



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

In-Confidence

Department of Conservation Status Report

Week beginning: 3 August 2020

Seen by Hon Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

1 Standing and Priority Items

1.1 RMA advocacy

DOC's recent RMA work is as follows:

Appeals

Whangarei District Plan Change

- On 15 July 2020 the Director-General of Conservation appealed a decision on Whangarei District Council's Urban and Services Plan Changes.
- The decision, released on 28 May 2020, outlined the necessity of kauri dieback provisions, however there are significant gaps in the coverage of measures in the district plan to avoid the further spread of kauri dieback disease.
- The Director-General's appeal focuses on the need to address the gaps in objectives, policies and rules to ensure management of kauri dieback disease when undertaking land-use activities such as earthworks or vegetation clearance.
- DOC is currently assessing whether to join any appeals as a section 274 party.
- Whangarei District Council will file a memorandum with the Environment Court by 14 August which identifies the grouping of topics for appeals. DOC will then work closely with council to attempt to settle outstanding concerns through mediation.

Contact: [REDACTED]

1.2 Kauri dieback and myrtle rust

No update this week.

Contact: [REDACTED]

1.3 Tahr Programme update

- As allowed for following the high court judgment, we have commenced half our planned control inside the tahr feral range while we undertake further consultation on the Operational Plan. This has included control in Westland Tai Poutini and Aoraki/Mt Cook National Parks as well as control in other management units, and will continue as weather permits.
- Planning for DOC to receive verbal submissions is now complete. This portion of the consultation process will be held on 3 August in Christchurch, followed by the opportunity for the relevant stakeholders to provide written submissions.
- Following completion of the consultation process, we expect to make a decision on the Tahr Control Operation Plan 2020/21 in mid-August.
- It is anticipated that you will continue to receive queries on tahr management from inside and outside the House throughout this process, potentially including when DOC publishes updates on control and the outcome of the decision on the TCOP 2020/21.
- A proactive communication approach will support publication of tahr control undertaken in July.
- Targeting of Heli operators/contractors on social media, and/or other methods, may continue. Any threats are being led through DOC's Security & Investigation Team with strong engagement from NZ Police.

- We have formed a small task force to ensure appropriate connections are made across the various streams of work currently arising from this programme.

Contact: [REDACTED]

1.4 Jobs for Nature Unit

- Enquiries continue to come into the Jobs for Nature email address. 106 jobseeker emails have been received and responded to so far, ten of these in the last week. As discussed with you on 30 July, we are working with MSD to contribute to a MSD-led website that is intended to act as a 'front door' for jobseekers. Further work will occur to improve the DOC Jobs for Nature portal.
- We are working with Te Uru Rakau and Project Crimson to understand what resources of plants and trees exist currently and how to continue the resourcing of nursery plants to support Jobs for Nature planting projects. We will continue to update you on this issue.
- We are developing tools and systems for capturing project information that will lead to easier and better reporting. An interactive, DOC-specific Dashboard is in its early stages and we are working with MfE and the Secretariat to ensure reporting is consistent across agencies as well as informative reporting for Ministers.
- Tranche 2 of quick start initiatives are now finalised, with all applicants formally notified.
- We are working with your office to support announcements for these initiatives, including the Backcountry Trust, Predator Free NZ Trust and the Tairāwhiti Agroecology Recovery Project.
- Your announcement video was shared at the Sustainable Business Network's AGM, and via their social media channels with a positive response.
- A paper seeking further Jobs for Nature programme-level approval has been submitted for the SLU Ministers' meeting on 3 August. This paper has been further revised to make the intended purpose of the funding requests clearer.
- We are in the review stage of the Kiwis for Kiwi agreement. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. We met with Kiwis for Kiwi on 30 July to understand their engagement with Treaty Partners on this initiative to date.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2 Updates

2.1 Wildlife Institutions Relief Fund (WIRF) – applications close

- Applications closed on 27 July for funding from the \$14.89 million Wildlife Institutions Relief Fund. 30 applications were received, with a total \$14.25 million in funding requested. A further \$150,000 is being provided to two institutions as emergency funding, to ensure these institutions remain operating while full applications are assessed.
- We are currently undertaking the assessment of applications with Ministry for Primary Industries staff. Funding decisions are planned to be made mid-August and, following notification to applicants, the outcomes will be posted to DOC's website. We are expecting to finalise arrangements by the end of August 2020 and set up Deeds of Grant to direct the funding to the wildlife institutions.
- 11 of the 30 applicants have also requested funding from the Strategic Tourism Assets Protection Programme (STAPP). Outcomes of the STAPP allocations will be factored into the WIRF funding decisions.
- We will keep you updated on the allocation of the Fund through the Status Report.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.2 Nature Heritage Fund (NHF) update – next funding round

- In mid-June you indicated that the next NHF funding round should focus on the permanent protection of wetlands on the West Coast (South Island).
- At the weekly status meeting on 20 July you confirmed this direction and instructed us to proceed.
- Approximately \$2 million is available to support this funding round.
- We have informed the NHF Committee Chair Jan Riddell of your decision to focus the funding round on West Coast wetlands (limited to the West Coast Regional Council's boundary).
- We will work with the NHF Committee to open the next funding round by 5 August.
- We will publicise this round on DOC's website and advise key stakeholders on the West Coast (e.g. councils, local DOC staff).
- The round will be open until mid-October 2020 to provide applicants sufficient time to submit applications.
- The NHF Committee will make funding recommendations by late November 2020.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.3 Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and Department of Conservation (DOC) strategic plan

- Discussions regarding an enduring relationship between MSD and DOC have commenced and a Strategic Plan, containing common strategic imperatives, will be developed within the next month. Work will then commence on a work programme for the next 4 years.
- MSD have resourced DOC \$175,360, to assist DOC to support two pilot programmes training MSD clients to work in nature. The pilots will be led by Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Greater Wellington Regional Council. These will inform both agencies as to how we might better support unemployed people to work in nature as part of the Jobs for Nature initiative. Resourcing will also be made available so both pilots can pay clients the living wage.
 - The Greater Wellington Regional Council pilot is commencing at Kohunui Marae, Martinborough, on 3 August 2020. Ten MSD clients will complete a 9 week training programme supported by DOC, MSD and iwi. The work is concentrated around Wairarapa Moana “sea of glistening waters”. This location is internationally important and the largest lake and wetland complex in the lower North Island.
 - DOC and the Te Arawa Lakes Trust are in discussions regarding the second pilot training a further 10 MSD clients to work in nature. We will provide an update in a subsequent status report.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.4 Kaitorete

