

Appendix 3: Panel biographies

Panel One (initially focussed on the Northern South Island)

Hon Chris Finlayson (Co-Chair)

The Hon Christopher Finlayson practised law in Wellington as a solicitor before going to the Bar in 2002. He was elected to Parliament in 2005 and became Attorney-General and Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations in 2008. He held those positions until October 2017. During his Ministerial career he also held a number of other portfolios. He was chair of the Privileges Committee of Parliament from 2011-2017.

Mr Finlayson retired from Parliament on 30 January 2019 to return to the Bar.

In the course of his career, Mr Finlayson has served on a number of professional bodies including: The New Zealand Council for Legal Education; The Rules Committee of the High Court; The New Zealand Council of Law Reporting; and a number of New Zealand Law Society Committees.

Outside of law, Mr Finlayson has had extensive involvement in arts and culture. He previously served as chair of the Arts Board of Creative New Zealand and was a trustee of a number of arts organisations before he entered Parliament. Since leaving Parliament he has become a trustee of Chamber Music New Zealand, The Archibald Baxter Memorial Trust, The School of Dance Foundation and the Adam Foundation.

Mr Finlayson is a foundation author of McGechan on Procedure, the leading text on the practice and procedure of the Senior Courts of New Zealand. In 2018 he received a grant from the New Zealand Law Foundation to complete a book on the Crown Māori relationship, and he is also in the initial stages of writing a book on the Office of the Attorney-General.

In the course of his career, he has appeared in all the courts of New Zealand in public and commercial law cases. In 2013 he represented New Zealand in the International Court of Justice in a case where Australia sued Japan seeking to stop commercial whaling in the Southern Ocean. New Zealand intervened and Mr Finlayson led the case for New Zealand.

Philip Woollaston (Co-Chair)

Former mayor of Nelson, Associate Minister for the Environment and Minister of Conservation in the 4th Labour government, Mr Woollaston chaired the Ministerial Committee which in 1987/8 allocated Crown land between DOC and the Crown corporations.

Internationally he was vice-president of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and co-chaired the Helsinki Conference of Parties.

For two years after leaving Parliament he was Policy Adviser to the UN Environment Programme, then spent two decades in the NZ wine production and export business, for several years chairing the Nelson Winegrowers' organisation.

Mr William (Willie) Shaw

Mr Shaw is a Principal Ecologist and a Director of Wildland Consultants Ltd. He is a very experienced ecologist, having worked for more than 40 years across Aotearoa/New Zealand on natural area surveys, ecosystem and species restoration, assessments of environmental effects, and assessments of ecological significance.

Mr Shaw has particular expertise in ecological restoration and the assessment of land use effects. He was previously employed as a scientist specialising in vegetation ecology, mapping and natural area management by DOC and the Forest Research Institute of New Zealand. Mr Shaw has considerable expertise in ecological research and ecological management, having also worked as a senior manager in a government department. His work has included extensive field studies throughout New Zealand (including its offshore islands), and more widely in the Pacific. He also worked in a consultancy business in Christchurch, with particular reference to nature conservation in both urban and rural areas.

As a scientist, Mr Shaw played an important role in management planning for natural areas, undertaking extensive botanical and biological surveys and conservation management assessments. He is the author of more than 500 ecological and botanical papers, reports, technical evidence, articles, and species lists. In 2015 he assisted Ngāi Tūhoe to establish a management team for Te Urewera. Since 2012 he has been a Crown-appointed to Te Pua O Whirinaki Regeneration Trust, working with Ngāti Whare. He is a previous member of the Whirinaki Conservation Park Advisory Committee (member five years, Chairperson three years), and was a seconded member of the East Coast National Parks and Reserves Board. Mr Shaw has also lectured in ecology, nature conservation and natural area management to tertiary level students of Resource Management, and undergraduate Parks and Recreation students at Lincoln University and Waiariki Polytechnic.

Ms Nicki Douglas

Ms Douglas is an Environment Manager with the Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Deputy Chair of Te Tahuhu o Tawakeheimoa – a Post Settlement Governance Entity for Ngāti Rangiwewehi.

Ms Douglas has affiliations with Ngāti Rangiwewehi, Ngāti Whakāue, Ngāti Porou and Raukawa.

Ms Douglas' professional background includes 15 years of experience with the Department of Conservation, working across community relations, management and partnerships.

Laura Coll McLaughlin

Ms Coll McLaughlin is a Licensed Cadastral Surveyor and Planning Consultant based in Westport. She holds a Bachelor of Surveying with First Class Honours and is an associate member of Survey and Spatial New Zealand (S+SNZ) and the New Zealand Planning Institute.

