

Conservation Amendment Bill

Proposal document: Content of the first National Conservation
Policy Statement



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

**Te Kāwanatanga
o Aotearoa**
New Zealand Government

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Introduction

This proposal document has been prepared for consultation to support the Conservation Amendment Bill (the Bill) following introduction to the House of Representatives. The document describes the policy decisions taken by the Government in relation to the content of the first National Conservation Policy Statement (NCPS).

It should be considered alongside the Bill and associated materials.

What we are seeking from you

We are seeking feedback and submissions on the content of the NCPS, which is outlined within this proposal document. The questions throughout the document are intended to guide you (as a reader) through the policies and to ensure any feedback you provide is aligned with what information we are seeking from you.

We are **specifically not seeking feedback** on matters relating to the wider Bill. Once the Bill is referred to Select Committee, any feedback on the wider Bill should be provided as Select Committee submissions. Comments relating to the wider Bill may not be captured through this consultation.

You can provide your written or typed submissions to LandLegislation@doc.govt.nz or to PO Box 10420, Wellington 6140. Consultation will be open from 14 May 2026 to 9 July 2026. All submissions received after this date will not be considered, unless permission is sought from the Department.

If you have any questions on the consultation process or matters within this document, please contact us at LandLegislation@doc.govt.nz.

Understanding this document

There are a series of policies, explanatory notes, contextual information and questions throughout this document. For clarity, an explanation of this content is provided in the box below:

A bold title like this indicates an overarching category of policies

An indented non-bold title like this indicates a subcategory of policies

1. Numbered bullets with blue text indicate a **single policy for the NCPS**. All policies are proposed to be included in the final NCPS.

Explanatory notes for policies

Some policies will have a box underneath them (such as this one) providing italicised explanatory notes for policies. This will often cover reasons why particular policies have been included, or providing additional information to complement interpretation.

The shaded boxes will provide you with questions relating to a policy or set of policies. We do not require a response to every question.

The shaded boxes may also provide additional guidance to assist you in answering questions.

Background

Approximately one third of New Zealand's land mass is public conservation land (PCL). This includes native forests, tussock lands, alpine areas, wetlands, dunelands, estuaries, lakes and islands, national forests, nearly 4,000 reserves, river margins, and many offshore islands. It includes many majestic, iconic, and historic places, and provides the basis for local communities to thrive, including through our important tourism industry. The Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai (the Department) is the country's largest land manager and regulates activities that take place on PCL. Primary legislation, general policies, and management plans direct the Department's management of PCL and set out the Minister of Conservation's and the Department's responsibilities when regulating how others use PCL.

Any activity on PCL requires authorisation in the form of a concession from the Minister of Conservation, with some exceptions.¹ The Department administers concessions on behalf of the Minister of Conservation and issues concessions that ensure conservation outcomes are protected. Under status quo, concessions must be consistent with the two national policies (Conservation General Policy and General Policy for National Parks) as well as relevant management plans.

The current system is overly prescriptive and has caused inconsistencies and delays

Thousands of businesses operate on PCL, bringing in millions of dollars a year for local economies – but the concessions system is recognised as being under severe strain. Businesses, researchers, and community groups want clarity on what activities can occur on PCL and where they can occur, and shorter processing times when applications are made.

The current conservation management framework is a complex hierarchy of policies, strategies, and plans empowered by statute. Current plans are lengthy, and overly prescriptive in parts, and too open to arguments about interpretation in others. They sometimes overlap and provide conflicting guidance. This complexity contributes to inconsistent outcomes across the country.

Processing concession applications is an increasingly lengthy and burdensome process. Lengthy processing times reduce certainty for concessionaires, applicants, Treaty partners, businesses, infrastructure partners, and the public. This can create undue delays and costs for all parties.

For more information, see the consultation document *Modernising Conservation Land Management* released in November 2024: [Modernising conservation land - discussion document](#).

The objectives of these reforms

The Government wants to modernise the conservation regulatory system to speed up regulatory decisions, enable biodiversity protection and unlock greater economic activity on conservation land where the risks are manageable. To this end, the Minister of Conservation has introduced the Bill to the House of Representatives. The Bill would create:

- Faster processing of concessions.
- Streamlined and efficient planning processes.
- Greater certainty for applicants and less constraining rules.
- More flexibility in land exchanges and disposals.
- Clarity around giving effect to Treaty of Waitangi principles.

¹ These exceptions are recreational activities without any specific gain/reward; activities carried out by the Minister of Conservation or the Department in exercising functions, duties or powers under any law; activities authorised by conservation legislation; and activities to save or protect life or health, to prevent serious damage to property, or to avoid actual or likely adverse effect on the environment.