- Parties to the environment court proceedings, regarding the destruction of biodiversity values on private land at Kaitorete in 2018, met again this week and are continuing to work to resolve the issue. The parties are two Papatipu Rūnanga – Taumutu and Wairewa; Forest & Bird; Environment Canterbury; Christchurch City Council; Wangan Hills Ltd (landowner) and DOC.
- Currently there is an interim enforcement order (determined in May 2020) to ensure there is no more destruction of the biodiversity values, while parties determine how to resolve the situation.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- We have identified the area of the highest ecological values and have agreed to work with Treaty Partners on how to protect this area [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.5 Development of a new Marine Monitoring and Reporting Framework (MMRF)

- We have developed a draft Marine Monitoring and Reporting Framework (MMRF) for New Zealand's marine reserves, based on assessing the overall health of a marine reserve or its 'ecological integrity'.
- This marks a major step forward in our ability to accurately assess the status of our marine reserves, moving away from ad hoc monitoring that is focused on exploited species towards a more holistic approach that considers community and ecosystem level responses to protection, as well as including the ability to expand or develop new indicators to capture Treaty Partner aspirations.
- It will provide more comprehensive data to better understand the dynamic nature and condition of our marine ecosystems and will provide an early warning system to help inform effective mitigation and management actions.
- The MMRF is currently being peer reviewed and will be implemented through marine reserve monitoring plans, which are being co-developed with mana moana and local operations.
- The implementation of the framework is supported through Biodiversity 2018 funding including new Marine Reserve Management (monitoring and compliance) rangers.
- More information on this important programme of work is available on request.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.6 Hector's and Maui dolphin TMP: Marine mammal sanctuary and whale sanctuary variations

- On 30 July we provided a briefing to you following the closure of a 28-day consultation on the above sanctuary variations to protect Hector's and Maui dolphins.
- Officials are scheduled to meet with you to discuss the content of this briefing on Tuesday 4 August.
- We have indicated in the briefing that a response is required from you outlining your final decisions on the sanctuary variations by 6 August.
- Immediately following your decision, officials will provide you with consent letters for the Ministers of Energy and Resources, Transport, Fisheries and Crown Maori Relations - Te Arawhiti.
- Once consent has been confirmed from the above Ministers, officials will provide you with a direct-to-Cabinet noting paper outlining your decisions for the Cabinet meeting on 24 August.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.7 Mt Ruapehu ski areas carparking & Whakapapa Village visitor management

- Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL) implemented its online carpark booking system at Whakapapa and Turoa ski areas on 25 July.
- The system ran successfully and effectively managed peak visitor flows, congestion and capacity on the ski areas.
- The system integrates with DOC's winter parking limits in Whakapapa Village to manage safety risks and improve visitor experience in Tongariro National Park.

- DOC staff and contractors in Whakapapa Village are managing congestion, educating visitors, and conducting compliance.

Contact:

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3 Director-General Engagements

August

3 August	Seafood Sustainability Awards, Grand Hall, Parliament
4 August	Forest and Bird/DOC Hui, F&B Wellington
5 August	Speaking Engagement with Rotary Group, Wellington Club
5 August	Chief Executives Economic and Environment Forum, TBC
7 August	Launch of Sentinel A Nuku, Turangi
14 August	Ohau Downs/Drylands Launch, Canterbury
14 August	Tuwharetoa Maori Trust Board – Waters – CE's Forum, Te Puni Kōkiri Wellington (Michelle Hippolite attending for Lou)
15 August	Hokitika Gorge Opening Blessing (Conservation Week), Hokitika
19 August	Nature through New Eyes (Conservation Week), Te Puia, Hemo Rd Rotorua
20 August	Conservation Week function, Cable Room Harbourside, Wellington
21 August	NZ Conservation Authority, DOC Wellington
22-23 August	Conservation Board Chairs Conference, West Plaza Wellington
27-28 August	State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Brackenridge Martinborough

September

4 September	Whispers of Gold Book Launch – Friends of Waiuta, National Library
18 September	Mackenzie Agency Alignment CE Forum, Via MS Teams
22 September	Risk and Assurance Committee meeting, DOC Wellington
29 September	Senior Leaders hui, TBC

October

13-14 October	Senior Leadership Team Retreat, Pounui
15-16 October	NZ Conservation Authority, Napier

4 Addendum

This section includes content that is sensitive or is being considered by the Minister of Conservation or other Ministers. This information is not being released proactively.

Subject headings of content in this section are:

- Forthcoming report from the Environmental Defence Society (EDS): Protecting the Hauraki Gulf islands

Events, Announcements & Media Opportunities

- Upcoming new projects in Predator Free 2050 Tools to Market
- Tu Te Rakiwhanoa Drylands Heritage Area Launch
- Waiheke Island Marine
- Accessibel launch in Dunedin

Proactively Released



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Te Papa Atawhai

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Department of Conservation Status Report

Week beginning: 10 August 2020

Seen by Hon Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

1 Standing and Priority Items

1.1 Kauri dieback and myrtle rust

No entry this week.

Contact: [REDACTED].

