will incur (land asset write-off cost). This has been delayed due to waiting for royal assent on the enabling legislation, transfer of forestry and land to Waitangi Trust Board and agreements with third parties.

The In-principle expense transfer request of \$6.109m relates to the transfer of ownership of the Hump Ridge Great Walk upon its completion. The asset write-off cost was approved in the 2024 OBU process and appropriated for 2024/25. However, given the risk of project delays into the next year (as outlined above), this in-principle transfer is proposed to ensure sufficient appropriation to cover the write-off expense in the next financial year if delays occur.

*Pike River Memorial and Museum: Locked In \$0.921m (capital expenditure)*

Redevelopment of the Pike River Memorial site was expected to begin in 2023/24. However, due to necessary ongoing consultations with external stakeholders the memorial design plans are still being finalised. There have also been delays in the transition of assets from the Pike Recovery Agency to the Department. The Locked In transfer request from 2024/25 to 2025/26 reflects these delays.



## Fiscally Neutral Adjustments

An explanation of each proposed adjustment is listed below, and the amounts are specified in Table 2.

### *Transfers between departmental output expenses*

The Department continually reviews and reprioritises its work programme in order to deliver maximum conservation value for money and to respond to external factors. Output expenses have been adjusted to reflect updated work plans and forecast costings, based on current priorities. This also reflects the impact of changes to our new cost allocation methodology being adopted in 2024/25. Approval is required for a fiscally neutral adjustment (FNA) between output expenses categories and the Jobs for Nature MYA, as follows (as allowed under CO (18) 2 para 32.1):

Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29& Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure					
Services for Conservation MCA					
Departmental Output Expenses					
<u>Management of Natural Heritage</u>	<u>(20.463)</u>	<u>(18.463)</u>	<u>(18.463)</u>	<u>(18.463)</u>	<u>(18.463)</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	(16.458)	(14.458)	(14.458)	(14.458)	(14.458)
(funded by revenue Other)	(4.005)	(4.005)	(4.005)	(4.005)	(4.005)
<u>Management of Historic Heritage</u>	<u>1.311</u>	<u>1.311</u>	<u>1.311</u>	<u>1.311</u>	<u>1.311</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	1.311	1.311	1.311	1.311	1.311
<u>Management of Recreational Opportunities</u>	<u>17.592</u>	<u>17.592</u>	<u>17.592</u>	<u>17.592</u>	<u>17.592</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	13.092	13.092	13.092	13.092	13.092
(funded by revenue Other)	4.500	4.500	4.500	4.500	4.500
<u>Conservation with the Community</u>	<u>(0.177)</u>	<u>(0.177)</u>	<u>(0.177)</u>	<u>(0.177)</u>	<u>(0.177)</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	0.323	0.323	0.323	0.323	0.323
(funded by revenue Other)	(0.500)	(0.500)	(0.500)	(0.500)	(0.500)
<u>Crown Contribution to Regional Pest Management</u>	<u>0.025</u>	<u>0.025</u>	<u>0.025</u>	<u>0.025</u>	<u>0.025</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021
(funded by revenue Other)	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004
<u>Policy Advice</u>	<u>(0.149)</u>	<u>(0.149)</u>	<u>(0.149)</u>	<u>(0.149)</u>	<u>(0.149)</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	(0.149)	(0.149)	(0.149)	(0.149)	(0.149)
<u>Statutory Planning, Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies</u>	<u>(0.139)</u>	<u>(0.139)</u>	<u>(0.139)</u>	<u>(0.139)</u>	<u>(0.139)</u>
(funded by revenue Crown)	(0.140)	(0.140)	(0.140)	(0.140)	(0.140)
(funded by revenue Other)	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Jobs for Nature MYA					
(funded by revenue Crown)	2.000	-	-	-	-

### *Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove – IVL funding swaps*

Earlier this financial year, I approved the use of IVL funding to advance the work for the future of the Mautohe Cathedral Cove programme. During the planning phase, the Department identified that some initial design costs are directly attributable to several



assets being built in the area. This necessitates reclassifying a portion of the approved IVL funding from operating expenditure to capital funding, as well as securing ongoing operating funding for the incremental depreciation and maintenance costs related to these assets over the next ten years.

I therefore propose a fiscally neutral operating to capital swap to provide the capital funding for this project as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure Services for Conservation MCA Departmental Output Expense: Management of Recreational Opportunities (funded by revenue Crown)	(0.273)	-	-	-	-
Department of Conservation: Capital Injection	0.273	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>(0.273)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>0.273</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

I propose a fiscally neutral capital to operating swap to provide the ongoing operating funding for this project as follows (as allowed under CO (18) para 35):

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure Services for Conservation MCA Departmental Output Expense: Management of Recreational Opportunities (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Department of Conservation: Capital Withdrawal	(0.100)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>0.010</b>
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>(0.100)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The above proposed swaps do not require capital charge adjustments as an exemption from capital charge was granted for IVL funded capital projects by yourself in March 2024<sup>2</sup>.

#### ***Departmental other swaps (with no ongoing operating implications)***

Several new detailed business cases approved during the year include capital items required for the projects. These projects are funded through IVL (\$0.973m) and baseline funding approved in Budget 2022 (\$0.669m), which have been appropriated as departmental output expenses (operating expenditure).

<sup>2</sup> As per the response letter dated 25 March 2024, regarding the 2024 MBU submission for Vote Conservation.

To fund the capital expenditure component of these projects, I propose a net FNA for 2024/25, as follows:

<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>\$m – increase/(decrease)</b>				
	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure Services for Conservation MCA Departmental Output Expenses (funded by revenue Crown):					
Management of Natural Heritage	(0.669)	-	-	-	-
Management of Recreational Opportunities	(0.973)	-	-	-	-
Department of Conservation: Capital Injection	1.642	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>(1.642)</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>1.642</b>	-	-	-	-

As a result of the above non-IVL funded transfer (from operating to capital expenditure), a capital charge adjustment is also proposed later in this letter.

#### ***Waka found on Rēkohu Wharekaui Chatham Island – funding transfer to Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage***

In August 2024, the partial remains of a waka were found on public conservation land in the Chatham Islands. The Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) is leading a work programme to provide for its interim care, with support from DOC. This includes recovering exposed pieces and securing the site following retrieval. The size and complexity of the work exceed the capacity that MCH has in its appropriation for the care of taonga tūturu. Therefore, I agree and propose a fiscally neutral transfer of \$0.080m from DOC's departmental MCA into MCH's non-departmental *Protection of Taonga Tūturu* appropriation to support this work.

<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>\$m – increase/(decrease)</b>				
	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure Services for Conservation MCA Departmental Output Expense:					
Management of Historic Heritage (funded by revenue Crown)	(0.080)	-	-	-	-

#### ***Hump Ridge Great Walk capital expenditure***

The Department currently owns and manages the Southern Coast Track in Tuatapere, Southland. The Hump Ridge Great Walk project involves the Department renewing aspects of the track and then gifting it to the local Hump Ridge Trust. Additional capital funding is required in 2024/25 as the Department release payments to contractors for the construction of Track Section D of this project.

I propose an FNA of \$0.312m from departmental capital expenditure to the non-departmental capital expenditure for 2024/25 as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Department of Conservation: Capital Withdrawal	(0.312)	-	-	-	-
Non-departmental Capital Expenditure: Hump Ridge Great Walk	0.312	-	-	-	-

### ***Cleddau River Flood Protection***

The Cleddau River flood protection work is to repair damage caused by the September 2023 flooding. Funding for this work will be provided through reprioritisation within the departmental capital, but the resulting assets will be categorised as Crown assets. The timing of the flood protection work is strongly influenced by seasonal and environmental factors and is expected to require additional funding to complete.

I propose an FNA of \$1.500m from departmental capital expenditure to the non-departmental capital expenditure for 2024/25 as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Department of Conservation: Capital Withdrawal	(1,500)	-	-	-	-
Non-departmental Capital Expenditure: Milford Flood Protection	1,500	-	-	-	-

### **Forecasting Adjustments**

An explanation of each proposed forecasting adjustment is listed below, and the amounts are specified in Table 2.

#### ***Subscriptions to International Organisations***

The non-departmental other expenses appropriation *Subscriptions to International Organisations* was increased to \$0.550m per year in the 2024 MBU. The Department represents the Crown as a member of a number of international organisations and subscription expenses for these have continued to increase. Current forecasts indicate that the appropriation may be insufficient to cover expenditure in 2024/25 and outyears.

The appropriation also needs to include a 'buffer' to cover exchange rate variances that may apply to these international payments. The most recent forecasts (and actual expenditure for 2024/25 to date) indicate that this appropriation needs to be increased by an additional \$0.100m each year - to become \$0.650m per year from 2024/25 onwards.

### **Other Technical Changes**

An explanation of each proposed technical change is listed below, and the amounts are specified in Table 2.

#### ***Software-as-a-Service baseline adjustment***

I seek your agreement to make the following changes to appropriations as a result of Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) accounting treatment changes.