Ms Coll McLaughlin has extensive cadastral surveying experience and has worked on many projects involving land administered by the Department of Conservation. In

addition to cadastral surveying, she also has experience in engineering and construction surveying, monitoring surveys, hydrographic surveys, UAV surveying, topographical surveying, land development engineering inspections and resource consenting. She has served as the Education Representative for S+SNZ and as the Secretary-Treasurer and Young Surveyors Group Representative for the Westland Branch.

Ms Coll McLaughlin is serving her first term on the West Coast Regional Council representing the Buller constituency. She serves on the Council's Risk and Audit Committee and has been appointed to the Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee which is tasked with preparing a combined district plan for the West Coast. She is a member of Local Government New Zealand's National Policy Advisory Group. Last year, she obtained accreditation enabling her to act as a commissioner on RMA hearings panels. She is the Chair of the Homebuilders West Coast Trust board, an adult literacy and numeracy tutor and a member of Buller Surf Rescue.

Mr Geoff Canham

Mr Canham is a Principal Parks and Recreation Specialist, an Accredited Parks and Recreation Professional, and a Certified Parks Professional International.

Mr Canham runs a specialist parks and recreation consultancy with 37 years' experience in: agency/local government parks and recreation; recreation leadership; planning; and project management within New Zealand and overseas. Mr Canham has worked for five local authorities in the parks/environment field, four of which being in New Zealand, including eight years with Tauranga City Council as Parks and Leisure infrastructure Manager. Mr Canham has assisted DOC on strategic projects for 'Heritage and Visitor Management' since 2018 and prepares recreation evidence for the Environment and High Courts. Mr Canham has previously assisted DOC with an independent peer review of a commercial joint venture proposed between DOC and multiple agencies at Te Anau on Public Conversation Land.

Mr Canham has been involved in overseas projects that involved co-designing with indigenous peoples on subject matter to effect joint environmental outcomes. Mr Canham has also participated in review processes for whole of landscape scale projects for Californian National Parks Agencies. In 2013 Mr Canham was awarded the Ian Galloway Memorial Cup for Excellence and Outstanding Contribution to the Wider Parks Industry.

Ms Mary O'Keefe

Ms O'Keefe is a consultant archaeologist. She has run her consultancy, Heritage Solutions, since 1997. Ms O'Keefe has undertaken a variety of heritage projects, including archaeological assessments, on-site archaeological monitoring of earthworks and construction, policy development, provided guidance to local government, and appeared numerous times as an Expert Witness in Environment Court.

Her notable projects include: the MacKays to Peka Peka Expressway; Transmission Gully Expressway; Peka Peka to Otaki Expressway, West Wind windfarm; seismic strengthening of Shed 6 and Queens Wharf, Wellington; conservation and remedial work for Government House, Wellington; assessments for various projects for

Transpower; redevelopment of Wellington Hospital site; archaeological contribution to Central City Framework project, for Wellington City Council.

Ms O'Keefe is a board member and previous Chair of ICOMOS New Zealand. She is a member of the New Zealand Archaeological Association. She is past President and Patron of the Maritime Archaeology Association of New Zealand. She has sat on the Wellington Conservation Board, and the Katherine Mansfield Birthplace Trust. She is a guest lecturer in heritage matters for the School of Architecture, Victoria University of Wellington. She has undertaken an expert mission for World Heritage inscription for UNESCO.

Mr Mita Ririnui

Mr Mita Ririnui is a former New Zealand politician and a member of the Labour Party. He was a Member of Parliament from 1999 to 2011. At the beginning of his second term as an MP, Mr Ririnui was appointed as a Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the ministers responsible for Conservation, Corrections and Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations.

Before entering politics and after leaving, Mr Mita worked for a number of notable Maori community organisations including Te Puni Kōkiri and is currently the chairperson on the Tauranga Moana Maori Trust Board; a trustee for Te Runanga o Ngaiterangi Inc and a board member on the Ngaiterangi Settlement Trust.

Mr Ririnui is currently involved in a number of projects including wetland restoration and native tree planting; cultural monitoring and overseeing development projects. He is active in the Freshwater Futures Forum – working with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, and DOC and local communities to better manage wetlands, waterways and the surrounding environment for future generations.

Panel Two (initially focussed on the Western South Island)

Dr Jan Wright

Dr Jan Wright was New Zealand's third Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment from March 2007 to October 2017.

Dr Wright has a Physics honours degree from the University of Canterbury, a Master's degree in Energy and Resources from University of California, Berkeley, and a PhD in Public Policy from Harvard University. She is a Companion of the Royal Society and the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate in Science from Lincoln University.