1.2 Jobs for Nature Unit

- We continue to receive enquiries to the Jobs for Nature email address. 129 jobseeker emails have been received and responded to so far, 23 of these in the last week.
- On 10 August, the Ministry of Social Development is launching an all of government website (www.connected.govt.nz) and an 0800 line as part of the COVID-19 business recovery investment in jobs. Once up and running, job seekers will be directed to this website.
- Following SLU Ministers' approval of the Kaimahi for Nature programme, we are progressing the first Alliance application 'Kotahitanga mō te Taiao' (Northern South Island) through internal approval processes to enable its formal establishment within the Jobs for Nature programme as a Regional Alliance. Other Regional Alliances are in the pipeline and will be progressed through the process over the coming few weeks. A kete of resources to support Alliances and DOC staff will support information provided to the Reference Group at their next meeting on 20 August.
- We have begun landing seed funding for Tranche 1 and 2 quick-starts and are nearing completion to land the agreements and processes for larger funding amounts. We are focusing our internal monitoring and reporting on the outcomes arising from these Quick Starts.
- We are consolidating a response to earlier Reference Group feedback on the 3 quick-start initiatives under the Restoring Nature programme [REDACTED] and will keep your office informed on this. These 3 projects will be tabled to be noted by SLU Ministers at the upcoming meeting on 24 August.
- The 'in-flight' project 'Raukūmara: North Island Indigenous Forest Restoration Programme' will be tabled for SLU Ministers to note at the next meeting on 10 August, prior to your announcement of this project on 11 August.
- [REDACTED]

Contact: Reg Kemper, Chief Advisor, Jobs for Nature: [REDACTED]

1.3 RMA advocacy

DOC's recent RMA work is as follows:

Appeals

Plan Change 1 to West Coast Regional Land and Water Plan

- On 12 July 2020, we decided not to appeal the West Coast Regional Council's decisions on Plan Change 1 to the West Coast Regional Land and Water Plan.
- Plan Change 1 was limited to scheduled wetland boundaries, sphagnum moss harvesting and other omnibus changes.

- On 13 July 2020, we received one notice of appeal from Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio which is broad in nature, but does mention two specific matters in relation to Lake Kini (wetland) and South Island Landless Natives Act 1906 (SILNA) and the RMA.
- We have joined this appeal as a s274 party.

Amberfield Appeal

- As per previous Status Report updates (30 September 2019 and 25 November 2019), we have continued our involvement with the appeal relating to an application for subdivision in south Hamilton, the first development within the Peacockes Structure Plan (Amberfield).
- Within the Amberfield site, the long-tailed bat population is one of only three peri-urban long-tailed bat populations nationally, and is in decline due to ongoing development and other pressures.
- We have been engaged in mediation and caucusing with the applicant Weston Lea Ltd, Hamilton City Council and interested parties Riverlea Environmental Society Incorporated and Forest and Bird. It is now likely the case will go to Environment Court, with a date set down for 31 August.
- Amberfield and the opening up of the city's Peacocke growth cell are the subject of media and public interest and we have a short statement prepared if comment from DOC is sought by media.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2 Updates

2.1

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.2 Dart Valley (Whakatipu) Mohua update

- You asked for further information on the status of the mohua in Dart Valley after receiving the draft ministerial reply to Linda Cook (20-A-0325).
- The mohua population in the Dart Valley has declined over the past 15 years; it is now around a quarter of what it originally was.
- In 2000 there was a dramatic reduction of mohua in the Dart Valley because of a significant beech mast; the population recovered over the next five years but then continued to decline since.
- Between 2012 and 2019 there were two substantial beech masts, with the 2019 mast likely the largest for 50 years.
- Both masts were treated with 1080, however 1080 does not completely eliminate the effects of rat and stoat plagues. While the operations prevented mohua from declining further, they were not sufficient to allow the population to recover.
- Following the 2019 operation the high numbers of rats in surrounding non-treated forests, coupled with the extraordinary rat population growth rates due to the super-abundant food, meant there was a rapid recovery in rat abundance after the 1080 operation.
- Amongst the factors that are likely to have caused the lack of success are large beech mast and red beech. During large beech masts, the amount of seed on the ground means 1080 baits may be relatively less attractive and fewer rats are killed. Red beech produces the largest seeds of all the beeches; heavy mast in forests dominated by red beech (like the Dart) produce the most food for rats and makes the 1080 baits even less attractive. This is a problem in all the eastern South Island (east of the divide) red beech forested valleys, the Dart, Caples, Eglinton, Hawdon, Poulter, Hurunui, Maruia and Nelson Lakes Valleys.
- The Dart mohua population is looking likely to decrease further during 2020, with a possibility it could go functionally extinct in the next six months. We cannot accurately predict how much the population will decline by as we have never monitored mohua through a beech mast as substantial as the 2019 event.
- Current advice from DOC technical staff is that the best available strategy is the use of bait stations repeatedly and using a different poison. There is a risk of bait aversion from repeated 1080 operations in quick succession.

- We activated the bait station network in the Dart area in July 2020. The activation was delayed from early 2020 due to challenges around staff/contractor capacity, the February floods, and the COVID-19 lockdown.
- We are also now exploring the possibility of undertaking 1080 operations in the spring before the beech mast to stop potential rat plagues early.
- You asked why the recovery group is not more involved. The Mohua Recovery Group has been very useful in providing strategic advice, and a member of Operations Team is on the group, however it is not the group's role to direct implementation of the actual pest control method. This is the role of the District Operations team.
- We acknowledge communication with the group has not been seamless and are working to improve communication, with an additional senior Operations team member now attending Mohua Recovery Group meetings, following Linda Cook's feedback.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.3 Update on southeast marine protection process

- Public consultation recommenced on 3 June for two months and has now concluded.
- As at 4 August, we had received 3,906 submissions. We are working to reconcile submissions and ensure there are no duplicates. We are also considering late submissions on a case by case basis for up to a week, at which time we need to undertake detailed analysis. Final consultation outcomes will be provided to you by 3 September.
- We are currently preparing two briefings for your consideration:
 - The first (due 17 August) is to seek your decision on whether to obtain an independent review in relation to the Director-General's applications for six proposed marine reserves along the southeast coast of the South Island. An independent review of the application and objections will provide you and the public with additional confidence in the process that has been followed.
 - Second is advice from the Director-General on southeast marine protection (due 3 September). We are required to provide you with copies of all objections received by 3 September following the public consultation process. We expect to provide you with a summary of submissions, copies of all submissions received including objections, and a short covering memo outlining the next steps. We intend to prepare more fulsome advice and analysis to help inform ministerial decisions later in 2020.
- Following the postponement of our 30 March hui with Kāi Tahu, we held a hui on 29 July at Ōtākou Marae. The hui was chaired by Edward Ellison and attended by senior leaders from DOC, MPI, TRoNT and Papatipu Rūnaka as well as staff and wider whānau.
- The hui went exceptionally well. The tone and tenor of the kōrero was constructive and solutions focused. A lot of preparation had gone into the hui and it was evident that participants were well prepared, clear on the purpose and in agreement with the actions.
- The team will continue to work with Kāi Tahu over the coming months in the spirit of the Treaty partnership. We will provide further updates to you once key actions have been progressed. We expect to provide more fulsome advice on this to inform ministerial decision-making.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.4 'Our Estuaries' information hub

- Conservation on estuaries is undertaken by a wide range of groups and agencies. Coordination of this effort is critical to success, as is provision of information resources to ensure actions are effective and enduring.
- The Our Estuaries Hub, launched in 2016, acts as a central source of this information.
- The final six modules of an exciting estuaries teacher resource went live on our website on 7 August: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/protecting-our-estuaries>
- This is a new component of the Our Estuaries Hub which provides a wealth of information to support managers and communities around Aotearoa to make a difference to these special places. There are interactive maps that show where monitoring and restoration work is happening, citizen science 'featured projects', revegetation guidance, and links to a large range of other resources including some in Te Reo Māori.
- We have an active programme of work around estuaries and recently provided significant information support to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment for his estuaries report due out in the week of 10 August.