This relates to a number of projects but most notably the Human Resource Information System Transformation Programme (HRIS) to implement an integrated HR system and create improved efficiency, along with several other SaaS-based projects. To comply with current accounting standards, forecasted additional 2024/25 expenditure of \$8.000m for implementation of SaaS projects is required to be classified as operating expenses. I propose an FNA to appropriations for 2024/25 as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)
<b>Appropriation</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
Allocated across Departmental Output Expenses: (funded by revenue Crown)	
Management of Natural Heritage	3.876
Management of Historic Heritage	0.255
Management of Recreational Opportunities	2.798
Conservation with the Community	0.818
Crown Contribution to Regional Pest Management	0.025
Policy Advice	0.006
Statutory Planning, Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies	0.222
Departmental Capital Withdrawal	(8.000)

### ***Adjustment to capital charge liability***

As a result of the FNAs (transferring between operating and capital expenditures) proposed in this letter, an adjustment to departmental appropriations will be required to account for the movements in capital charge liability in 2025/26 and out-years, as follows:

	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
<b>Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29&amp; Outyears</b>
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure					
Services for Conservation MCA					
Departmental Output Expenses:					
Management of Natural Heritage	-	(0.367)	(0.367)	(0.367)	(0.367)
(funded by revenue Crown)					

### ***Increase in Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts***

In 2024 OBU, the *Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts* non-departmental appropriation was increased to \$1.000m for 2024/25. By end of December, the Department has observed an increase in the number of entities defaulting on payments, resulting in an unanticipated rise in the provision of doubtful debts. Therefore, the Department is requesting a further \$1.000m increase in the appropriation in 2024/25 to cover potential additional bad debt write-offs (as allowed under CO (18) 2 para 59.1).

### ***Projects funded by mining compensation revenue***

In the 2024 OBU, the Department adjusted appropriations to recognise mining compensation revenue receivable by the Department in 2024/25 and the matching expenditure on biodiversity remediation and enhancement work. There have been delays in the planning and delivery of this work, therefore the following adjustments are

requested to align the forecast with the planned delivery timeframe and when the project costs will be incurred (as allowed under CAB Min (14) 26/5 and CO (18) 2 para 60).

Vote Conservation Minister of Conservation	\$m – increase/(decrease)				
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29& Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure Services for Conservation MCA Departmental Output Expenses: Management of Natural Heritage (funded by revenue Crown)	(3.120)	3.120	-	-	-

***Mount Ruapehu: Management and Removal of Ski Fields Infrastructure (Non-Departmental Output Expenses)***

I seek to adjust the indicative spending profile between financial years of this MYA. The total of the appropriation remains unchanged as \$8.500m across the life of the appropriation (2023/24 to 2027/28).

	\$m – increase/(decrease)					
	Actual	Forecast				Total
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	
Current spending profile						
Non-Departmental Output Expense: Mount Ruapehu: Management and Removal of Ski Fields Infrastructure (MYA)	0.399	1.200	3.500	3.401	-	8.500
Adjustments to spending profile	-	(0.820)	(1.100)	0.399	1.521	-
Revised spending profile						
Non-Departmental Output Expense: Mount Ruapehu: Management and Removal of Ski Fields Infrastructure (MYA)	0.399	0.380	2.400	3.800	1.521	8.500

***Impairment - Treaty of Waitangi settlements***

The Department has become aware of two Treaty of Waitangi settlements that have been agreed, including Ngāti Hāua Deed of Settlement (CAB-24-MIN-0295 and SOU-24-SUB-0097 refers) and Whanganui Land Settlement (CAB-23-MIN-0403 refers). These decisions require transfers of Public Conservation Land (PCL) to iwi hence may incur impairment costs for the settlements in 2024/25.

Therefore, I propose an increase to non-departmental appropriation *Impairment of Public Conservation Land* of \$5.293m (as allowed under CO 18 (2) para 59.1) which is the estimated maximum impairments required.

**Other Matters that Require the Authority of the Minister of Finance**  
**Request for Performance Reporting Exemptions for 2024/25 Onwards for Vote Conservation**

I am seeking your approval for the exemption from end-of-year performance reporting for those appropriations and categories of MCAs listed in Annex A. Annex A provides reasons for why these exemptions are sought. Any exemptions and the reason for the exemption are disclosed in the Estimates. For those appropriations subject to Budget decisions, your approval would be subject to the reason for granting the exemption still being applicable once these decisions are taken.

**Establishing a new appropriation for impairment of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment**

The Metservice and Chateau buildings have been managed and maintained by the Department as non-departmental assets. In the financial year 2023/24, these buildings were included in the non-departmental balance sheet at fair value to comply with accounting standards. Auditors have requested that a revaluation be conducted in the current financial year. Should these assets be revalued at amounts lower than their current book values, a non-cash impairment may be required. However, the Department does not have an existing non-departmental appropriation that is specifically designated for covering impairment costs of buildings and improvements.

To facilitate the correct accounting treatment of a potential impairment, it is proposed to establish a new non-departmental appropriation as follows:

<b>Vote</b>	Conservation
<b>Appropriation Minister</b>	Minister of Conservation
<b>Appropriation Title</b>	Impairment of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment
<b>Appropriation Type</b>	Non-Departmental Other Expenses
<b>Appropriation Scope</b>	This appropriation is limited to the impairment in value of Crown property, plant and equipment.

Additionally, a technical adjustment is sought to increase the appropriation by \$8.400m in 2024/25, which is the maximum impairment forecast. This is in accordance with CO 18 (2) para 59.1, which allows for accounting adjustments with no cash impact, such as impairments.

**Other Cabinet decisions**

Items listed in Table 2 attached to this submission do not require joint Minister approval. All Cabinet decisions relating to appropriations Vote Conservation made since the previous baseline update have been included in this update and are listed in detail in Table 2 attached to this letter.

***Impairment - Crown Offer for Kororipo Pa Historic Reserve***

On 6 November 2024, the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee approved an increase of \$0.374m in the non-departmental *Impairment of Public Conservation land* appropriation in Vote Conservation, to recognise the impairment in value of PCL as part of Treaty of Waitangi Settlements (SOU-24-MIN-0138 refers).

## Recommendations

I agree and recommend that you:

1. **agree** the changes to those baselines for the appropriations in Vote Conservation that require Joint Ministers' approval, as set out in Table 2;
2. **agree** that the proposed changes to appropriations and departmental capital injections and withdrawals for 2024/25, covered by recommendation one above, be included in the 2024/25 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;
3. **agree** to the in-principle expense and/or capital transfers from 2024/25 to outyears outlined in this letter;
4. **authorise** the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Conservation to jointly agree to the final amount(s) to be transferred for the in-principle expense and/or capital transfers outlined in this letter, following completion of the 2024/25 audited financial statements, with no impact on the operating balance and/or net core Crown debt across the forecast period;

I recommend that you:

5. **grant** an exemption from end-of-year performance reporting for those appropriations listed in Annex A;

I recommend that you:

6. **note** that Table 2 includes for completeness other changes to baselines for the appropriations in Vote Conservation that have been approved by Cabinet or Joint Ministers since the previous baseline update or do not require such approval.

Mauriora,

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

**Annex A:****Proposed exemptions from end-of-year performance reporting**

## Criterion 2:

- a. The appropriation or category of appropriation or category of non-departmental expenses or non-departmental capital expenditure is one from which resources will be provided to a person or entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity; and
- b. an exemption is sought on the basis that key performance information relevant to the appropriation or category will be otherwise readily available to the House of Representatives

Vote	Appropriation title	Justification	2024/25 (\$000)
Conservation	<b>Predator Free New Zealand (MYA)</b> (Non-Departmental Output Expenses)	An exemption is sought under S.15D(2)(a) of the PFA as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>resources will be provided to Predator Free 2050 Limited, a schedule 4A company, which is <b>not</b> a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity.</li> </ul> And under S.15D(2)(b)(i) of the PFA as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the key performance information relevant to this appropriation will be readily available to the House of Representatives via the Company's annual report, which will be presented to the House by the Minister of Conservation under S.150(3) of the Crown Entities Act.</li> </ul>	10,653

Vote	Appropriation title	Justification	2025/26 (\$000)
Conservation	<b>Predator Free 2050 Limited</b> (Non-Departmental Output Expenses)	This is appropriation is for funding available to Predator Free 2050 Limited from 2025/26 onwards. An exemption is sought on the same basis outlined above, under S.15D(2)(a) and S.15D(2)(b)(i) of the PFA.	5,914



## Criterion 3:

- a. The appropriation or category of appropriation or category of non-departmental expenses or non-departmental capital expenditure is one from which resources will be provided to a person or entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity; and
- b. an exemption is sought on the basis that end-of-year performance information for the appropriation or category is not likely to be informative

Vote	Appropriation title	Justification	2024/25 (\$000) (Including pending MBU changes)
Conservation	<b>Impairment of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment</b> (Non-Departmental Other Expenses)	An exemption is sought under S.15D(2)(b)(ii) of the PFA as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity; additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for the impairment of assets on behalf of the Crown.	8,400
Conservation	<b>Impairment of Public Conservation Land</b> (Non-Departmental Other Expenses)	An exemption is sought under S.15D(2)(b)(ii) of the PFA as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity; additional performance information is unlikely to be informative because this appropriation is solely for the impairment of assets on behalf of the Crown.	5.717

**Table 2: Baseline Changes Report, 2024/25 MBU, Vote 4 - 0: Conservation - Conservation.**  
**Data has not been validated**