Overview of the NCPS

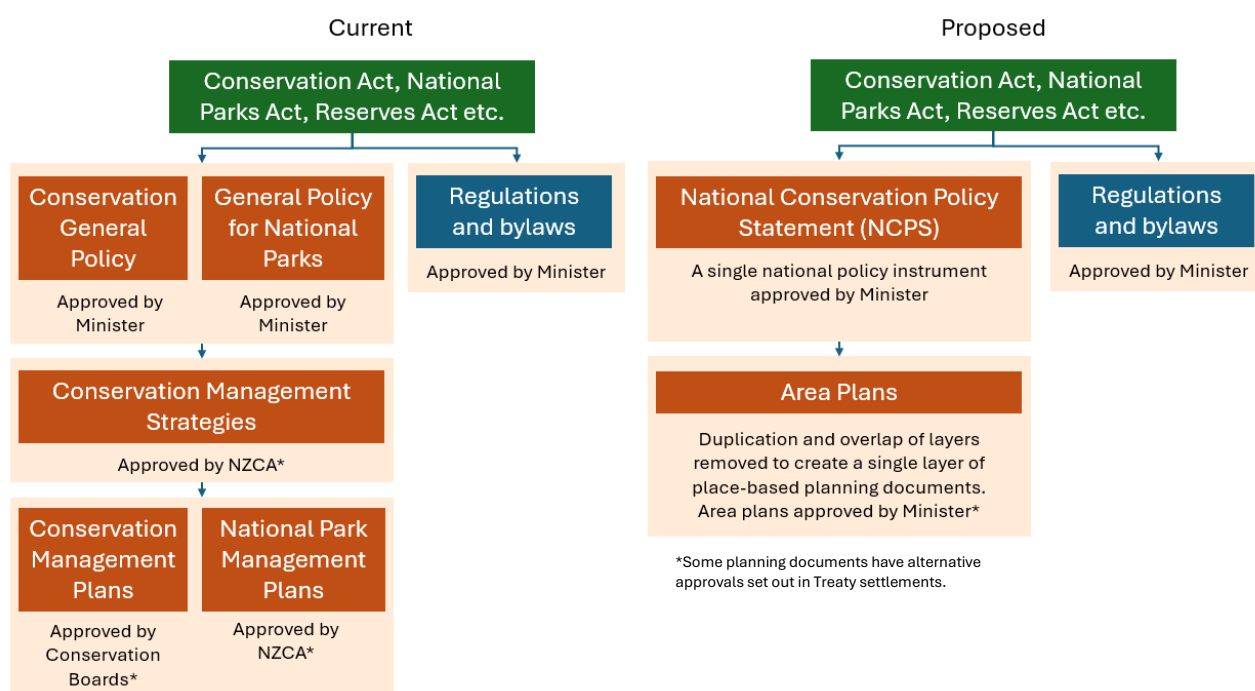
The Bill sets out a statutory process for making or amending a NCPS. It is proposed that the NCPS will replace the current Conservation General Policy and General Policy for National Parks (the General Policies), fulfilling the same general role as those instruments but with solutions to address issues that have been identified, including those described above. Conservation Management Strategies, Conservation Management Plans and National Park Management Plans are proposed to be replaced with a single layer of 'area plans'.

The intention is for the NCPS to come into effect as soon as is reasonable following commencement of the Bill. This is important to ensure that the benefits of the reforms can be realised as quickly as possible.

The Department has prepared this paper to describe the proposed content of the first NCPS. This will allow for the contents of the NCPS to be considered alongside the Bill by the public.

The NCPS is part of a wider system

The NCPS has the same function as existing General Policies – to provide direction required for the implementation of conservation legislation. The single NCPS would provide more clarity and certainty for concession applicants and support faster concession decision making. It would allow rules to be set for all conservation areas at once, where appropriate.



The process for making/amending the NCPS and area plans would be streamlined

Existing General Policies and management plans are subject to an array of approval processes. The NCPS and area plans would all be approved by the Minister of Conservation, unless otherwise provided for in Treaty settlements.

Currently the process for updating and amending General Policies and management plans is lengthy resulting in many documents being out of date – some more than 10 years. The Bill would provide for streamlined processes for updating the NCPS and area plans, keeping the documents up to date and fit for purpose.

The first NCPS would contain simplified policies

The NCPS would consolidate the requirements in the existing General Policies. This includes removal of policies that duplicate legislation and that are about what the Department or others “should” do (as opposed to what is required), leaving a shorter and clearer list of policies that would be more impactful for conservation and clearer for the public.

The NCPS would also specify what types of policies can and cannot be included in an area plan. Area plans would not include policies on limits or conditions on concessionaires, except in visitor amenities areas or where otherwise provided for in Treaty settlement legislation. Limits and conditions are both important tools for protecting conservation but are more effectively enforced through other tools such as bylaws² or regulations to provide greater national consistency. Access charging and booking systems could also be used to manage limits. Where conditions are needed these would be set through the concessions document.

