

Consistency Accountability Statement: Game Animal Council Act (Fiordland Wapiti Herd of Special Interest Designation) Notice 2026.

Agency responsible	Department of Conservation
Portfolio	Hunting and Fishing
Date finalised	17 June 2026
Identification number	Not applicable

Statement of Review

I confirm that the Department of Conservation has assessed the above legislation, and the process for developing it, for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation as set out in section 9 of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025.

This assessment identified the following inconsistencies with the principles of responsible regulation:

Relevant principle of responsible regulation	Relevant clauses in proposed legislation
<i>9(l) legislation should be expected to produce benefits that exceed the costs of the legislation to the public or persons</i>	<i>The secondary legislation (Gazette notice) as a whole.</i>

Summary of inconsistency

The statutory guidance issued on 15 May 2026 by the Minister for Regulation and the Attorney-General under section 26 of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025 states that an inconsistency with this principle should be identified unless analysis has clearly showed that expected benefits of the legislation will outweigh the expected costs.

The Department's assessment of expected costs and benefits has not clearly identified that the expected benefits will outweigh the expected costs. This is not because the

costs are expected to outweigh the expected benefits, but is due to the difficulty in quantifying and assessing the benefits.

A more detailed explanation is provided in the Summary of Underpinning Analysis.



Penny Nelson

Director-General of Conservation