Her varied career includes working as an independent policy and economic consultant for many different government agencies, as a member of various Crown Entity Boards, and as a teacher at Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate in Otago.

In her politically independent role as Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Dr Wright undertook investigations into many environmental issues, including the controversial pesticide 1080, stewardship land, and the plight of New Zealand's native birds. Dr Wright is currently Chair of the nationally significant conservation project Te Manahuna Aoraki.

Dr William (Bill) Lee

Dr Lee is a research associate at Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research and is an experienced conservation ecologist. He has published widely on native and introduced herbivores, the processes influencing plant community assembly, ecology and impacts of plant invasions, and threatened species management. Dr Lee has been involved in developing national biodiversity assessment indicators and the application of biodiversity offset frameworks. Dr Lee has extensive experience of New Zealand vegetation, especially non-forest communities in extreme environments, predominantly in the South Island. He has given keynote addresses at policy and ecological conferences on the management and evolutionary character of the distinctive New Zealand biota.

Dr Lee is a conservation ecologist interested in the eco-evolutionary process shaping the New Zealand biota, invasion processes and outcomes, and habitat management for specific outcomes.

Dr Les Molloy

Dr Molloy spent most of his scientific career as a soil scientist at DSIR, before 10 years working in policy and planning in DOC. Since 1997 he has been a natural heritage consultant both in New Zealand and internationally. He has an extensive knowledge of the range of conservation lands managed by DOC and is the author of eight books on New Zealand's landforms, soils, and wild lands.

His experience on government-appointed expert panels includes: the Independent Review Panel on Indigenous Forests managed by Timberlands West Coast (2000); the Tentative List of New Zealand Cultural and Natural World Heritage Sites (2006); and the West Coast Marine Protection Forum (2007). He was a member on the Nature Heritage Fund committee for eight years and authored the book outlining the 25 years of conservation achievements of the fund (2016).

Ms Jo Breese

Ms Breese's career has focussed on conservation of natural and cultural heritage, including recreation. Ms Breese is a Trustee of Zealandia, a member of The Nature Conservancy Advisory Board Aotearoa New Zealand and a Crown appointee to the inaugural Te Urewera Board. She has a good understanding of mātauranga Māori.

Working both in New Zealand and Asia Pacific, Ms Breese has been involved in many projects including UNDP programmes in Vietnam and Malaysia. She served two 3-year terms as a member of the NZ Conservation Authority. Prior to this Ms Breese was on the board of Antarctica New Zealand. She was Chief Executive of WWF-NZ between 1999 and 2006 and before that, was for 6 years the Chief Executive of Booksellers NZ.

Ms Katharine Watson

Ms Watson is a consultant archaeologist with nearly 20 years' experience. Ms Watson is based in Canterbury and has worked throughout the South Island, but particularly in Canterbury and on the West Coast.

Ms Watson has considerable experience in the archaeology of pastoralism and the high country, coal and gold mining, buildings archaeology and urban archaeology. She is very familiar with the Māori archaeology of the areas that she has worked in.

Ms Watson has worked extensively on the tenure review programme for DOC, and has undertaken numerous heritage assessments for DOC, particularly on the West Coast.

Mr Philip Blakely

Mr Blakely is a partner and director of Blakely Wallace Associates, a landscape architecture and planning consultancy based in Arrowtown and established in 1997. Prior to 1997 he was employed by the Department of Conservation as a landscape architect working across the broad spectrum of activities of the Department.

Mr Blakely has had over 30 years' experience in landscape design, urban design, landscape assessment, planning and management, primarily in the South Island and previous experience in Australia. He has worked on a number of developments for high use public sites (many on the Conservation Estate), integrating development into sensitive sites and landscapes (urban and rural). Key strengths include site planning and design and finding workable and appropriate solutions to planning and design projects, which respond to function and the environment.

A key area of Mr Blakely's work in recent years has been in landscape assessment including contributing to assessments of conservation values of public lands undergoing reclassification. He has also prepared more than 50 property landscape assessments for the South Island High Country tenure review programme.

He is a Registered Member of the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects (NZILA) and served for two terms on the National Executive of NZILA.

Dr Marama Muru-Lanning

Dr Muru-Lanning is an Associate Professor and Director at the James Henare Māori Research Centre at the University of Auckland. Dr Muru-Lanning holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Auckland. Her research is primarily concerned with debates and critical challenges in social anthropology where she focuses on the cultural specificity of iwi-Māori and their unique sense of place and belonging in New Zealand. She specialises in water, human-environment relationships, mātauranga and indigenous knowledge.

Dr Muru-Lanning has affiliations to Waikato, Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Whātua.