	Classification	2024/25 \$000	2025/26 \$000	2026/27 \$000	2027/28 \$000	2028/29 \$000	Authority for Change	Final Year Funding
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>								
<b>Community Conservation Funds</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(12,750)	6,719	4,259	1,772	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
<b>Total changes - Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>		<b>(12,750)</b>	<b>6,719</b>	<b>4,259</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>Non-Departmental Other Expenses</b>								
<b>Impairment of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Impairment - Metservice and Chateau buildings	Tech Adj	8,400	-	-	-	-	CO 18 (2) para 59.1	On going
<b>Impairment of Public Conservation Land</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Impairment - Crown Offer for Kororipo Pa Historic Reserve	Cabinet	374	-	-	-	-	CAB-24-MIN-0426 & SOU-24 -MIN-0138	On going
Impairment - Treaty of Waitangi settlements	Tech Adj	5,293	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 59.1 & CAB - MINs	On going
<b>Loss on Disposal of Crown Property, Plant and Equipment</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(2,172)	2,172	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
<b>Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts forecast adjustment	Tech Adj	1,000	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 59.1	On going
<b>Subscriptions to International Organisations</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Subscriptions to International Organisations forecast adjustment	Fcst Adj	100	100	100	100	100	CO (18) 2 para 61	On going
<b>Total changes - Non-Departmental Other Expenses</b>		<b>12,995</b>	<b>2,272</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>		
<b>Non-Departmental Capital Expenditure</b>								
<b>Hump Ridge Great Walk</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Hump Ridge Great Walk capital expenditure	FNA	312	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32	On going
<b>Milford Flood Protection</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Cledau River Flood Protection capital swap	FNA	1,500	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32	On going

	Classification	2024/25 \$000	2025/26 \$000	2026/27 \$000	2027/28 \$000	2028/29 \$000	Authority for Change	Final Year Funding
<b>Pike River Memorial and Museum</b>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(921)	921	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
<b>Total changes - Non-Departmental Capital Expenditure</b>		<b>891</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure</b>								
<b>Identification and Implementation of Protection for Natural and Historic Places (MCA)</b>								
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>								
<u>Nature Heritage Fund Expenses</u>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(6,031)	6,031	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
<b>Non-Departmental Capital Expenditure</b>								
<u>Nature Heritage Fund Land Purchases</u>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(1,845)	1,845	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
<b>Non-Departmental Output Expenses</b>								
<u>South Island Landless Natives Act</u>								
<b>Non-Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(4,495)	4,495	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
<b>Services for Conservation (MCA)</b>								
<b>Departmental Output Expenses</b>								
<u>Conservation with the Community</u>								
<b>Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(8,692)	1,612	7,080	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	818	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(177)	(177)	(177)	(177)	(177)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Crown</b>								
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(8,692)	1,612	7,080	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	818	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	323	323	323	323	323	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Other</b>								
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(500)	(500)	(500)	(500)	(500)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<u>Crown Contribution to Regional Pest Management</u>								
<b>Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	25	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	25	25	25	25	25	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Crown</b>								
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	25	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	21	21	21	21	21	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going

	Classification	2024/25 \$000	2025/26 \$000	2026/27 \$000	2027/28 \$000	2028/29 \$000	Authority for Change	Final Year Funding
<b>Revenue Other</b>								
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	4	4	4	4	4	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<u>Management of Historic Heritage</u>								
<b>Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Funding transfer to Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage	FNA	(80)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 Para 32.1	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	255	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	1,311	1,311	1,311	1,311	1,311	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Crown</b>								
Funding transfer to Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage	FNA	(80)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 Para 32.1	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	255	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	1,311	1,311	1,311	1,311	1,311	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<u>Management of Natural Heritage</u>								
<b>Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Capital charge adjustments	Tech Adj	-	(367)	(367)	(367)	(367)	CO (18) 2 para 59.2	On going
Departmental other operating to capital swap	FNA	(669)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(6,404)	6,404	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
Projects funded by mining compensation revenue	Tech Adj	(3,120)	3,120	-	-	-	CAB Min (14) 26/5 & CO (18) 2 para 60	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	3,876	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(20,463)	(18,463)	(18,463)	(18,463)	(18,463)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Crown</b>								
Capital charge adjustments	Tech Adj	-	(367)	(367)	(367)	(367)	CO (18) 2 para 59.2	On going
Departmental other operating to capital swap	FNA	(669)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(6,404)	6,404	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
Projects funded by mining compensation revenue	Tech Adj	(3,120)	3,120	-	-	-	CAB Min (14) 26/5 & CO (18) 2 para 60	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	3,876	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(16,458)	(14,458)	(14,458)	(14,458)	(14,458)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Other</b>								
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(4,005)	(4,005)	(4,005)	(4,005)	(4,005)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<u>Management of Recreational Opportunities</u>								
<b>Dept Annual Appropriation</b>								
Departmental other operating to capital swap	FNA	(973)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove - capital to operating swap	FNA	-	10	10	10	10	CO (18) 2 para 35.1	On going
Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove - operating to capital swap	FNA	(273)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(2,046)	2,046	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	2,798	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	17,592	17,592	17,592	17,592	17,592	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Revenue Crown</b>								
Departmental other operating to capital swap	FNA	(973)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going

	Classification	2024/25 \$000	2025/26 \$000	2026/27 \$000	2027/28 \$000	2028/29 \$000	Authority for Change	Final Year Funding
Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove - capital to operating swap	FNA	-	10	10	10	10	CO (18) 2 para 35.1	On going
Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove - operating to capital swap	FNA	(273)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Locked in Expense and Capital Transfers	ECT	(2,046)	2,046	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 38	On going
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	2,798	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	13,092	13,092	13,092	13,092	13,092	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Revenue Other								
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Policy Advice								
Dept Annual Appropriation								
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	6	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(149)	(149)	(149)	(149)	(149)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Revenue Crown								
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	6	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(149)	(149)	(149)	(149)	(149)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Statutory Planning, Services to Ministers and Statutory Bodies								
Dept Annual Appropriation								
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	222	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(139)	(139)	(139)	(139)	(139)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Revenue Crown								
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	222	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	(140)	(140)	(140)	(140)	(140)	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Revenue Other								
Transfers between departmental output expenses	FNA	1	1	1	1	1	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
Total changes - Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure		(28,628)	25,196	6,723	(357)	(357)		
Total changes - Output revenue (Crown +Dept+Other)		(16,257)	12,825	6,723	(357)	(357)		
Departmental Net Assets								
Department of Conservation - Capital Injection								
Department Net Assets								
Departmental other operating to capital swap	FNA	1,642	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove - operating to capital swap	FNA	273	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
Dept. Capital Withdrawals								
Department Net Assets								
Cleddau River Flood Protection capital swap	FNA	(1,500)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32	On going
Future of Mautohe Cathedral Cove - capital to operating swap	FNA	(100)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 35.1	On going
Hump Ridge Great Walk capital expenditure	FNA	(312)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32	On going

	Classification	2024/25 \$000	2025/26 \$000	2026/27 \$000	2027/28 \$000	2028/29 \$000	Authority for Change	Final Year Funding
SaaS projects - capital to operating swap	FNA	(8,000)	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.4	On going
<b>Total changes - Departmental Net Assets</b>		<b>(7,997)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		

## Multi-year Appropriations

Multi-year Appropriations	Totals	Classificati on	2024/25 \$000	2025/26 \$000	2026/27 \$000	2027/28 \$000	2028/29 \$000	Authority for Change	Final Year Funding
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### Departmental Output Expenses

Jobs for Nature (MYA)

(From 01 November 2022 - 30 June 2026)

#### Appropriation

##### Vote changes for this baseline

Transfers between departmental output expenses	2,000	FNA	2,000	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Overall change to appropriation</b>	<b>2,000</b>								

#### Revenue

##### Vote changes for this baseline

Transfers between departmental output expenses (Crown)	2,000	FNA	2,000	-	-	-	-	CO (18) 2 para 32.1	On going
<b>Overall change to revenue</b>	<b>2,000</b>								

### Non-Departmental Output Expenses

Mount Ruapehu: Management and Removal of Ski Fields

Infrastructure (MYA)

(From 01 October 2023 - 30 June 2028)

#### Appropriation

##### Vote changes for this baseline

Adjust spending profile of Mount Ruapehu: Management and Removal of Ski Fields Infrastructure MYA	-	Tech Adj	(820)	(1,100)	399	1,521	-	CO (18) 2 para 59.3	On going
<b>Overall change to appropriation</b>	<b>-</b>								

## Classification Key

Short Name	Description	Reference
Cabinet	Cabinet policy decision	Approvals are sought in cabinet papers (refer to cabinet manual), with authority given via a cabinet minute. The authority for change should reference both supporting documents.
ECT	Expense and Capital Transfer	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular Financial changes that can be approved by Joint Ministers). Transferring funding within an appropriation across financial years.
ECT ip	Expense and Capital Transfer in-principle	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular). The portion of an ECT that can't be accurately quantified so the transfer amount has been approved in-principle. 1st time can count in fiscal forecasts is OBU.
Fcst Adj	Forecast Adjustments	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular). Adjustments to the forecast expenditure of PLAs or where there is a pre-determined cost calculation, or Crown Revenue.
FLoS	Front-Loading of Spending	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular Financial changes that can be approved by Joint Ministers). Bringing forward expenditure to create lasting cost savings.
FNA	Fiscally Neutral Adjustment	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular Financial changes that can be approved by Joint Ministers). Transferring funding between appropriations within a financial year.
RoU	Retention of Underspends	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular Financial changes that can be approved by Joint Ministers). Transferring underspends to the next financial year.
RoU 50%	Retention of Underspends @ 50%	Defined in CO Circular. Portion of an ROU can't accurately quantify so the transfer amount of 50% of an underspend has been approved in-principle. 1st time can count in fiscal forecasts is OBU.
Tech Adj	Technical adjustment	Defined in (Cabinet Office Circular). Technical accounting adjustments with no cash impact to the Crown, MYA spending profile changes, non-controversial appropriation title or scope changes.
SuppsJune	Offset MYA June vs Supps Difference	This is a subset of the Technical Adjustments classification for neutral changes to the MYA spending profile to offset the difference between the Supps Forecast and June Actual.
BudgetOY4	Offset MYA Budget OY4 Rollover	This is a subset of the Technical Adjustments classification for neutral changes to the MYA spending profile to offset the rollover of Budget OY4 into OBU OY4.
Return Sav	Return of savings to the Crown	Returning savings to the Crown is always encouraged. Departments can achieve this by constantly looking for efficiency gains through improvements in processes and technology.
Crwn Liab	Recognition of Existing Crown liability	Crown liabilities need to be recognised as soon as possible. These affect Non-Departmental Appropriations.
Other	Other changes outside the above criteria	There should be very few changes outside the above criteria, so if there are any they require extra scrutiny.