These changes would allow the production of clearer, more consistent planning documents.

The NCPS would include tools for standardising the processing of concessions

The Bill would empower the NCPS to exempt some activities from needing a concession and pre-approve concessions for other activities. The NCPS would also support more consistent decision-making for a wider range of concessions.

Exempt and pre-approved activities

Up to 40% of concession decisions may be determined through the proposed set of exempt and pre-approved activities. This would streamline the concessions process and address concerns that concessions are slow and complicated to process. It would also enable resources to be focused on larger, more complex concessions.

The NCPS would exempt four activities from the requirement for a concession on most public conservation land:

- News of the day filming or photography
- Collection of air for research purposes
- Collection of water for research purposes
- Observational research.

These activities would be exempt on all PCL where public access is not restricted (for example, they would not be exempt in scientific reserves that require an access permit). Conditions would apply for each exempt activity to ensure conservation continues to be prioritised.

The NCPS would pre-approve concessions for (currently) 16 activities in certain land classifications and would include standard terms and conditions to manage potential adverse effects. If terms and conditions cannot be met, a standard application would be needed. The Department would retain the ability to set additional contractual conditions for pre-approved activities as part of a final contract accepted by the applicant.

Exemptions and pre-approvals would unlock economic activity on conservation land by streamlining the approval process within appropriate constraints.

² DOC bylaws are secondary legislation under the Crown, not local authority bylaws (like council bylaws under the Local Government Act 2002).

Streamlining assessment of standard applications

For activities that are not exempt or pre-approved, applicants would need to follow the standard application process. This would include assessing:

- consistency of the activity with the purpose for which the land is held (i.e. the statutory land classification, for example, a national park or reserve); and
- the effects of the proposed activity (and any proposals to avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects).

The types of effects that are assessed include the anticipated effects of the activity on recreation and tourism in the area where the activity would take place. The NCPS would introduce “visitor zones” to support more consistent assessment of this subset of effects. Visitor zones describe the type of recreation and tourism that are appropriate for an area. All conservation land would be covered by a visitor zone and they would be mapped by area plans.

The NCPS would include guidance about where certain economic activities (and their effects on recreation and tourism) are likely to be consistent with the proposed visitor zones. The first NCPS would provide this guidance for a set of 26 economically significant activities. The NCPS would also indicate whether these activities are likely to be consistent with the purpose for which the land is held (the statutory land classification). The specifics of each individual concession application would still be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and all other requirements in legislation would still apply (including that appropriate terms and conditions would need to be set).

Where activities are indicated as likely to be consistent with both the visitor zone and land classification in an area, the case for approving an application would be strengthened because the concession would be consistent with the purpose for which the land is held, and the visitor zones in the area plan. Consistency with the area plan is one of the statutory requirements for approval.

Standardising and front-loading these parts of the assessment would create more consistency in how concessions are evaluated, provide more transparency about where activities are anticipated to occur, and streamline some aspects of the concessions process.

Exempting and pre-approving some activities, and streamlining the assessment of others, would together create a simpler, more effective NCPS that has a tighter range of more impactful policies, protecting conservation while supporting economic activity on PCL within appropriate constraints.

The next section sets out the proposed content of the NCPS in detail, with explanatory boxes providing further context and information to support understanding of the paper.

Summary of questions provided throughout this document

All consultation questions through the document are noted below:

Directing content of area plans

1. *Is there additional content you believe should be included or removed within area plans?*
2. *Do you have views on any transitional policies for area plans that should be considered?*

Visitor zones

3. *Do you have any feedback on the proposed approach to developing visitor zones?*

Exempt activities

4. *Do you have feedback on any of the activities proposed for exemption from requiring a permit, and should we consider any others?*
5. *Are there other conditions you think should be included or removed for these exempt activities?*

Pre-approved activities

6. *Do you have feedback on any of the activities proposed for pre-approval, and should we consider any others?*
7. *Are there other terms and conditions you think should be included or removed for these pre-approved activities?*

Areas where pre-approved and exempt activities do not apply

8. *Are there areas where you believe exempt and pre-approved activities should not apply? Please describe the area(s) in detail and the significant adverse effects on natural, cultural, or historic values, and why adverse effects cannot be avoided or mitigated.*
9. *What costs and benefits do you see in not applying pre-approved and exempt activities in specified locations?*

Activities with standardised pre-assessment

10. *Do you have feedback on any of the activities proposed for standardised pre-assessment?*
11. *Do you know of any other commonly undertaken activities on PCL which should be included in the list of activities?*

Policies for the management of specific activities

12. *Are there other management matters we should consider for one (or more) of these activities?*
13. *Is there any additional feedback relating to these activities you wish to provide?*
14. *Should any other activities be managed by the NCPS?*

Exemption from district land use consents

15. *Are there other activities you think should be included in the non-exhaustive list (noting the activities must meet the requirements of the RMA section 4(3) exemption)?*

Policies for land reclassification

16. *Is there any feedback you wish to provide regarding these reclassification policies?*

Content of the NCPS

This section of the paper describes the policies which would be included in the NCPS. Guidance on understanding this document is provided on page 3.

