

From: Andy Thompson
Sent: Thursday, 18 September 2025 2:55 pm
To: s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Update on Lower Selwyn Huts Concession Process - confidential

Tena kōura s 9(2)(a)

I wanted to give you an update on where DOC is at with the Lower Selwyn Huts concession decision.

As you know the applications have been publicly notified and submissions closed a little while ago. Once again we really appreciate your input into this process, it's been incredibly helpful. We are now a lot closer to final decision making. Part of this involves sharing the final report with applicants before the decision is made. However, before we do this I wanted to share with you our thoughts prior to it going to the applicants and/or it ending up in the media.

As you know Ngai Tahu advocated for a five-year term. We have been considering a number of options from 5-20 years. We are currently learning toward a 10-year term. This is to balance flooding issues, the views of our Treaty Partner, the need for a fair social process, meet the requirements of our general policy, insurance matters and the need to build in systems for removing huts at the end of term.

DOC hasn't made its decision yet, and the applicants have not been made aware of this thinking so this is a courtesy update. We realise this term is not ideal from a Ngai Tahu point of view. However, we feel it provides for a good environmental outcome (and is better than a 20-year term).

In the meantime you may be interested to know that we have now removed 5 huts, 3 others have been removed by hut owners themselves and we know at least 2 more are in the process of being removed by hut owners.

Please let me know if you have any questions and thanks again for your input into this process

Ngā mihi

Andy Thompson
Pou Matarautaki / Operations Manager Mahaanui
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Toitū te Taiao
We protect and restore nature



Tūi. Photo: Sabine Bernert



Department of
Conservation
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