## Briefing: Monthly reporting on active International Visitor and Conservation Levy projects

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	18 February 2025
<b>Action sought</b>	For noting, and direction on reporting regime.	<b>Priority</b>	High
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0050	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7879895
<b>Security Level</b>	In Confidence	<b>Timeframe</b>	19 February 2025
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Low		
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – February 2025 report on active IVL projects		

Contacts	
Name and position	Phone
Stephanie Rowe, Deputy Director-General Biodiversity Heritage and Visitors	s9(2)(a)
Shana Harding, Principal Advisor, National Programmes	s9(2)(a)

### Purpose – Te aronga

1. To communicate monthly progress on active International Visitor and Conservation Levy (IVL) projects, and test reporting meets your needs.

### Background and context – Te horopaki

2. You have asked for monthly reporting on progress with IVL projects.
3. We have included in the attached report, progress on all active IVL projects since December 2024 (last reporting round).
4. Reporting includes projects you approved in November 2024 (yet to be announced), where funding begins this 2024/25 financial year.
5. Approved projects that don't begin until next financial year are listed, and reporting will begin for those at the start of 2025/26.



## Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga

6. We seek your direction on whether the proposed reporting regime meets your expectations.
7. Following your endorsement, we will send you a monthly report as part of your regular status report from DOC.

## We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	<b>Agree</b> to the monthly reporting regime for active IVL projects, to be included as an item in your status report from DOC.	Yes / No



Date: 17/02/2025

Date: / /

Stephanie Rowe  
**Deputy Director-General Biodiversity  
 Heritage and Visitors**

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

**ENDS**

# International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) projects

Monthly progress report: February 2025



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

**Te Kāwanatanga  
o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government



Te Ririō at the start of Tongariro. *Photo: DOC* Kea on a hut roof. *Photo: Corey Mosen*

### The objectives of the IVL are to:

- Increase visitor numbers to maximise the economic contribution tourism makes to New Zealand.
- Enhance the visitor experience, managing the impact on the conservation estate and retaining public consent to allow for continuous growth.
- Demonstrate robust value for money and alignment with overall Government priorities.

### Conservation investments deliver against these objectives in the following ways:

- Nature is our biggest drawcard for international tourists: 50% of visitors cite natural landscapes and environment as their primary reason for traveling. Preserving and enhancing our world class conservation lands maintains this drawcard and helps to ensure visitors' expectations of New Zealand are met.
- The value of tourism on Public Conservation Land alone is \$3.4b a year to New Zealand. Showcasing the benefits of IVL investments helps to maintain the social license for tourism.
- Investing in our most popular visitor sites improves the visitor experience, which helps to encourage more visitors while managing their impacts on the environment.
- Improving biodiversity and heritage across the country creates more potential destinations for visitors to enjoy, dispersing the benefits of tourism outside the main tourist centres.
- By undertaking predator, deer, goat and weed control and threatened species recovery at our highly visited places, the visitor experience is maximised by a healthy functioning environment.

### Reporting

- DOC reports monthly to the Minister of Conservation on active visitor and biodiversity projects.

Visitor projects							
Project name	Description: goal	Funded years	Budget	Progress over the month	Next major milestone	Project status	Any risks or delays
Ruapeka Pā (through Tohu Whenua programme)	Development of the Ruapeka Pā as an attraction for visitors, and support of Te Ruapeka Pā Trust to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the Battle of Ruapeka Pā.	2019/20 to 2025/26	\$1.20m	Archeological authority underway to install pou.  Governance Group has agreed to purchase armaments with remaining \$12k of budget.	Preparing concrete plinths for installation of pou.	On track	
Westland Destination Management Stage 1 - Fox Glacier	Delivery of eight projects on the West Coast to enhance visitor access to conservation and tourism activities.	2019/20 to 2024/25	\$3.9m	4 projects completed: Lake Gault toilet and shelters, Peak View landscaping, Interpretation and Signage, Programme management Support.  2 projects (Matheson Carpark, Southside Carpark) in early planning stages.	s9(2)(g)(i)	On track	
Car Park Charging Pilot	To pilot paid parking at three South Island visitor hotspots to help manage visitor pressure and support conservation.	2024/25 to 2026/27	\$3.78m	Defining technology requirements and preparing the Request for Proposals (RFP).	Traffic analysis of Aoraki to define optimal plan for parking.  s9(2)(g)(i)	On track	
Huts of Recreational Importance – Now referred to as Community Hut Fund	To support the maintenance and management of Huts of Recreational Importance through partnerships over the next four years.	2024/25 to 2028/29	\$4.20m	s9(2)(g)(i)	Develop work plan for 2025/26 with the BCT.	On track	

Nationwide engagement programme to connect New Zealanders to nature	To get more action for nature by raising awareness and creating motivation for people to connect with nature.	2024/25 to 2027/28	\$5.00m	<p>Research programme underway - approach tested with target audience.</p> <p>Building support with key stakeholders through introductory sessions. Developing opportunities for business support.</p> <p>s9(2)(g)(i)</p>	<p>We will brief you on the campaign material in the next 2 weeks.</p> <p>s9(2)(g)(i)</p> <p>Messages will start rolling out to seed the campaign ahead of time.</p>	On track	
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<b>Redeveloping and maintaining the track at Cathedral Cove</b>	<i>To support continued recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle damage and create a visitor management plan.</i>	2024/25 to 2028/29	\$5.00m	<p>Revenue generation workstream underway.</p> <p>s9(2)(g)(i)</p> <p>Analysis for adaptive and trigger action plans, focusing on future climate and geology-affected scenarios.</p> <p>Geotechs briefed for options to make temporary walking access more resilient.</p> <p>Review of summer peak period to inform future planning: key focus on emerging visitor safety risks.</p> <p>s9(2)(g)(i)</p>	<p>s9(2)(g)(i)</p> <p>Site Control Plan developed with the Visitor Safety Team finalised.</p>	On track	
<b>Continuing delivery of the Tongariro Alpine Crossing Sustainable Management Plan</b>	<i>To work in partnership with Ngāti Hikairo of Ngāti Tūwharetoa to develop a sustainable management model for the Tongariro Alpine Crossing (TAC).</i>	2024/25 to unknown	\$1.88m	<p>Busy summer season at TAC.</p> <p>Unveiling of the Ketetahi road end pou whenua in January.</p> <p>Working through road safety issues with NZTA Waka Kotahi at Ketetahi.</p>	<p>NIWA weather station installation.</p> <p>Mangatepopo carpark refresh and Ketetahi Road safety solution commenced.</p>	On track	

Enhancing existing iconic short walks and day hikes	Enhance existing iconic tracks and expand the Department of Conservation's network of short walks and day hikes.	2024/25 to 2028/29	\$6.00m	<p>Short Walks and Day Hikes received \$750k funding to ensure a good visitor experience on top walks, including: Godley Heads, Cape Foulwind, Lake Matheson, Hokitika Gorge, Alex Knob, Oparara Arches, Truman Track, Denniston Brakehead, Ship Creek Tauparikaka walks, Lake Gunn, Roys Peak, Tunnel Beach and Blue Pools Track.</p> <p>This has been used to deliver visitor safety improvements, maintenance to bring tracks back to standard, rubbish removal, gravelling tracks, servicing toilets and clearing septic tanks, potholes, additional ranger resource and general repairs.</p> <p>Brand research on these experience sets underway. Gathering visitor feedback surveys via QR codes at trail heads to inform future work</p>	Develop plan for year two spend.	On track	
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s.9(2)(f)(iv)							
Summer visitor pressures	Better experience for visitors at popular sites by providing increased levels of service.	2024/25 to 2025/26	\$0.9m	<p>New project, approved in November 24.</p> <p>Immediate relief provided to Aoraki for additional staff during peak period, additional toilet blocks hired for Whitehorse Hill carpark, and helicopter work to fly more sewerage out.</p>	22 Feb announcement: part of package.	On track	



<b>Safety of visitor structures</b>	<i>DOC manages 550 cable structures (Suspension Bridges, Swing Bridges, Three Wire Crossings and Cableways) on Public Conservation Land. Confidence that high-use cable structures in popular areas are well maintained.</i>	2024/25 to 2026/27	\$6.4m	<p>New project, approved in November 24.</p> <p>Procurement plans and business cases for 24/25 bridges being prepared.</p> <p>Final data collection/truth checking for all remaining structure retrofits underway to enable ordering of components.</p> <p>25/26 bridge replacements confirmed and initial planning for concept designs and consultation underway.</p>	<p>22 Feb announcement: part of package.</p> <p>Approval of procurement plans and business cases for 2 bridge replacements by June 2025.</p>	On track	
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## New approved IVL visitor projects: starting delivery in 2025/26

<b>Cape Rodney – Ōkakari Point Marine Reserve (Goat Island / Te Hāwera-a-Maki)</b>	<i>An improved experience for visitors reflective of an Icon site, including better reflection of the cultural heritage and increased revenue.</i>	2025/26 to 2026/27	\$2.0m	
<b>Te Motutapu ā Taikehu (Motutapu Island)</b>	<i>An improved campground and ablution block at Home Bay and upgraded wharf.</i>	2025/26 to 2026/27	\$1.0m	
<b>Rangitoto (Peretū)</b>	<i>An improved visitor experience with upgraded visitor arrival area in 25/26.</i>	2025/26	\$0.5m	