Scope of the NCPS

1. The policies in this Policy Statement will apply to land and other natural resources and historic resources administered by the Department of Conservation (the Department).
2. The policies in this Policy Statement vary in how they apply to reserves with administering bodies:
 - a. This Policy Statement does not apply to vested and privately owned reserves,
 - b. This Policy Statement does not apply to reserves with administering bodies, appointed as part of Treaty settlements, to control and manage them.
 - c. Only policies 21-25 (policies on exempt and pre-approved activities) apply to reserves with administering bodies (that are not in place as a result of Treaty settlements) under control and manage appointments (this refers to arrangements under the Reserves Act, e.g. appointing a board to control and manage a reserve).
3. Only the policies in this Policy Statement and the Glossary will have the effect of national policy.
4. This Policy Statement implements only the following legislation:
 - a. The Conservation Act 1987
 - b. The National Parks Act 1980
 - c. The Wildlife Act 1953
 - d. The Reserves Act 1977
 - e. The Wild Animal Control Act 1977
 - f. The Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978
 - g. Marine Reserves Act 1971

Other permissions, authorisations, consents, or permits may be required by other legislation.

Directing content of area plans

The NCPS includes policies which guide area plan content

The NCPS will contain a series of policies which guide the content that can (and cannot) be included in area plans. These are covered as policies 5-16 below.

Area plans are intended to be more streamlined and much shorter than current statutory planning documents (i.e. National Park Management Plans and Conservation Management Strategies and Plans). These policies will ensure that the scope of content allowed in area plans is narrowed, which ensures the documents do not become lengthy or overly prescriptive.

The policies also ensure that information crucial to management of a given area is provided, e.g. Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi settlements relevant to the area plan; known species, habitats, landscapes and ecosystems; and values, threats and pressures at a given place.

5. Area plans must only include content provided for in the NCPS unless the area plan content applies specifically to a visitor amenities area. There may be exceptions for some area plans which provide roles for co-preparation and/or co-approval with PSGEs or that are developed under Treaty settlement.

Additional content may be required to uphold Treaty settlement redress or in visitor amenities areas

The NCPS would outline the general content for area plans, but additional content may be required for specific area plans to uphold Treaty settlement redress.

There is a greater need for area-based policies for visitor amenities areas due to the expected density of development compared to other conservation areas.

6. Where area plans are required to include information, the requirement applies to the extent that the information is reasonably available at the time of the area plan amendment process.
7. Area plans must include an introductory section, which includes identification of their boundaries and any other information necessary to aid interpretation of the area plan, including dividing their area into places where appropriate.
8. Area plans must list Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi settlements relevant to the area within the area plan's boundaries.
9. Area plans must include a glossary of key terms where they are not defined in this Policy Statement or legislation.

Area plans would not include limits or conditions on concessionaires

Place-specific limits and conditions are usually used to manage overcrowding or cumulative effects of activities. A range of tools can be used to manage these issues, including booking systems, accessing charges (once enabled) and place-specific regulations and bylaws.

These alternative tools are preferable to area plans because:

- *it avoids potential inconsistency across the country if some areas impose limits and conditions through area plans and other areas through regulations and bylaws, and*
- *many conditions are better managed through the concession process and operational policy as they are often case-specific, and issues change over time.*

Values, threats, and pressures

10. Area plans must include a summary of known indigenous species, habitats, ecosystems, landscapes, landforms, and geological features and describe where these exist **within** conservation land and marine areas administered by the Department.
11. Area plans must include a summary of the cultural heritage of conservation land and marine areas administered by the Department.
12. Area plans must include a summary of the significance to tangata whenua of the natural resources and cultural heritage managed by the Department that are within the boundaries of the area plan.
13. Area plans must list conservation land and marine areas administered by the Department, and natural resources and cultural heritage within them, which have been recognised as having international significance, and any associated requirements of international agreements.

14. Area plans may include a summary of known indigenous species, habitats, ecosystems, landscapes, landforms, and geological features and describe where these are known to exist **outside of** conservation land and marine areas administered by the Department.
15. Area plans may describe the threats and pressures facing the values described in the area plan.

