

Potential economic activity on public conservation land



Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

For nationally and regionally significant infrastructure and development projects. Considered under the purpose of the FTAA: to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits

Crown Minerals Act 1991

Provides approvals for mining and extractive activities. Considered under the purpose of the CMA: to promote prospecting for, exploration for, and mining of Crown owned minerals for the benefit of New Zealand. Access to PCL for mining is only granted under the CMA or FTAA.

Conservation Acts

Managing use & effects of activities on public conservation land. Considered under the purpose architecture of the Conservation Act.

The Bill is making a number of improvements that will encourage greater economic development on conservation land:

Purpose changes have most impact here

Exemptions and Pre-Approvals

30–40% of current applications will be either exempt or pre-approved under NCPS.

Pre-assessment through spatial planning

Greater certainty by signalling in NCPS where certain activities are likely to be aligned with purpose for which the land is held and visitor zones. Includes utilities, roading, and public infrastructure (eg hydroelectric, water supply schemes, and pipes/cables/masts) as well as recreation and tourism infrastructure and facilities.

Concessions under standard processes

Only 2% of applications declined under current settings. Changes to regulatory settings already proposed by the Bill likely to reduce this, and reduce any 'chilling effect' deterring applications for economic activity.

Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill

NEB: establishes a framework for the use, protection, and enhancement of the natural environment.
PB: establishes a framework for planning and regulating the use, development, and enjoyment of land.

Broad alignment of approach with resource management reforms