Biodiversity projects							
Project name	Description: goal	Funded years	Budget	Progress over the month	Next major milestone	Project status	Any risks or delays
<b>Regulatory Compliance – Building Capacity and Capability for Conservation Law Enforcement</b>	<i>Increase capability and capacity to enable investigations into illegal activity on conservation lands and waters, wildlife crime, and crime related to international trade in endangered species.</i>	2019/20 to 2024/25	\$13.68m	The project is now in the closure phase, with a transition to BAU plan underway.  Warranted Officer support and investigations continue.	Additional Warranted Officer training courses prior to 30 June 2025.	On track	
<b>Kākāpō Recovery Programme</b>	<i>Development of a long-term sustainable management approach for kākāpō and establishment of new habitat sites.</i>	2019/20 to 2025/26	\$8.03m	The project is in the delivery phase. A population has been established on Te Puka Hereka and Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari.  Continuing to track risk of avian influenza. Six-monthly blood sample results indicated that most of the kākāpō still had good levels of antibodies.	Annual HPAI data will be collected at the end of March 2025.  A trip in March will be carried out to change Version 1 transmitters to the latest firmware version.  Ongoing infrastructure upgrades ahead of 2026 breeding season.	On track	s9(2)(g)(i)

s.9(2)(f)(iv)						s.9(2)(f)(iv)	
Marine Reserve Monitoring data improvements	Information Systems Services improvement package to update or replace key information technology and systems	2023/24 to 2024/25	\$0.098m	All milestones have been met for the development of the Spyfish platform (Spyfish harnesses citizen science, training AI to identify fish species recorded in baited underwater video). This work has been transitioned to BAU.	Final data cleaning and development of SharepointBI reporting will be completed mid-late 2025.	On track	

<b>Biodiversity Investment Approach project</b>	<i>Development of a multi-year biodiversity investment planning system that enables the Government, DOC, and partners to make better informed and transparent decisions on biodiversity investment.</i>	2023/24 to 2025/26	\$2.24m	Continued development of business intelligence tool.  Developing new outcome based reporting measures.  Development of priorities 25/26.	Development of scenarios to support modelling of investment options.  Embedding in annual and multi-year plans for 25/26.  Presenting to externals including councils and Ngāi Tahu.	On track	
<b>Cyclone response – biodiversity priorities</b>	<i>Protect species under threat due to damage from Cyclone Gabrielle.</i>	2023/24 to 2024/25	\$0.575m	Pureora and Ruahine - clearing pest control lines  Tara iti, shore plover and whio: funding to help restore these highly threatened populations via captive management and release programmes continues.	Completion of biodiversity projects by June.	On track	
<b>Increasing efforts to keep Aotearoa free from sea spurge</b>	<i>Expand programme to monitor and eradicate sea spurge along New Zealand's coastline.</i>	2024/25 to 2028/29	\$1.28m	Surveillance and control of known populations underway in Lower North Island and Northland regions, working with regional councils, MPI, and local iwi.	Sea spurge steering group meeting (March).	On track	

Foundational work for the eradication of pigs, cats and mice from Auckland Island / Maukahuka	<i>Pave the way for the eradication of mammalian predators from Auckland Island in the Sub Antarctic by securing \$78m funding, establishing organisational readiness and progressing required R&amp;D including bait developments for cats and pigs, improvements to helicopter bait buckets and remote reporting camera surveillance system for detecting target pests.</i>	2024/25 to 2025/26	\$3.65m	<p>Infrastructure programme planning, bait development and surveillance technology development.</p> <p>Developing iwi/DOC partnership.</p> <p>Developing Investment and fundraising strategy</p> <p>Received a further \$100k donation as a result of Newsroom article.</p>	<p>IOCC launch 21 Feb.</p> <p>Second aerial cat bait trial March.</p> <p>Expanding surveillance camera testing using satellite to cell technology in One NZ early adopter programme.</p>	On track	s9(2)(g)(i)
Te Manahuna Aoraki project	<i>Protecting and revitalising a 310,000-hectare mainland island in the Upper Mackenzie Basin and Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park. Activities including predator control, pest eradication, pest research, development of island restoration plans and testing of new control techniques.</i>	2024/25 to unknown	\$0.575m	Pest elimination in the Liebig Range (Aoraki Mt Cook) commenced: 2 applications of non-toxic pre-feed applied.	Aerial toxin to be applied at next favourable weather window.	On track	
Expanding landscape scale predator control: Undertake aerial predator control in Rakiura National Park to reduce impact of cats and rats on critically endangered Southern Dotterel birds.	<i>Protection of critically endangered Southern Dotterel in Rakiura National Park across approximately 35,000ha.</i>	2024/25 to 2025/26	\$3.0m	<p>New project, approved in November 24.</p> <p>Work underway to release funding and start delivery.</p>	Planning for delivery of operation.	On track	

<b>Deer and goat management in National Parks and popular visitor areas</b>	<i>Reduction in the impact of deer on biodiversity through collaboration with the hunting sector, with meat provided to those in need. Manage deer in Fiordland National Park.</i>	2024/25 to 2026/27	\$3.5m	New project, approved in November 24.  Work underway to release funding and start delivery.	22 Feb announcement: part of package.	On track	
<b>Stop the spread and remove wilding conifers from iconic landscapes</b>	<i>Wilding conifers are controlled at iconic landscape sites, increasing the biodiversity and scenic value of these places, and ensuring the land is productive. Reduces long-term costs for land managers. Focus on Aoraki, Mackenzie, Central Otago and Rangitoto.</i>	2024/25	\$3.5m	New project, approved in November 24.  Project underway.  Areas for control agreed with MPI's National Wilding Conifer Control Programme.	22 Feb announcement: part of package.  Control operations underway via MPI National Wilding Conifer Control Programme.	On track	
<b>Manage weeds at iconic sites that visitors come to see and associate with NZ</b>	<i>A reduction in transformational weed populations, leading to healthier island ecosystems and improving biodiversity and scenic value for visitors. Tāmaki predator-free islands including Te Hauturu-ō-Toi, Rangitoto / Peretū, Te Motutapu a Taikehu and Tiritiri Matangi. These islands are places of significance for iwi and home to nationally significant cultural heritage and species.</i>	2024/25 to 2026/27	\$1.5m	New project, approved in November 24.  A weed team have been employed to continue working on <i>Te Hauturu-ō-Toi</i> until March 25 (underway) and then will move to Te Motutapu a Taikehu to work alongside staff from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki.	22 Feb announcement: part of package.  Drone spraying and abseil work to begin on Te Hauturu-ō-Toi in February / March Drone aerial survey of weed distribution on Te Motutapu a Taikehu.	On track	

**New approved IVL biodiversity projects: starting delivery in 2025/26**

<b>Expanding landscape scale predator control: Expand DOC's National Predator Control Programme to other National Parks and priority sites to grow populations of iconic bird species across New Zealand.</b>	<i>Increased number of iconic birds in national parks. Includes much-needed landscape-scale predator control in the Catlins and Central Otago and in the South Island's West Coast. Boost in predator control in highest priority sites triggered through monitoring (expected to include Arthurs Pass and Kahurangi or Fiordland National Parks).</i>	2025/26	\$2.5m
<b>Expanding landscape scale predator control: Maximise co-investment in predator control with the NEXT foundation to sustain the gains of increasing populations of threatened species in South Westland, Aoraki, Taranaki, Abel Tasman and Rakiura/Stewart Island National Parks.</b>	<i>More wildlife in national parks, resulting in better experiences. Outcomes maximised through co-investment. IVL investment is likely to attract further partner investment in landscape predator projects.</i>	2025/26 to 2026/27	\$4.0m
<b>Stop the spread of wallabies into iconic landscapes</b>	<i>Stopping spread of wallabies outside of containment area. Improved structure of indigenous forests.</i>	2025/26 to 2026/27	\$1.0m



## Memo: Conservation board appointments 2025 – all nominations received

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	21 February 2025
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0058	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7882280
<b>Security Level</b>	<b>In Confidence</b>		
<b>From</b>	Kelley Reeve, Director Governance and Government Services s9(2)(a)		
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Conservation board appointments 2025 – all nominations received</b>		
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – Complete schedule of all nominations received		

### Purpose – Te aronga

1. This memo provides you with a complete schedule of all nominations received for the 2025 round of conservation board appointments, for your information.

### Background and context – Te horopaki

1. We briefed you on the process for your appointments to conservation boards in December 2024 [24-B-0584 refers].
2. Nominations closed on 31 January 2025. A total of 179 nominations were received for the 47 public vacancies.
3. Attachment A provides a complete schedule of all the nominations received.

### Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga

4. We will provide you with our shortlist of recommended candidates in mid-March – this will take into consideration recommendations from the Department's Regional Operations Directors, and from the New Zealand Conservation Authority.
5. Officials will be available to meet with you in the weeks following to discuss the appointments. When you have reached your provisional decision for appointments, we will conduct due diligence, alongside your consultation with the Minister for Māori Development (in accordance with section 6P(3) of the Act).
6. Following successful consultation and due diligence, we will provide you with the required Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH) papers. We will seek for these appointments to go before APH in May, so we are able to have all appointments Gazetted by the end of June, to take effect from 1 July 2025.