Summary descriptions of values

Summary descriptions of the values in an area/place support transparent, efficient, and consistent decision-making by sign-posting key relevant considerations. This is useful for the public to understand the values at place when considering making an application for a concession. Values also inform decision-making in other systems, for example resource management.

Values support the conservation planning process by setting the context for the objectives and policies set out in the plan, including the mapping of visitor zones.

Some current planning documents include lengthy comprehensive lists of all values. The intention of the NCPS is that area plans instead include a concise summary of key values for consideration.

Enabling area plans to describe threats and pressures facing the values would provide context for the objectives (discussed below).

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16. Area plans may describe existing recreational opportunities within public conservation lands and waters.

Recreational opportunities and visitor zones

Recreational values and objectives are broadly covered by visitor zones (see more detail below), but area plans would be able to describe recreational opportunities to allow for a finer scale of values to inform place-based decisions. These values can also inform the mapping of visitor zones within an area.

Objectives

17. Area plans must set objectives to provide for the protection and preservation of known significant indigenous species, habitats and ecosystems.
18. Area plans must set objectives to provide for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage on conservation land and within marine areas administered by the Department.
19. Area plans may set recreational objectives unless the area plan includes visitor zones.

The relationship between values, threats, and objectives

Objectives must be set in area plans to guide the Department's decision-making, particularly in relation to authorisations.

Objectives would be high-level and based on the values and threats identified at place. Objectives cannot direct the Department's operational activities (but may be considered).

Visitor zones would set recreational objectives. Implementation arrangements are still being worked through, and it may take some time for visitor zones to be fully operational. To bridge the potential gap, policy 19 allows area plans to set recreational objectives until that area plan has visitor zones.

Directing content of area plans

1. *Is there additional content you believe should be included or removed within area plans?*
2. *Do you have views on any other transitional policies for area plans that should be considered?*

Visitor zones

20. Area plans must ensure all areas within their boundaries are designated to one of the five visitor zones set out in Appendix 1 by their first review if not sooner.

Summary of visitor zones

The visitor zones, described in more detailed in Appendix 1, are:

1. *Visitor amenities area. This is also a statutory land classification. Legislation enables more intensive tourism and recreation development.*
2. *High visitor zone. Areas that provide easy access where most recreation and tourism occur, while protecting the significant natural resources or cultural heritage that attract visitors.*
3. *Medium visitor zone. Large-scale natural settings where recreational activities are encouraged but infrastructure is limited to essential facilities. The visitor experience supports a sense of space and quiet while the integrity of the natural resources and cultural heritage that attracts visitors is protected.*
4. *Low visitor zone. Large-scale remote natural settings with limited low-impact infrastructure and the experience centres on solitude, immersion in nature, and low contact with others.*
5. *Wilderness area. This is also a statutory land classification. Legislation restricts certain activities (e.g., buildings, livestock, motorised aircraft landings, machinery, vehicles).*

Area plans must designate all areas within their boundaries into one of these visitor zones. Visitor zones must not overlap and all land must be covered by a zone.

Two of the visitor zones are also statutory land classifications which have particular requirements under legislation. Visitor amenities areas and wilderness areas would act as their own visitor zones as legislated requirements cover aspects of the visitor experience. High visitor zones, Medium visitor zones, and Low visitor zones would overlap with other land classifications (e.g., national parks, recreation reserves, ecological areas).

Visitor zones

3. *Do you have any feedback on the proposed approach to developing visitor zones?*

Policies for exempt and pre-approved activities and standardised assessment

Exempt and pre-approved activities and standardised pre-assessment

The following section outlines the policies for both pre-approved and exempt activities and other activities proposed for standardised assessment. These are supported with more detail by the

appendices of this paper (Appendices 2-4) which cover the relevant activities and their terms and conditions.

In summary, there are four ways activities requiring concessions may be authorised through Part 3B of the Conservation Act:

- **Exempt activities:** activities which do not require a permit to undertake on PCL.
- **Pre-approved activities:** activities which require a permit but will be pre-approved, allowing for automated processing of concession applications. Effects will be managed through terms and conditions.
- **Activities with standardised pre-assessment** (a.k.a. 'pre-assessed activities'): activities which will be pre-assessed for consistency against land classifications and visitor zones to signal to applicants where activities are likely to be approved. DOC will still maintain discretion to manage these applications on a case-by-case basis.
- **All other activities:** activities which will be processed through the standard concession application process.

We ask that you explore the relevant terms and conditions for exempt and pre-approved activities in Appendices 2 and 3 to support you in answering the questions attached to each policy.

Exempt and pre-approved activities

21. The following four activities will be exempted from the requirement for a concession on all public conservation land, where access is not restricted:
 - a. News of the day filming or photography
 - b. Collection of air for research purposes
 - c. Collection of water for research purposes
 - d. Observational research.
22. Exempt activities will be subject to the criteria and conditions set out in Appendix 2.