Contact:

3 Director-General Engagements

August

- 14 August Ohau Downs/Drylands Launch, Canterbury
- 14 August Tuwharetoa Maori Trust Board – Waters – CE's Forum, Te Puni Kōkiri Wellington (Michelle Hippolite attending for Lou)
- 15 August Hokitika Gorge Opening Blessing (Conservation Week), Hokitika
- 19 August Nature through New Eyes (Conservation Week), Te Puia, Rotorua
- 20 August Conservation Week function, Cable Room Harbourside, Wellington
- 21 August NZ Conservation Authority, DOC Wellington
- 22-23 August Conservation Board Chairs Conference, West Plaza Wellington
- 27-28 August State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Brackenridge Martinborough

September

- 4 September Whispers of Gold Book Launch – Friends of Waiuta, National Library
- 18 September Mackenzie Agency Alignment CE Forum, Via MS Teams
- 22 September Risk and Assurance Committee meeting, DOC Wellington
- 29 September Senior Leaders hui, TBC

October

- 13-14 October Senior Leadership Team Retreat, Pounui
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4 Addendum

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Subject headings of content in this section are:

- Budget 2020
- Tourism Futures Taskforce
- Arthur's Pass Destination and Investment Framework

Events, Announcements & Media Opportunities

- Hokitika gorge opening

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Department of
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Te Papa Atawhai

In-Confidence

Department of Conservation Status Report

Week beginning: 17 August 2020

Seen by Hon Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

1 Standing and Priority Items

1.1 Kauri Dieback and Myrtle Rust

- We received 98 lab results back from soil samples taken to determine the presence or absence of *Phytophthora agathidicida* from priority sites identified through aerial surveillance. The samples were taken post COVID 19 lockdown and prior to the rainy season. They returned several positive detections for *Phytophthora agathidicida* in 8 reserves in Northland.
- Whilst disappointing, these results were somewhat expected as the sites were either not previously sampled or had returned undetected results from samples taken 5+ years ago (prior to the use of aerial surveillance). Some of these are on small, isolated pockets of Public Conservation Land.
- This does not necessarily indicate recent spread as it is possible that the pathogen has been present for several years and has only now been detected by further/initial testing in these areas. We will now do further work to understand reasons for detection and undertake management interventions to protect these forests from further spread.
- DOC's relevant district offices are engaging with scientists for guidance, and relevant hapū and stakeholders. From these discussions, action plans will be developed to manage the disease according to the circumstances. Updates will be provided when the actions are determined.
- The sample sites will only be loaded onto the MPI database after all hapū and stakeholders have been contacted and engaged with.

Contact:

1.2 Jobs for Nature Unit

- The all of government website (www.connected.govt.nz) and 0800 line was launched by the Ministry of Social Development on Monday. We have directed the 79 individual jobseekers who have previously registered their interest with Jobs for Nature to this website and future jobseekers will also be directed there. We are working with MSD to ensure that jobs resulting from Jobs for Nature funding will be accessible through MSD.
- Planting resources have been impacted by lockdown as seed recovery was not undertaken. There will be an increase in what is already a high demand for native plants due to the increase in funding for restoration projects. We are working with Te Uru Rākau who are leading a cross-agency approach to support nurseries to provide enough nursery stock and resources to support Jobs for Nature planting work.
- The Jobs for Nature Reference Group are meeting on Monday 20 August. Our update will include a response to prior Reference Group feedback on the four quick-start projects within the Restoring Nature funding stream; an update on the Kaimahi for Nature funding stream, including the kete of supporting resources; and an update on the announcement for the 'Raukumara' restoration project.
- The first alliance application for recognition 'Kotahitanga mo te Taiao' (Northern South Island) has been processed and approved under the Kaimahi for Nature work stream.
- The first project application for this alliance was received on Wednesday 12 August and is currently being assessed as a quick-start project within the Kaimahi for Nature model. Quick start principles are being applied as this first application is being used for testing the Kaimahi for Nature system design. It is expected that this project will also be tabled for the upcoming Reference Group meeting on 20 August. We will keep you informed on progress.
- We have a final draft Agreement prepared with Kiwis for Kiwi, for the in-flight project 'accelerating and scaling up community-led and iwi-led predator control'. (20-B-0629 refers). The Agreement will be signed once feedback has been received on this memo.

- The inter-agency Secretariat is developing common metrics for reporting and monitoring and defining its future role and how it, together with the component agencies, will be configured to support that. The Reference Group and all agencies involved in Jobs for Nature are now moving from seeking approval for 'quick-starts' to implementing these and developing a framework to identify priorities and support to deliver regional and national programmes.