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**ENDS**



## Memo: Online regional iwi leaders hui

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	26 February 2025
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0055	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7884913
<b>Security Level</b>	<b>In Confidence</b>		
<b>From</b>	Ruth Isaac, Deputy Director General - Policy and Regulatory Services s9(2)(a)		
<b>Subject</b>	Online hui with regional iwi leaders on March 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>		
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – Powerpoint presentation - Online regional iwi leaders hui Attachment B – Talking points - Online regional iwi leaders hui		

### Purpose – Te aronga

1. This memo provides you with a presentation and talking points to support the six 30-minute-long online hui you are holding with regional iwi leaders across 5 - 6 March:
  - Wednesday 5 March: Four hui from 5 to 7pm
  - Thursday 6 March: Two hui from 10:30 to 11:30am
2. These will be assigned across five or six regional groupings, with one possibly for Te Pou Taiao representatives.
3. As public consultations of proposals to modernise the conservation system close on 28 February, the focus of the presentation covers:
  - s9(2)(f)(iv)
4. Te Arawhiti will provide content relating to Māori Land Court's jurisdiction over PSGEs.

### Background and context – Te horopaki

5. Public consultations on proposals to modernise conservation land management and to explore charging for access to some public conservation land close on 28 February.
6. s9(2)(j)

7. s9(2)(f)(iv)

***Views from Iwi will inform the Conservation Amendment Bill***

8. DOC held a range of engagement sessions across November 2024 to February 2025, including 25 regional hui with Iwi.
9. Iwi shared a range of views across both public consultation documents.
10. s9(2)(f)(iv)

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## Upcoming engagement opportunities on other conservation issues

### ***Te Mana o te Taiao Aotearoa NZ Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan***

13. From June to December last year, DOC received feedback from Iwi/Hapū and Māori organisations on the proposed critical actions for the next implementation plan for Te Mana o te Taiao - Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (ANZBS).
14. We are now preparing to release a discussion document in April 2025 for a period of 8 weeks. More information will be shared with Iwi/Hapū around this time.
15. This will give the opportunity for anyone to make a formal written submission on the proposals should they wish. Two public webinars are planned during this time which will be advertised on the DOC website. In communications to Iwi/Hapū and Māori organisations, DOC will specifically encourage attendance and highlight the webinars as a key opportunity to engage.

### ***Predator Free 2050 strategy review***

16. As part of the public consultation for the Predator Free 2050 strategy review, DOC will be hosting a small number of public regional meetings in areas across the country where significant Predator Free 2050 operations are underway.
17. DOC is planning to run the Predator Free 2050 Strategy review and Te Mana o te Taiao Aotearoa NZ Biodiversity Strategy Implementation plan engagements together, where it makes sense to do so. What this looks like is yet to be planned out in detail and may include a mixture of online webinars and in-person meetings. This will be confirmed in due course.
18. It is intended that these meetings celebrate the hard work communities do for Predator Free 2050 and provide opportunities for direct presentations and discussion with the public. DOC will invite local Iwi/Hapū to these events to hear their perspectives on the national strategy for Predator Free 2050 once locations and times are confirmed.

### ***Visitor Network Strategy***

19. The Visitor Network Strategy will set the direction to refine the visitor network, ensuring it meets the changing needs of visitors, is financially sustainable, and is resilient to the effects of climate change. There are likely to be opportunities to partner with Iwi/Hapū, commercial providers and NGOs to deliver quality visitor experiences.
20. The release of the Strategy is on hold while public consultation on modernising conservation land management and charging for access occurs, and as a clearer cost and revenue picture is developed.
21. In mid-2025 we will provide you with comprehensive advice on costs and revenue, including potential divestment and other future scenarios.
22. Engagement with Treaty partners and targeted stakeholders to discuss the size and shape of their local networks could from occur in mid-late 2025 subject to Cabinet agreement.

### ***World Heritage Tentative List review***

23. DOC is reviewing Aotearoa New Zealand's World Heritage Tentative List. This is NZ's list of natural and cultural heritage sites with strong potential to be inscribed as globally significant UNESCO World Heritage sites. Sites need to be on this List before they can be nominated for World Heritage status.
24. The review is overdue; the Tentative List is from 2007, and the UNESCO guidance advises to review tentative lists at least every 10 years.

### Timeline of the review

25. DOC intends to launch the public call for Expressions of Interest for sites to be considered for the Tentative List during April 2025.
26. Once this is launched, it will take approximately 18 months to develop a final Tentative List (following UNESCO guidelines for the process). The process is made up of 3 months for Expressions of Interest and 6 months for applications proper. After applications close, the due diligence, recommendation and approval process will take another 9 months.
27. Concurrently, DOC will be reviewing the existing Tentative List sites to assess whether they ought to remain on the List.

### Iwi engagement

28. Engagement with iwi is planned and will be categorised into three broad groups:
  - iwi/hapū associated with existing World Heritage sites;
  - iwi/hapū that have tentative sites in their region or we know have an active interest in pursuing a site; and
  - other iwi/hapū that may have a broader interest.
29. The purpose, nature and timing of engagement will vary with the different groups. DOC is seeking to start conversations before the public launch with iwi/hapū with World Heritage or Tentative List sites.
30. DOC intends to offer this as a potential agenda item for the Iwi Chairs Forum in July to discuss the opportunity of the Tentative List review, e.g. the process and timeline, and why this is something iwi may want to pursue for themselves e.g. benefits of World Heritage, and also responsibilities of World Heritage.

### **Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru**

31. s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(i)

### **Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

33. s9(2)(f)(iv)

**ENDS**



# He kōrero

Wrap up of  
public consultation  
and looking forward

March 2025

7a.



# Public consultations

- Public consultations ran from 15 November 2024 – 28 February 2025
- Engagement sessions:
  - ✓ 25 regional hui with Iwi
  - ✓ 4 public sessions
  - ✓ 15 stakeholder sessions





## Key themes from regional hui with Iwi

7a.

s9(2)(f)(iv)

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## Key themes from regional hui with Iwi

s9(2)(f)(iv)

7a.





## Upcoming engagement with PSGEs

- Treaty settlements will be upheld
- Letters to PSGEs proposing principles and engagement from now - July
- Proposed approach to uphold settlement commitments:

'Cosmetic'/not substantial e.g. updating references to new planning documents	Substantial e.g. Iwi specific roles in preparing and approving planning documents to be translated to new system
Work through primarily via correspondence.	Closer engagement to develop ways to uphold the integrity of the redress and practical 'equivalents' in the new system.

- Series of engagements between DOC and ~30 PSGEs to test key considerations
- Regular kōrero with Pou Taiao technicians

## **Broader work: Concessions performance and targets**

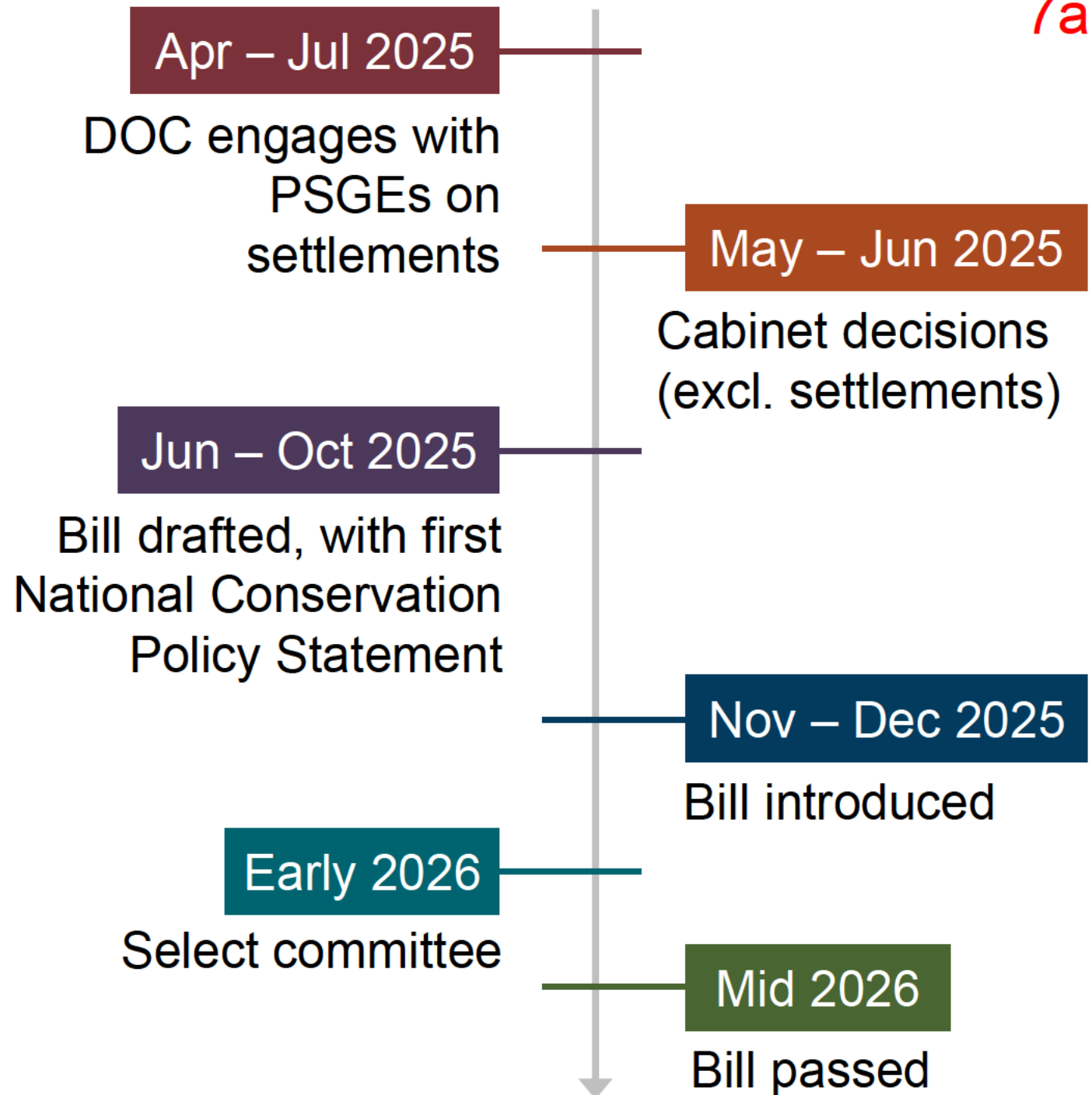
- Key target to reduce processing times for concessions
- New and improved customer facing technology
- Improvements already achieved with live applications down from 1318 in Sept '24 to 1177 this month
- Expectation: mid-2026 no applications older than one year

7a.