Exempt activities

4. **Do you have feedback on any of the activities proposed for exemption from requiring a permit, and should we consider any others?**
5. **Are there other conditions you think should be included or removed for these exempt activities?**

23. Concessions will be pre-approved for 16 activities in certain land classifications as set out in Appendix 3.

24. Standard terms and conditions will apply to pre-approved activities as set out in Appendix 3.

Pre-approved activities

6. **Do you have feedback on any of the activities proposed for pre-approval, and should we consider any others?**
7. **Are there other terms and conditions you think should be included or removed for these pre-approved activities?**

Areas where exempt and pre-approved activities do not apply

Disapplication of pre-approved and exempt activities in specific areas

It may be necessary for the NCPS to disapply exempt and pre-approved activities in specific areas in very limited circumstances.

For example, an exempt or pre-approved activity may be appropriate across all scenic reserves but not, for example, if a particular scenic reserve is home to a breeding colony of an endangered species and the activity would have significant impacts, or if a particular scenic reserve has certain cultural values and impacts of an activity would be inappropriate.

However, to realise the benefits of exempt and pre-approved activities, disapplication should only be considered in very limited circumstances, for example when significant adverse effects on natural, cultural or historic values present at a specific site cannot be avoided or mitigated.

The NCPS should specify the geographic boundaries of the disapplication (which should not be broader than necessary to avoid significant adverse effects on the specific values being protected).

Disapplying an exempt or pre-approved activity does not prohibit it from occurring. People can still apply for a concession, with their application assessed under the standard process instead.

25. Areas where policies 21 to 24 do not apply are listed in Appendix X.

Areas where exempt and pre-approved activities do not apply

We need your assistance in determining conservation land suitable for disapplication of exempt and pre-approved activities. These are locations where you believe activities should be disappplied as there may be significant adverse effects on natural, cultural or historic values present at a specific site.

You are welcome to provide as much information as you see necessary to answer this question. Coordinates (or other methods of precise location) are welcomed but, should you not have this information readily available, we are happy to work with you to determine these for the final NCPS.

The suitability of areas for disapplication is not set forever. Pre-approved activities can be 'paused' at any time (for up to 60 working days), for example where significant adverse effects of activities impact a specific area. Additionally, should any changes be required to the list of exempt and pre-approved activities, the NCPS can be updated accordingly.

Where disapplication applies, applications for exempt and pre-approved activities will go through the standard process.

Areas where pre-approved and exempt activities do not apply

8. **Are there areas where you believe exempt and pre-approved activities should not apply? Please describe the area(s) in detail and the significant adverse effects on natural, cultural, or historic values, and why adverse effects cannot be avoided or mitigated.**
9. **What costs and benefits do you see in not applying pre-approved and exempt activities in specified locations?**

Standardised assessment

26. 26 activities will be pre-assessed for their consistency with land classifications and visitor zones as set out in Appendix 4.

Activities with standardised pre-assessment

10. *Do you have feedback on any of the activities proposed for standardised pre-assessment?*
11. *Do you know of any other commonly undertaken activities on PCL which should be included in the list of activities?*

Policies for the management of specific activities

The NCPS contains policies which guide management of specific activities on PCL

The following section outlines a series of policies relating to specific activities on PCL. Many of these policies have been carried over from the Conservation General Policy or General Policy for National Parks, and some new policies have been developed to better align with best practice (e.g. the approach to dogs) or to update approaches to some activities on PCL (e.g. the approach to private accommodation).

For ease to readers, we are seeking a general response at the end of this section rather than repeating the same question for each individual activity. Please provide feedback on the individual activities where it is relevant to you or your organisation.

Accommodation

27. Private accommodation is exclusive use, and does not include club or staff accommodation, university and other education facility accommodation, concessionaire accommodation and accommodation able to be booked via a public booking system. Clubs must make membership of the club available to the general public, and all public accommodation should be available in a reasonable and non-prohibitive manner.
 - a. All private accommodation on conservation land requires a concession;
 - b. New private accommodation on conservation land (including new builds and new exclusive use of existing structures) will only be authorised where necessary to implement the legislation under which the land is administered.
 - c. Existing private accommodation on conservation land must not be authorised unless:
 - i. The structure has or has had a valid authorisation at some stage; and
 - ii. The structure meets all relevant requirements relating to its use for accommodation purposes, or can meet those standards within a certain timeframe, specified in the concession.
 - d. Conditions will be placed on private accommodation concessions, including that:
 - i. There must be no increase in the adverse effects on conservation values, including the spatial extent of these effects, over time; and
 - ii. Certain repairs or maintenance will be allowed as part of the concession, but more major activities may not be; and
 - iii. Applicable fees will be payable.
 - e. Conditions must be placed on all existing private accommodation concessions to demonstrably limit the ongoing use of the structure and associated facilities for private accommodation purposes, including a term that must not exceed 30 years, with no right of renewal.