Contact: Reg Kemper, Chief Advisor, Jobs for Nature: [REDACTED]

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2 Updates

2.1 Acquisition of Simons Hill Station confirmed

- As reported in the Status Report dated 21 July 2020, DOC has an opportunity to acquire approximately 1,200 hectares of land in the Mackenzie Basin within freehold land owned by Mr. Murray Valentine (the Vendor), known as the Drylands Recovery Area (DRA).
- The ESI Operations Director approved an offer for \$1 subject to the completion of the Simons Pass Tenure Review, which was presented to the Vendor.
- The Vendor has accepted the DOC offer. This acquisition will be implemented in tandem with the tenure review.
- This land contains significant ecological, cultural and recreational values and it will be a significant addition to the Crown estate in the Mackenzie Basin.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.2 Balls Clearing Scenic Reserve

- A permit was issued to Mana Ahuriri Trust on 8 March 2019, to allow the “collection of plant material from a conservation area”, and for the “collection of treefall from a conservation area for cultural purposes” to enable mana whenua to build pou for a marae.
- Reserves permitted include Balls Clearing Scenic Reserve, William Hartree Scenic Reserve, Fern Bird Bush Nature Reserve and Kaweka Forest Park. Tree species include Rimu, Totara, Maire and Matai.
- Members of the Puketitiri community have a long history and interest in protecting the Balls Clearing Scenic Reserve.
- The community feels that fallen trees should be left to decompose as per the natural ecosystem process and in respect to the Scenic Reserve status. They believe that DOC should have engaged in consultation with the community before the permit was issued.
- DOC has recently facilitated two meetings between the community and iwi to share information, perspectives and understanding, to attempt to resolve the matter.
- Work is ongoing to address community concerns and support iwi in respect to Section 4 commitments.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.3 Rangitata Restoration Project update

- We have established a governance group with Treaty partners Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua to oversee the restoration of the Rangitata River catchment. This partnership has moved from determining the way we want to work together and a vision, into decision making governance activities.
- A formal invitation to join the governance group will be sent to Environment Canterbury and LINZ as the two other strategic statutory partners in the project. The first full governance group meeting is expected to be held in September.
- The September governance meeting will establish and agree the project goals and begin work on mapping the actions needed to achieve these goals. A stakeholder forum will also be established to facilitate and enable wider community engagement and input to the project. This forum will include non-statutory partners such as Fish & Game, territorial authorities, recreational user groups, irrigation companies, adjoining landowners and any other interested parties.

- We have agreed a second year of 'initial actions' with Arowhenua, continuing information gathering, enabling the establishment of the governance group, and enabling Arowhenua to practice kaitiakitanga on their awa through the creation of a DOC funded kaitiaki ranger role.
- [REDACTED]
- We are working closely with our key delivery partners (as identified in the bid) Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua and the Upper Rangitata Gorge Landcare Group to ensure that, if the bid is successful, they will be able to implement the agreed work plan and deliver the desired outcomes.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.4 Paparoa Track Great Walk

- Bookings for the 20/21 season of the Paparoa Track Great Walk opened on the 10 June 2020 and by August 2020 there have been 1,357 bookings amounting to 10,019 bed nights.
- 98% of these bookings are for New Zealanders.
- This is a very positive outcome for the first full season of the new track and is welcome news for the Pike River families and the communities surrounding Paparoa National Park.
- There has been some frustration from track users that the huts are now booked to capacity for much of the summer season, especially the Moonlight Tops Hut.
- The Moonlight Tops Hut is midway on the track and is the first night's accommodation for many walkers and mountain bikers.
- As with all our Great Walks, the advice is that people should book early and be flexible with their dates.
- The walk to Ces Clarke and Pororari Huts from either end of the track make fantastic overnight walking and biking.
- Walkers and mountain bikers can complete the full track using these two huts and missing out the Moonlight Tops Hut.
- The design and construction of the Moonlight Tops Hut does allow for a possible extension at some time in the future, allowing a further 10 bunks, to bring the capacity to 30 bunks. There is also the possibility of providing camping space at this site if the need keeps growing.
- We will be monitoring visitor trends on this new Great Walk and have committed to an operational review of the track and hut management after two full seasons of use to inform future planning.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.5 Wildlife Institutions Relief Fund (WIRF) – applications assessed

- Several WIRF applicants have revised their requests for WIRF funding following their success in receiving Strategic Tourism Assets Protection Programme (STAPP) grants. This has resulted in a reduction in funds of more than \$3.5m requested from the WIRF.
- One WIRF applicant [REDACTED] has withdrawn its application for funding following the success of its STAPP application.
- We received two late applications for WIRF funding, which have now been assessed and included in DOC's approval process, as the \$14.9m Fund has been undersubscribed due to funding received through STAPP grants.
- An assessment panel has evaluated and scored all applications and met on 10 August to agree on recommendations to take forward. Approval for these funding decisions will be sought from the Director-General in the coming week.

Contact: _____

2.6 Hokitika Gorge becomes DOC Short Walk

- DOC and Westland District Council have invested in the redevelopment of the Hokitika Gorge walk.
- There is an opening ceremony planned for 15 August that the Director General is due to attend. The nature of the event will be determined by AOG advice on COVID-19.
- The walk will be open to the public from Sunday 16 August.
- This walk is being announced as a new DOC Short Walk, a suite of easily identifiable walks that span the country.
- This is the first Short Walk to be added to the suite since the set was developed.

Contact: _____

Proactively Released

3 Director-General Engagements

August

19 August	Nature through New Eyes (Conservation Week), Te Puia, Hemo Road, Rotorua
20 August	Conservation Week function, Cable Room Harbourside, Wellington
21 August	NZ Conservation Authority, DOC Wellington
22- 23 August	Conservation Board Chairs Conference, West Plaza, Wellington
27-28 August	State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Brackenridge Martinborough

September

04 September	Whispers of Gold Book Launch – Friends of Waiuta, National Library, Wellington
07 September	LINZ/DOC combined SLT hui, DOC Wellington
18 September	Mackenzie Agency Alignment CE Forum, MS Teams
22 September	Risk and Assurance Committee meeting, DOC Wellington
29 September	Senior Leaders hui, venue TBC

October

13-14 October	Senior Leadership Team Retreat, Pounui
15-16 October	NZ Conservation Authority. TBC Napier

November

09 November	Spirit of Service Awards, Te Papa, Wellington
12 November	State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Silverstream

4 Addendum

This section includes content that is sensitive or is being considered by the Minister of Conservation or other Ministers. This information is not being released proactively. Subject headings of content in this section are:

- Tenure review

Events, Announcements & Media Opportunities

Proactively Released



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

In-Confidence

Department of Conservation Status Report

Week beginning: 24 August 2020

Seen by Hon Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

1 Standing and Priority Items

1.1 RMA Advocacy Update

Submissions

Otago Regional Council (ORC) Plan Changes 8 (Discharges) and 1 (Waste Oil and Landfills)

- Submissions on the above plan changes were lodged on 17 August. Plan changes 8 and 1 are interim measures proposed to improve water quality in the Otago Region while ORC develops a new Land and Water Regional Plan. These plan changes seek to sustain and improve water quality by:
 - Addressing stormwater, wastewater, animal waste, and sediment discharges
 - Addressing stock water exclusion and intensive grazing rules
 - Banning waste oil on roads
 - Applying best practise policies and rules to landfills
- Note these plan changes have been directly referred to the Environment Court for a decision. A general submission in support was lodged to sustain and enhance Otago's nationally significant freshwater values and give effect to New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement policy 23(4) (Discharge of Contaminants).

