



Briefing: Draft Cabinet paper seeking remaining policy decisions for Conservation Acts (Land Management) Amendment Bill

To	Minister of Conservation	Date submitted	22 August 2025
Action sought	Provide feedback on the draft Cabinet paper	Priority	Very High
Reference	25-B-0349	DocCM	DOC-10430456
Security Level	In Confidence	Timeframe	25 August 2025
Risk Assessment	High To meet your timeframes and introduce a Bill this year, ministerial consultation on the draft Cabinet paper must start by 25 August 2025		
Attachments	Attachment 1: Draft Cabinet paper: Further policy decisions for the Conservation Acts (Land Management) Amendment Bill		

Contacts	
Name and position	Phone
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Purpose – Te aronga

1. This briefing seeks your feedback on a draft Cabinet paper about remaining policy decisions relating to the Conservation Acts (Land Management) Amendment Bill.

Background and context – Te horopaki

2. On 30 June 2025, Cabinet made major policy decisions in relation to the Bill (CAB-25-MIN-0213 refers).
3. Cabinet has invited you to report back on a number of issues including:
 - s9(2)(f)(iv)

- whether there are any situations in which leases and licences with significant private capital investment should be contestable
- s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]
- s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]

4. s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]

Draft Cabinet paper

5. We have prepared a draft Cabinet paper for your consideration (Attachment 1). This paper reflects the recent policy decisions you have made on briefings 25-B-0334 and 25-B-0346.

Regulatory impact analysis

6. We expect three specific elements of your proposals will be subject to regulatory impact analysis requirements under Cabinet Office Circular CO (24) 7.
7. For one of these – a consequential amendment to the Coastal and Marine Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 – we are seeking an exemption from the requirement to prepare a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) on the grounds that the change will have only a minor impact. This change involves replacing a reference to “conservation management strategies” with a reference to “area plans” to align with the planned changes to the Conservation Act 1987.
8. For the remaining two, we are preparing RISs about:
- when certain existing concessions can be subject to a contestable process; and
 - s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]
9. These draft RISs will be provided to your office on 22 August so they can be circulated alongside the draft Cabinet paper to your ministerial colleagues on 25 August. DOC will then finalise these RISs, so that they can be lodged alongside the final Cabinet paper on 4 September.

Consultation – Kōrero whakawhiti

10. DOC will be carrying out agency consultation on the draft Cabinet paper in parallel to ministerial consultation. This will reduce the time required overall, and allow the Bill to be introduced this year.
11. The approach you have agreed with respect to consultation with Treaty partners will also involve ongoing discussions through, and alongside, the select committee process for the Bill.

Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga

12. In order to introduce the Bill this year, the Cabinet paper must be discussed at ECO on 10 September, with ECO’s decisions confirmed at Cabinet on 15 September.
13. This means that you will need to:
- circulate a draft Cabinet paper and draft RISs to your ministerial colleagues no later than 25 August 2025; and

- lodge the final Cabinet paper and final RISs no later than 4 September.
14. Should these timeframes not be met, it will not be feasible to introduce the Bill this year.

We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	Provide feedback on the draft Cabinet paper attached as soon as possible, so it can be circulated for ministerial consultation no later than 25 August.	Feedback provided / No feedback
b)	Note DOC will provide two draft Regulatory Impact Statements to your office by 25 August so they can be circulated with the draft Cabinet paper for ministerial consultation. These will then be finalised in time for lodging on 4 September.	Noted

s9(2)(a)

Date: 22/08/2025

Date: / /

Ewan Delany
Acting Deputy Director-General, Policy
and Regulatory Services

Hon Tama Potaka
Minister of Conservation

ENDS

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