Private accommodation

*Private accommodation is generally not appropriate on public conservation land. It is usually inconsistent with the principles of public access, conservation protection, and the non-exclusive use of public resources. This is **not** the same as “club” accommodation (e.g. accommodation for university groups) or commercial accommodation ventures (e.g. hotels) which are provided for on conservation land.*

For existing private accommodation on public conservation land, if accommodation is not authorised, if authorisation is refused or lapses, or if a concessionaire fails to meet conditions, the Department would have a range of options. These include removal of the structure, retention by the Department for an alternative use, consideration for land disposal or exchange, or working with the existing owner or occupancy to meet any necessary conditions to grant a concession.

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28. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, all accommodation and related facilities, including replacements, additions and extensions on public conservation lands and waters must, unless otherwise provided for in a concession:
- a. Complement and, wherever possible, be located close to existing accommodation and related facilities;
 - b. Be located, designed, constructed and maintained to meet all legal requirements and standards;
 - c. Be of such a scale, design and colour that they harmonise with the landscape and seascape; and
 - d. Provide for disabled people in places where this is practicable.

Dogs

29. No person shall cause or allow any dog for which they are responsible to enter or be under any hut.
30. Policy 29 does not apply to:
- a. Police employees, warranted officers, rangers, officers or employees of the Department, Customs officers, or search and rescue persons in the course of their official duties or in training for those duties;
 - b. Blind or partly blind people using a guide dog; and
 - c. Any person using a disability-assist dog or companion dog.

Dogs in huts

This is a new policy but is consistent with the current approach which is implemented via national park bylaws. Including this policy in the NCPS would support greater national consistency.

Consistent with the approach in primary legislation (e.g., section 56E of the National Parks Act), some people and their dogs would not be constrained by this policy. Those not constrained include police, rangers, Customs officers, or search and rescue with working dogs; blind or partly blind people with guide dogs; or any person with a trained assistance dog.

Utilities, roading and public infrastructure

-
31. Utilities may be installed, maintained or extended on public conservation land where suitable.

Grazing and farming

32. A grazing or farming concession may be granted where:
- a. The land is in existing pasture or farming use, or has previously been in pasture or farming use since 2000, or it is suitable to use grazing for management purposes; and
 - b. Any adverse effects of stock on waterways, wetlands and riparian zones can be suitably managed; and
 - c. In a national park, there is a public interest that grazing or farming should continue on that land.

Hunting and wild animal control

33. Commercial hunting of wild animals, game animals, and animal pests may be authorised.
34. Recreational hunting of wild animals, game animals, and animal pests may be authorised taking into account whether it diminishes the effectiveness of operations to control them.

Research and information

35. When considering whether to authorise research and monitoring that is neither exempt nor pre-approved, and the potential terms and conditions, consideration must be given to:
- a. Safeguarding any property rights, including intellectual property rights, for the benefit of the Crown, on behalf of the people of New Zealand;
 - b. Recognising mātauranga Māori and Māori interests in research and monitoring on public conservation lands and waters; and
 - c. The potential benefits of making the results of research and monitoring publicly available.
36. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, research and monitoring on public conservation lands and waters that is neither exempt nor pre-approved will be authorised where it does not pose unacceptable risks to natural resources and cultural heritage, and has no significant effects on the enjoyment of the public.

Collection of materials

37. Unless otherwise pre-approved, when considering whether to grant authorisations for the collection of material from public conservation lands and waters (whether for commercial or non-commercial use (excluding prospecting and mining covered by the Crown Minerals Act 1991), including indigenous species (or parts thereof), fossilised plant or animal material, soils, rocks and any other geological materials), the following will be taken into account:
- a. Whether collection is relevant for either management, research, interpretation or educational purposes;
 - b. Whether the amounts to be collected are small in relation to the abundance of the material regionally and nationally;
 - c. Whether population integrity is maintained; and
 - d. Whether collection could occur outside of or elsewhere within public conservation lands and waters where the potential adverse effects could be significantly less.

Interactions with protected species

38. Absolutely protected wildlife, as defined in the Wildlife Act 1953, may be held in captivity only where there is a clear benefit for conservation.
39. Whales and dolphins must not be brought into or bred in captivity in New Zealand or exported to be held in captivity, except where this is essential for the conservation management of the species.