Designations

Peacocke Area Notice of Requirement, Hamilton City

- On 10 August the Director-General lodged a submission on a notice of requirement (NOR) to designate approximately 14.5 hectares of land for a sports park and associated roading in the Peacocke area.
- The submission requests that the NOR is withdrawn and reconsidered once the Peacocke Structure Plan is reviewed, to ensure use and effects on the wider long-tailed bat population are fully understood, particularly regarding light, noise and vegetation removal.
- The area is adjacent to the Amberfield subdivision site where DOC continues to be involved in an Environment Court appeal.

Other

Deepdell III Proposed Gold Mine, Oceania Gold Ltd (OGL) Hearing

- DOC technical and planning staff will present expert evidence at a hearing on OGL's consent applications for the proposed Deepdell III gold mine, Macraes Flat at a joint Waitaki District / Otago Regional Council hearing in Dunedin on 19-20 August.
- The applicant has proposed significant offsetting/compensation components, and OGL and DOC experts are broadly in agreement as to the effects and proposed conditions.

Contact: [REDACTED]

1.2 Kauri Dieback and Myrtle Rust

- Effective communication with kauri forest users has been identified as a key element in the ongoing protection of our forests.
- A qualitative study was undertaken over June/July with representative forest users residing within kauri lands to better understand how people interpret the meaning and intent behind messaging. The aim was to inform future messaging and to ensure it aligns with forest users' perceptions.

Key findings suggested that messaging should focus on:

- 'Dirt free' rather than 'soil free'. 'Soil' is not what people associate with what is found on their shoe soles. People see 'soil' as a positive word associated with life and nutrients. 'Dirt' is considered contaminated material and something to be removed.
- 'Arrive clean, leave clean'. Of five call-to-action tag lines tested, 'arrive clean, leave clean' resonated with most participants.
- Do we 'save' or 'protect' kauri? Results were less conclusive as some liked the urgency of 'save', while some prefer the guardianship of 'protect'. Results indicate that the use of 'Protect Kauri' gives a sense it is not too late and that it is empowering, as anyone can be a good guardian. 'Save Kauri' is a more urgent call to action, but also that it might be too late.
- While 'clean' in everyday life meant 'spotless' and 'as close to new as possible' for all participants, this did not translate the soles of shoes when asked to rank images for what is clean. While all participants easily recognised the two extremes of clean and not clean, approximately 50% considered a sole with dried dirt in the instep to be clean. This highlights clearer expectations of what 'clean' is in this context is needed.
- The department is working with other agencies on common messaging and alignment of communication and awareness.

Contact:

1.3 Jobs for Nature Unit

- Twenty-one enquiries from job seekers were received by the Jobs for Nature inbox this week and were referred to the all of government website (www.connected.govt.nz).
- We are developing messaging to send to the 80+ people and organisations that have sent in proposals or ideas for funding to provide an update on when and how they will be able to apply for Jobs for Nature funding.
- We are continuing to work with Te Uru Rākau to support nurseries to provide enough stock and resources to support Jobs for Nature planting work.
- The Unit is nearing completion of new quick-start agreements, while commencing work with the first Regional Alliance, Kohaitanga. Monitoring and reporting frameworks, including key cross-agency connections, are being developed.
- Kotahitanga mo te Taiao – the Northern South Island regional alliance has now been formally established and recognised under the Jobs for Nature programme. The Alliance has submitted their first project for approval (Maitai Ecological Restoration Project) which is tabled for approval-in-principle by Sustainable Land Use Ministers at your upcoming meeting on 24 August.
- Regional Directors have been informed of regional alliance allocation approximations. They are now working together with their colleagues where regional boundaries cross with iwi rohe to determine next steps and have alliances established in their region. Jobs for Nature Unit are expecting

applications to recognise alliances in Western South Island, the Chatham Islands and Southern South Island in the next fortnight.

- We are working through aligning funding processes with existing governance arrangements for the Predator Free 2050 Ltd Jobs for Nature funding. Once the PF2050 Ltd Statement of Performance Expectations is confirmed by you, we will proceed further with this.
- We are working through the funding changes to the Kiwis for Kiwi projects and confirming next steps with your office following this week's Status meeting.
- We will notify applicants from the three quick start projects within the Restoring Nature funding stream on confirmation of approval of the Action Plan by the Minister of Finance.

Contact: [REDACTED]

Proactively Released

2 Updates

2.1 Reports of fur seal deaths on Eastern South Island coast under investigation

- Through July and August, DOC and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Surveillance and Incursion Investigation team have received several calls relating to 'large' numbers of dead fur seal pups, in Kaikoura, Gore Bay, Dunedin and north of Timaru. There was also one notification from the Awhitu Peninsula.
- While the numbers reported may be within the normal expected for large fur seal colonies at this time of year, the numbers of calls and the numbers of dead seals reported, in comparison with past years, have prompted an investigation.
- DOC is working with MPI Incursion Investigators to understand the reason behind the deaths.
- DOC local staff are to report deaths nationally and will at times collect dead animals for closer examination.
- One fur seal pup was found in suitable condition for examination and was sent to Massey University pathologists. The gross examination was inconclusive, but closer inspection of the tissue samples suggest infection and further screening is underway.
- On 19 August another pup suitable for post-mortem examination was identified at Gore Bay and is being submitted to Massey University for examination.
- It's important to note that the information available at this point is limited and may not be representative of what is occurring.
- There has been one story in the media about pup deaths at Ohau Point.
- We will keep you informed on developments and provide media support if required.

