

**From:** Abby Lawrence  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 April 2025 9:16 am  
**To:** s 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Consultation on the Lower Selwyn Huts Concession Applications  
**Attachments:** LSH Applicant Information.pdf; lower-selwyn-huts-aerial-map.pdf

Tēnā koutou,

I am writing to update and consult with you on the progress with the Lower Selwyn Huts Concessions applications.

The Department is now at the stage of processing the 49 applications for new concessions to a decision. I have shared below and attached an overview of the concession applications, as well as some further context for your information and understanding. As well as processing these applications to a decision, the Department will also be considering what terms, conditions and fees the new leases could entail.

*Please let us know if you have any comments, questions, or concerns on the applications by the 26th May 2025.*

**Location of proposed activity:** Lower Selwyn Huts, Springston (Greenpark Sands Conservation Area & Conservation Area Lower Selwyn Huts)

**Concessions applied for:** Leases

**Number of concession applications being considered:** This process comprises consideration of 49 individual applications in total that we are processing as part of a bulk process. Please refer to the information in the attached Applicant Information document for a complete list of applications and further details on each one.

**Term applied for:** Applicants have applied for varying terms (also outlined in the attached). *Please note these are terms that the applicants have applied for, they do not reflect what the final outcome will be if/when the Decision Maker grants the concessions.*

**Brief activity description:** All applications are for the lease of land for the existing private huts and structures that form the Lower Selwyn Huts settlement on the edge of Te Waihora. All the applicants have previously held a concession under the Conservation Act.

**Further context:**

- The Minister of Conservation (MOC) previously granted concessions in 2004 for a term of 5 years, with 3 rights of renewal for a further 5 years each. Those concessions expired on 30 June 2024, with no remaining rights of renewal.
- In March 2024, hut owners were invited to apply for new, 'transitional' concessions. A transition period of 10 years was proposed, which provides for the phasing out of the private huts in accordance with the Conservation General Policy (policy 10(h)) and allows time for hut occupiers to make alternative arrangements. In the interim, while the new applications are being processed, a month-to-month arrangement allows for the ongoing occupancy of the Land, in accordance with section 17ZAA of the Conservation Act 1987.
- The applications were publicly notified on Friday, 27 September 2024 in The Press and on the Department of Conservation website. ([Multiple lease applications for the Lower](#)

[Selwyn Huts: Have your say](#)) The notification period ended on Friday, 25 October 2024.

- In total 30 submissions were received, and zero objections were received. One submitter requested a hearing; they later withdrew their request. Accordingly, no hearing was required.

Ngā mihi maioha,

**Abby Lawrence** (she/her)  
Senior Ranger Community | Kaitiaki Matua, Ao Hāpori  
Christchurch | Mahaanui District Office  
Phone s 9(2)(a)

[www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)



Released under the Official Information Act 1982