## Next steps

Legislative process and opportunities for engagement



# Upcoming engagement opportunities





## Te Mana o te Taiao - Aotearoa NZ Biodiversity Strategy Implementation plan

- Early engagement **June – December 2024**
- Feedback received from Iwi/Hapū and Māori organisations
- **April 2025:** Release of discussion document for next implementation plan
  - 8 week consultation
  - Planned public webinars



## **Predator Free 2050 strategy review**

- DOC to host regional meetings as part of the public consultation for the Predator Free 2050 strategy review
- Meetings will celebrate the hard work communities do for PF2050 and provide information on the review
- Encouraging local Iwi/Hapū to attend these events to capture their perspective
- Aiming for meetings to be lined up with Te Mana o te Taiao Implementation plan engagements

7a.



## Visitor Network Strategy

- Realignment of DOC's visitor network is required to better meet visitor needs and improve financial sustainability
- Draft Visitor Network Strategy to set direction, likely to be released mid-2025
- Potential opportunities for Iwi/Hapū and others to own or maintain visitor experiences
- Targeted engagement with Iwi/Hāpu and key stakeholders planned for mid-late 2025

7a.





## Revise World Heritage Tentative List review

Sites considered to have outstanding universal values with strong potential to achieve World Heritage status and increase recognition of New Zealand's prime cultural sites.

### Revise Aotearoa New Zealand's World Heritage Tentative List to:

- meet iwi/hapū/local aspirations and expectations
- follow international practice, and
- reflect sites that enjoy broad support from mana whenua/local communities
- Identify those sites with the strongest likelihood of successful nomination.

s9(2)(j)

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**Pātai?**



## Attachment B: Talking points for online hui with regional iwi leaders - March 5 & 6, 2025

Slide #	Topic	Talking points
1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kia ora koutou, thank you for joining me this evening.</li> </ul>
2	Public consultation on proposals to modernise the conservation system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I spoke with you last year, just before launching the two discussion documents for public consultation in November to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) modernise the conservation management system and,</li> <li>2) explore charging for access to some public conservation land.</li> </ol> </li> <li>These discussion documents have started a nationwide conversation.</li> <li>Over the past few months, I've seen the discussions all over social media and the news and my team had great kōrero with people all over the country.</li> <li>Public consultation recently closed on Friday 28 February.</li> <li>DOC held engagement sessions across that time. This included:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>25 regional hui with iwi</u></li> <li>○ 4 public sessions</li> <li>○ 15 stakeholder session</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3	s9(2)(f)(iv)	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>

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6	<b>Broader work: Concessions performance and targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alongside looking at law change, I have also set targets for DOC to improve its performance in processing concessions, and I am closely monitoring this. I want DOC to do things faster and use technology better.</li> <li>We're already seeing improvement. The overall number of live applications is coming down through concerted efforts from 1318 in September to 1177 this month.</li> <li>Another key target is reducing the time taken to process concessions, in particular cutting the number of concessions taking over a year almost entirely. I expect that by mid-2026, no applications will be older than one year, with very few exceptions (such as litigation).</li> <li>I have asked for weekly reports on these numbers and am expecting to see improvements.</li> </ul>
7	<p>s9(2)(j), s9(2)(f)(iv)</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

		<p>s9(2)(j), s9(2)(f)(iv)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>
8	<b>Upcoming engagement opportunities on conservation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As I have previously signalled there are other priorities that I want to talk to you about. In particular, the next Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan, changes to the Predator Free Strategy, and the strategy work on the future of New Zealand's visitor network.</li> </ul>
9	<b>Discussion Document for Te Mana o te Taiao - Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From June to December last year, we received feedback from Iwi/Hapū and Māori organisations on the proposed critical actions for the next implementation plan for Te Mana o te Taiao - Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (ANZBS).</li> <li>Thank you for your considered feedback on this important work.</li> <li>DOC is planning to release the ANZBS discussion document in April with an 8-week consultation period and DOC hosted webinars. We will send you further information closer to the time.</li> <li>This will be the opportunity for anyone to make a formal written submission on the proposals should they wish.</li> </ul>
10	<b>Predator Free 2050 strategy review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOC will also be holding a small number of meetings with PF2050 Landscape projects and their associated communities as part of the public consultation for the Predator Free 2050 strategy review.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings will celebrate the hard work communities do for PF2050 and provide opportunities for direct presentations and discussion with the public.</li> <li>• I'm keen for DOC to hear from local Iwi/Hapū at these events to ensure their perspectives are captured as we consider next steps on the national strategy for Predator Free 2050 (locations and times are TBC).</li> <li>• I've asked DOC to run the Predator Free 2050 Strategy review and ANZBS Implementation plan engagements together, where it makes sense to do so.</li> </ul>
11	<b>Visitor Network Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have asked DOC to review the visitor network to make sure it meets the changing needs of visitors, is financially sustainable, and is resilient to climate change.</li> <li>• The work is an opportunity to drill down into what DOCs role is in providing visitor experiences. In certain circumstances, particularly where the experience does not align with DOCs strategic direction, this could mean reducing their offering. This could potentially provide opportunities for iwi/hapū or other parties to own or maintain some visitor experiences.</li> <li>• We're looking at regional consultation with Treaty Partners and targeted stakeholders in the second half of 2025.</li> </ul>
12	<b>World Heritage Tentative List review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOC is reviewing Aotearoa New Zealand's World Heritage Tentative List. Sites need to be on this List before they can be nominated for World Heritage status.</li> <li>• Alongside DOC's commitment to being an honourable Treaty partner, UNESCO also places a strong emphasis on engagement with indigenous people and local communities and expects full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the preparation of Tentative Lists.</li> <li>• The review is an opportunity to make sure sites on the list meet World Heritage criteria and have iwi/hapū support.</li> <li>• Engaging with iwi will be important to ensure they are aware of the opportunity to propose sites for listing and are well informed of the benefits and</li> </ul>

		<p>responsibilities associated with World Heritage status.</p> <p>s9(2)(j) [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
	<p><b>Māori Land Court jurisdiction over PSGEs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In October 2024, a Supreme Court judgment (Nikora v Kruger) found that post-settlement governance entities are subject to the supervisory jurisdiction of the Maori Land Court under Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993.</li> <li>• It is the Crown's view that this was not contemplated in the development of the PSGE framework, that the jurisdiction of the Maori Land Court would apply.</li> <li>• In our view, there are sufficient accountability mechanisms through the establishment of your PSGEs and what is required under your respective Trust deeds.</li> <li>• s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>s9(2)(f)(iv)</li></ul>
13	Closing remarks/Patai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thank you for your time today. I appreciate your attendance and involvement across this important mahi.</li><li>Questions?</li></ul>

# Memo: Biodiversity Investment Approach - Update

<b>To</b>	Minister of Conservation	<b>Date submitted</b>	27 February 2025
<b>Reference</b>	25-B-0069	<b>DocCM</b>	DOC-7885576
<b>Security Level</b>	<b>In Confidence</b>		
<b>From</b>	Tim Bamford, Chief Advisor: s9(2)(a)		
<b>Subject</b>	Biodiversity Investment Approach – Update		
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment A – Biodiversity Investment Approach – Overview for Minister of Conservation		

## Purpose – Te aronga

1. This memo provides an update on the Biodiversity Investment Approach (BioInvest). The programme was previously called the Biodiversity Planning Approach, and we last briefed you on it in mid-2024.

## Background and context – Te horopaki

2. The Department has roughly 15% of the budget it needs to undertake its biodiversity responsibilities. Given this, we need to make informed decisions about what we focus on and look for ways to increase the amount of funding that goes to biodiversity.
3. We need to spread our effort proportionately across ecosystems, threats, species, research and other biodiversity work. We focus on urgent priorities but can't fund everything that needs attention. Given this, it's important we are clear what we're focusing on, as well as why, and what the next most important work is.
4. We use a range of strategies to get the best outcomes:
  - Intensive management: For our species at the most risk of extinction, we need management that is tailored to each species, such as protecting individual kākāpō nests.
  - Looking after ecosystems: Protecting a wide range of different ecosystems from a range of threats makes the habitat for most of our threatened species secure so their populations can thrive. Protecting these habitats also provides protection for those species that we don't know much about, giving us time to learn more and ensure they are properly protected.
  - Reducing predators, browsers and weeds: Working at a landscape scale means working over large areas, such as deer management or aerial 1080 programmes. By reducing pest numbers, we can reduce the pressure on a range of species and ensure their habitats remain intact for the future. This work also delivers better forest resilience, water and air quality, soil conservation and flood protection.

- Research to improve outcomes: Research remains critical to helping the Department expand and improve management tools, as well as our understanding of the species and biological systems we manage. We still know very little about our marine biodiversity and why some species are declining. Research will also help us improve our management of threats, for example mice and hedgehogs are key threats to insects and lizards, but we do not currently have the right tools to manage them at scale.