Contact: _____

3 Director-General Engagements

August

26 August Endangered Species breakfast, Wellington
27-28 August State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Brackenridge
 Martinborough

September

04 September Whispers of Gold Book Launch – Friends of Waiuta, National
 Library, Wellington
05 September Mackenzie Drylands Launch, Ohau Downs
 Canterbury
07 September LINZ/DOC combined SLT hui, DOC Wellington
18 September Mackenzie Agency Alignment CE Forum, MS Teams
22 September Risk and Assurance Committee meeting, DOC Wellington
29 September Senior Leaders hui, TBC

October

13-14 October Senior Leadership Team Retreat, Pounui
15-16 October NZ Conservation Authority, TBC Napier

November

09 November Spirit of Service Awards, Te Papa
12 November State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Silverstream Retreat

4 Addendum

This section includes content that is sensitive or is being considered by the Minister of Conservation or other Ministers. This information is not being released proactively.

Subject headings of content in this section are:

- Trade in Endangered Species Act 1989 (TIES Act)
- Aotearoa Circle: Native Planting - Resetting the Balance report August 2020

Events, Announcements & Media Opportunities

- Invitation to commemorate 10 years since Deed of Settlement Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika

Proactively Released



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

In-Confidence

Department of Conservation Status Report

Week beginning: 31 August 2020

Seen by Hon Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

1 Standing and Priority Items

1.1 RMA Advocacy update

Bay of Plenty Regional Coastal Environment Plan – Request for your approval after two appeals have been resolved

- In August 2019, you approved the Bay of Plenty Regional Coastal Environment Plan, except for provisions subject to two outstanding appeals. These related to:
 - creation of three marine protected areas (MPAs) in the vicinity of Motiti Island; and
 - the mapping and description of Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes on Matakana Island.
- The two appeals were resolved in April and June of 2020, respectively. The Bay of Plenty Regional Council has requested your approval of these parts of the plan so they can be made operative.
- DOC would normally produce a briefing for your consideration within 40 working days, but we anticipate a delay in this case.
- One of the new MPAs surrounds Motunau Island, a wildlife sanctuary owned by a hapu who were not involved in the Environment Court case. A wildlife sanctuary order provides the hapu with a right to take mutton birds (grey-faced petrel, *Pterodroma macroptera*) and seafood from the island.
- The Environment Court was not aware of this and the new rules for the MPA may be in conflict with the wildlife sanctuary order.
- DOC will consult with the owners of the island before finalising a briefing to you. We are waiting to hear back on the hapu's availability for a hui.

Contact: [REDACTED]

1.2 Jobs for Nature Unit

- Fifteen enquiries from job seekers were received by the Jobs for Nature inbox this week and were referred to the all of government website (www.connected.govt.nz), with 182 enquiries from 8 June 2020. We are also receiving an increasing number of enquiries from people asking to be put in contact with their regional alliance.
- Following your feedback on the Kaimahi for Nature criteria, we are reviewing these to ensure they are specific and in plain English. We are also working to further develop the biodiversity criteria in alignment with the Investment Framework.
- In relation to your comment on maps, the MfE maps hosted on the website contain data only on projects that have been announced, while the dashboard maps contain data on all projects approved, whether announced or not. DOC updates the projects regularly.
- We are currently working through alignment of technical definitions and reporting with MfE. We will inform your office on progress in the week of 31 August.
- DOC and the Secretariat are exploring options to enhance value in, or relationship with, MSD. Specifically, in MSD's expertise in job and employment reporting, and ours in conservation.
- The first Kaimahi for Nature project, in the Northern South Island, was approved by SLU Ministers, and the Alliance Co-Chairs were notified in the week of 24 August.
- We received and assessed the final partnership agreement for the Sustainable Business Network, the Partnering to Plant project, and will be releasing the remainder of the funds to SBN as per the terms of the Agreement.
- The Jobs for Nature programme was discussed at the NZ Conservation Authority and NZ Conservation Board Chairs' conference last week. We have clarified with both parties that they have an Advisory role to an Alliance.

- The 'Prevention of North Island Forest Collapse' Steering Group met this week to review draft business cases for both the Raukumara and Kaimai-Mamaku projects and understand progress on establishing working groups, stakeholder and partnership engagement.
- We continue to engage with regional Directors in support of establishing Alliances, including meeting with Southern South Island alliance members alongside MfE officials, in their first Alliance establishment meeting.
- We are progressing to scope and develop projects within the Restoring Nature funding stream, noting the Action Plan is now with the Minister of Finance for approval.

Contact: Reg Kemper, Chief Advisor Jobs for Nature: [REDACTED]

2 Updates

2.1 Public access to Whakamoenga Point to continue

- We recently updated you about the potential closure of the Rangatira Point walking track near Taupō due to the current lease with the landowners, Rangatira Point Block Inc, expiring.
- After discussions with Taupo District Council regarding maintaining public access to both Rangatira Point and Whakamoenga Point Lakeshore Reserve, the council has formally resolved to take over the lease, entering into a 20-year agreement with Rangatira Point Block Inc.
- DOC will support the council and trustees of the land block to continue maintaining the track, which will ensure safe access for the public to Rangatira Point and the popular Whakamoenga Point Reserve.
- Continued access also means community pest control work in the area can carry on, as the track provides access to a number of established trap lines.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.2 Wildlife Institutions Relief Fund (WIRF) – funding decisions

- 29 of the 32 institutions that applied for WIRF were informed of their successful funding applications on 25 August. This round of funding decisions will allocate \$11.2m of the \$14.89m Fund.
- Of the remaining three applicants: Kiwi North withdrew its application, after being successful with its Strategic Tourism Assets Protection Programme request; we have asked for further financial information from one institution before progressing with the second applicant's request; and one applicant was ruled ineligible for funding, as it was not considered a captive wildlife institution.
- There will be \$3.6m remaining in the Fund following this allocation. Options for use of these remaining funds are currently being considered, and include:
 - a second call for applications;
 - acceptance of a late application that has been requested;

- maintaining a reserve for additional funding allocations in response to the impact of the current round of heightened COVID-19 alert levels; and
- returning unspent funds to the Crown.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.3 Chesterfield skink success