### **BioInvest**

5. We are developing a system that improves the visibility of what we are working on, how much that work costs and how it matches the outcomes we want to achieve. This work is helping us identify where we can make the biggest difference for nature and get the best value for money. It also means we can balance our investment decisions across all of our biodiversity work, so we focus on the most urgent, important and impactful work.
6. The scope of BioInvest is the Department of Conservation's (DOC's) biodiversity activities. The focus is on prioritising biodiversity investment in the areas that will make the most difference to nature, and clearly and consistently describing the work we are doing.
7. BioInvest has been funded through baseline and \$2.24m of International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy funding (over 3 years).

### **Overview of how BioInvest works**

8. BioInvest organises DOC's biodiversity work into six programme groups, related to the way we undertake biodiversity work (refer to slide 6 in Attachment A). The six groups are made up of 33 programmes covering all DOC's biodiversity work. Each programme has clearly defined outcomes and specific prioritisation criteria.
9. Given work within one programme (e.g. ecosystems work) often contributes to outcomes in other programmes (e.g. species management), there are synergies from overlapping activities. Showing these overlaps help us maximise the value of our work – we don't need to do it, and pay for it, twice.
10. The resource allocation software (Budget Explorer Tool) we developed takes all the outcome plans and our total biodiversity budget and enables us try out different ways to prioritise the resources we have.
11. This means we can provide more informed advice on how to use new investment (such as International Visitor Levy funding), and the impacts of reducing existing investment. The approach also identifies where we can deliver multiple benefits, and where others can align their work to contribute to national biodiversity goals.

### **Work underway**

12. We have captured all the biodiversity work DOC needs to undertake our legislative functions – which is over 13,000 outcome plans in all six programme groups.
13. We are now:
  - Ranking each project based on criteria such as urgency, feasibility, uniqueness of the species or ecosystem, the contribution made to our biodiversity (e.g. whether it's already protected) and the likely benefits of the work compared with no management.
  - Confirming that we're focusing on the right work. This will give us a clearer picture of the biodiversity outcomes we currently achieve, and it will help prioritise the work we want to undertake next, as well as the work we could consider deprioritising or not starting.

14. We will then, at scale, understand what we're achieving with our funding, what changing our investment would result in, and show opportunities for others to be involved (e.g. through the Nature Prospectus and the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy).

#### ***How costs are calculated***

15. Project costs are calculated based on examples of costed standard activities for undertaking the activities required at sites to achieve the relevant outcome (e.g. weed management, or managing threatened species), and for undertaking monitoring.
16. We estimate annual costs, and sequence them over 50 years where costs are expected to occur. A period of 50 years is considered (by the scientific community) to be an appropriate timeframe for maintaining ecological and biodiversity management outcomes.
17. Costs are inflation adjusted using Treasury long-term inflation forecasts, with no discounting applied.
18. For significant investment above current budget allocations, we can optionally add in overheads and contingency multipliers at a current agreed rate of 15% each. These multipliers are excluded from base estimates and current displays, as generally they will be covered through existing resourcing.
19. Costs for activities and sites are calculated separately for each outcome plan. When activities and sites overlap, their costs are shared proportionately within the budget. This ensures fair budget allocation and correct funding for each site and activity.

#### **Impact on DOC's biodiversity business for 2025/26**

20. The programme has been running for approximately 18 months and has already been used to support several investment decisions, including to selection of IVL projects – the IVL criteria were applied to projects in BioInvest.
21. For 2025/26 BioInvest will support prioritisation, planning and reporting of all of DOC's biodiversity work. The Senior Leadership Team are considering investment scenarios on 1 April 2025.
22. Following this, we will be implementing outcome-based performance measures rather than output measures (refer to slide 12 in Attachment A). We are currently working with The Treasury on these. Implementing them for 2025/26 will be a significant step, given it is generally considered to be difficult to develop and implement meaningful outcome-based measures.

#### **Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

23. This will change the way DOC prioritises biodiversity investment and make it much easier to talk about the outcomes we are achieving.
24. There is significant interest in this work, and we have started engaging with stakeholders (e.g. Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, the New Zealand Conservation Authority, Regional Council Chief Executives, Forest and Bird, Environment Defence Society) and other agencies (e.g. Ministry for the Environment and Ministry for Primary Industries) on progress.
25. We will provide a high-level overview at Status meeting week of 3 March and would welcome a deep-dive session with you on this programme of work. This would allow us to show you the visualisation and trade-off tools in real-time.

**ENDS**



A new system to optimise our conservation investment

# Biodiversity Investment Approach

Overview for Minister of Conservation –  
February 2025



Freshwater rangers, Waipoua River, Northland.  
Photo: Sarah Wilcox, DOC



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

**Te Kāwanatanga  
o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

# BioInvest

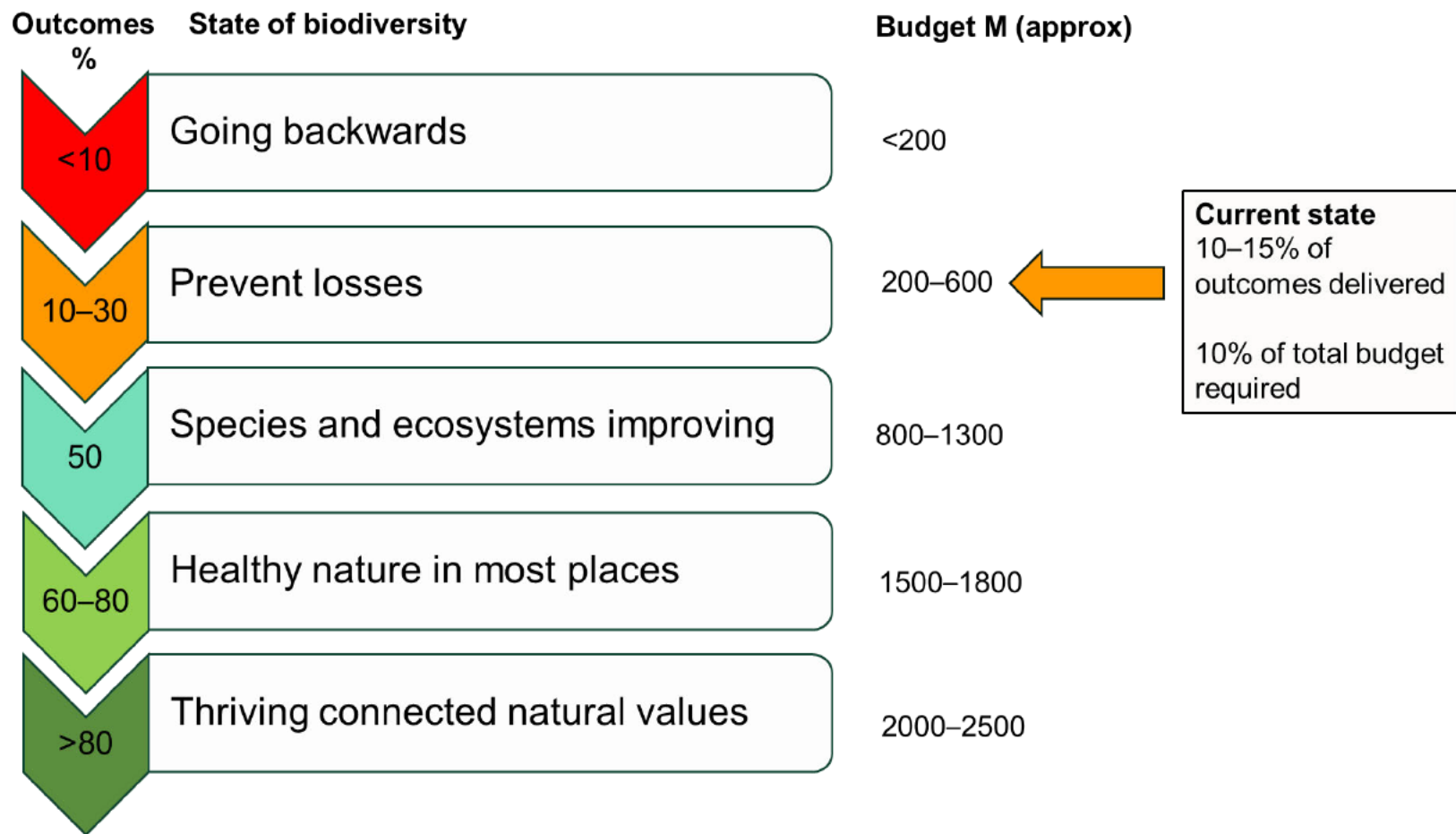
What the new approach  
enables us to do

- Shifts our investment decisions from **issue by issue** and species-specific investment to prioritised investment **across whole biodiversity portfolio**
- Objective allocation of funds to species and ecosystems based on outcome plans (with prioritisation)
- Outcome plans prepared for every species and ecosystem, including activities, sites and costs to manage to persistence of these
- Budget Explorer Tool shows spend and trade-offs to inform decision-making
- Efficient reporting and monitoring of work undertaken
- Outcomes can be measured and reviewed against quality standards

# The scale of the challenge

With current funding, the Department can deliver 10-15% of the outcomes needed for nature.

We're doing the important things – the things that matter with the limited money we've got. But it's a bit like treading water, we're trying to prevent things going backward.

























# Current work and next steps

8a.

## For 2025/26 DOC will have:

- All biodiversity work mapped spatially
- 5-year and 1-year outcome based targets and measures
- Clarity on trade-offs for investment decisions

## Work in Q1 and Q2 2025:

- Rolling out biodiversity outcome measures for 2025/26
- Regional mapping
- Agreeing multi-year targets
- Aligning finance systems to ensure seamless collection of information
- Ensuring outcomes are realistically funded
- Understanding aspirations of Minister and DOC SLT, and strategy to achieve them