- Further to our previous status update (13 July 2020) on the purchase of land for the Nationally Critical Chesterfield skink using DOC's Land Acquisition Fund – our Hokitika team has successfully secured DOC Biodiversity Capex funding (a contestable DOC fund, approved by DOC's DDG Operations and Director Planning, specifically for Biodiversity Capital projects).
- This will enable a culvert replacement and building of a stock fence and predator-proof fence.
- Excluding mice is critical to the success of the latter fence, which will also exclude other, larger predators (rats, stoats, cats, etc), and secure the skinks' long-term future.
- Once the fence has been built and predators cleared from within its boundaries, we, along with iwi, will be able to welcome back the skinks that have been housed at Auckland Zoo for several years to safeguard the population.
- Local iwi support an alternate name for the skink: Kapitia skink, and DOC's Lizard Taxon Advisory Group advises that we can begin using this new name immediately, as it is not a formal renaming but rather an alternate title in Te Reo.
- The land will be classified as a scientific reserve, and local iwi also support the new reserve's title - Kapitia Scientific Reserve.
- We anticipate that the fence will be constructed in early 2021, aiming for the skinks to return from Auckland Zoo in the summer of 2021/22.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.4 Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) – Section 4 Improvement Project

- We have reassessed the Treaty of Waitangi provisions in our statutory planning documents as part of our Bay of Plenty CMS review process, in consultation with Treaty partners.
- DOC's team included staff from the National Policy Unit who are currently reviewing the General Policies, as well as from Legal Services and Management Planning.
- Outcomes from the process included:
 - A switch in focus from providing detail of our Section 4 responsibilities and partnership intentions in descriptive text, to having them clearly reinforced in policy;
 - New policy to support identifying and developing mutual understanding of the Treaty principles with Treaty partners and applying them to our work; and
 - New milestones to develop co-designed processes with Treaty partners to understand and implement the Treaty principles and identify opportunities for shared capability and training.
- The new updated Treaty of Waitangi provisions have been endorsed by the New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) management planning committee, which included Edward Ellison and Rauru Kirikiri.

- The draft Bay of Plenty CMS is now being legally reviewed prior to public notification, and we are expecting to receive valuable submissions on the updated Treaty of Waitangi provisions.
- Your office will receive a copy of the draft Bay of Plenty CMS when it is notified.
- The Treaty provisions will continue to evolve as our partnerships with tangata whenua grow, and as a result of other statutory processes, such as the Conservation General Policy partial review.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.5 Lower Selwyn Huts

- 50 private dwellings on a recreation reserve at the edge of Te Waihora are referred to as Lower Selwyn Huts.
- The huts have fifteen-year leases, broken into three five-year periods by the inclusion of two rights of renewal.
- DOC is in the process of inspecting the properties before the concession terms expire fully, in 2024.
- We are working with the Lower Selwyn Huts Residents Association on the year 10 right of renewal process and the possible need to terminate some concessions at this point. The final outcome may be the demolition of buildings because they are no longer safe, or habitable.
- 18 months ago, one of the huts fell into disrepair and, as the local operations team was unable to contact the owner, DOC demolished the building and removed it from the section.
- Two further properties have since fallen into disrepair and it is likely the lease(s) to occupy the land will be terminated on, or near 30 September.
- Another lessee has been given a final warning to tidy up their section, removing an old bus and other vehicles.
- Part IIB of the Conservation Act 1987, the Conservation Act General Policy, and the policies of the Canterbury *Waitaha* Conservation Management Strategy provide a framework for how these should be considered into the future, and we will work within these bounds.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.6 Red Billed Gulls – Sumner

- DOC received a report of a person using a laser pointer on gulls nesting near their residence on Scarborough Heads.
- All information relating to this incident has been requested by a journalist, under the Official Information Act (OIAD-81 refers).
- The gulls moved to this location after the Canterbury earthquakes.
- DOC's Mahaanui staff contacted the person to inform them that such an action was an offence under the Wildlife Act 1977, and asked them to cease disturbing the gulls. The person agreed, but pointed out in their own defence that the noise from the colony was of great concern.
- We have since met with the person on site to discuss and review the issues. Several suggestions to mitigate issues were discussed, but it was also made clear that moving the gull colony is not an option.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.7 Te Ara Atawhai ('the Conservation Pathway'), DOC and Ministry of Social Development partnership

- DOC and the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) have worked together to create a nine-week, skills-based learning course - Te Ara Atawhai - to provide training and experience with conservation work for unemployed people, making them better-placed to re-enter the workforce.
- The course featured in national media, profiling the connection between Te Ara Atawhai and outcomes being delivered at Te Waihora through the One Billion Trees and weeds strike-force programmes.
- Te Ara Atawhai was established in April 2018 and is now in its eighth intake. 41 participants have graduated from the seven previous courses, with 80% progressing into the workforce.
- Recent government funding has enabled a continuation of this partnership with MSD for a further three years, and DOC and MSD are looking at ways to develop and scale up this partnership nationally, for people to gain conservation skills, and take up conservation jobs.

Contact: [REDACTED]

2.8 [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

2.9 [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

2.10 [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

3 Director-General Engagements

September

04 September	Whispers of Gold Book Launch – Friends of Waiuta, National Library, Wellington
07 September	LINZ/DOC combined SLT hui, Conservation House, Wellington
17 September	IUCN World Protected Areas Leaders Forum, New Zealand hosting the virtual forum
18 September	Mackenzie Agency Alignment CE Forum, via MS Teams
22 September	Risk and Assurance Committee meeting, Conservation House, Wellington
23 September	QEII Board meeting, The Oaks, Wellington
29 September	Senior Leaders hui, TBC Wellington

October

13-14 October	Senior Leadership Team Retreat, Pounui
15-16 October	NZ Conservation Authority, TBC Napier
23 October	Lake Daniel's Hut opening, Lewis Pass
24 October	Cave Creek 25 year Anniversary, West Coast

November

02 November	Public Service Day awards, Wellington
03 November	Tuhoi Board hui, Taneatua
09 November	Spirit of Service Awards, Te Papa
12 November	State Sector Leadership Team Retreat, Silverstream Retreat

December

10-11 December	NZ Conservation Authority, TBC
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4 Addendum

This section includes content that is sensitive or is being considered by the Minister of Conservation or other Ministers. This information is not being released proactively.

Subject headings of content in this section are:

- Nature Heritage Fund Update
- Appointment

Events, Announcements & Media Opportunities

- Project to announce for Predator Free 2050 Tools to Market

Proactively Released