Aligning with the intent of the General Policies

*The above policies retain the same policy intent as the existing General Policies, in some cases reframing the policies with modifications, combining policies, or making the policies more impactful. For example, policy 39 above has been modified from "...**should** not be brought into or bred..." to "...**must** not be brought into or bred..."*

Freshwater fish

40. Fishing for whitebait and eels in reserves may be authorised only where the preservation of the indigenous freshwater fisheries and the maintenance of the range and stocks are not affected.
41. Freshwater fish, including sports fish, or aquatic life, may be authorised for release into specified waters within a national park where:
 - a. The same species is already legally present in those waters;
 - b. The preservation of the indigenous freshwater fisheries and habitat of the national park is not adversely affected; and
 - c. The protection of the recreational freshwater fisheries is not adversely affected.
42. Non-commercial customary and recreational fishing for indigenous species in national parks may be authorised on a case-by-case basis only where:
 - a. The preservation of the indigenous freshwater fisheries and maintenance of stocks within those waters are not adversely affected; and
 - b. In the case of non-commercial customary fishing, the application is supported by the Iwi, hapū, or whānau that exercise kaitiakitanga in that area or place.
43. The risk of impeding indigenous fish passage or introducing undesirable species that will impact indigenous freshwater fisheries must be considered in the management of instream structures.
44. Fish passage in national parks must be maintained and, where practicable, restored, unless there are exceptional circumstances, or this would result in the introduction of undesirable species that would impact indigenous freshwater fisheries.
45. Commercial fishing in national park waters must not be permitted unless there are exceptional circumstances or:
 - a. Commercial fishing for the species legally occurred in specific waters within the national park prior to the establishment of, or addition to, the national park;
 - b. The preservation of the indigenous freshwater fisheries and maintenance of stocks within the waters where fishing is to occur is not adversely affected; and

- c. Any consent given is confined to a person who, or organisation which, was commercially fishing in the waters where fishing is to occur prior to the establishment of, or addition to, the national park; is non-transferable; has a limited term; and is not renewable.
46. If an illegal introduction of a non-indigenous fish species into national park waters has been made, fishing for that species of fish may be prohibited or restricted where this prohibition or restriction would facilitate eradication and control, or would create an effective deterrent to future unlawful attempts to establish populations of aquatic life.

Freshwater fish policies

These policies include some modifications from the General Policies, including:

- *Removing some of the requirements for certain fishing activities to be provided for in plans*
- *Removing the requirement for there to be an established tradition of fishing for non-commercial customary and recreational fishing for indigenous species in national parks*
- *Updating “tangata whenua” to “the Iwi, hapū, or whānau that exercise kaitiakitanga in that area or place”*
- *Expanding the scope of policy 43, as this policy was previously only in the General Policy for National Parks*
- *Reframing the policy for fish passage in national parks, including modifying terminology. This intends to set a higher standard for national parks relative to other conservation land*

Sports fish and game birds

47. The release of sports fish into waters in public conservation land will be authorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances, where:
 - a. Sports fish of the same species are already present; and
 - b. Release is consistent with the purposes for which the land is held; and
 - c. The protection of the indigenous freshwater fisheries and their habitat is not adversely affected; and
 - d. Such releases are provided for in a sports fish management plan.
48. Fishing for sports fish legally present in the waters of national parks will be allowed, except in specially protected areas, in which case a valid authorisation will be required.
49. When preparing a sports fish and game management plan which covers any national park, the relevant Fish and Game Council will identify the measures that will be taken to minimise any adverse effects on indigenous species within the national park.
50. Hunting of game birds on public conservation lands outside national parks will be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances, or:
 - a. the hunting has an adverse effect on populations of indigenous species;
 - b. The safety of people would be at risk; or
 - c. A valid game licence is not held.

Sports fish and game birds policies

These policies retain the same approach as the General Policies, in some cases merging policies from the General Policies to retain the current permissive approach to game bird management.

Customary use

51. Applications for customary use of traditional materials and indigenous species by tangata whenua will be considered on a case-by-case basis and may be authorised where:
 - a. The preservation of the indigenous species at the place is not affected; and
 - b. The application is supported by the Iwi, hapū, or whānau that exercise kaitiakitanga in the area or place.
52. Tangata whenua, as kaitiaki, will be provided with access to the remains of dead marine protected species for customary use, including those incidentally caught in commercial fishing, consistent with relevant legislation and agreed protocols.

Customary use policies

The requirement for established tradition of customary use has been removed from the policy for customary use of traditional materials and indigenous species by tangata whenua (policy 51).

Cultural heritage

53. The use of places of cultural heritage value (including historic buildings and structures) on public conservation lands and waters, may be authorised if that use:
 - a. Enables their preservation;
 - b. Is in keeping with their assessed values; and
 - c. Provides, where appropriate, opportunities for the public to appreciate and connect with them.

Historic and cultural heritage policies

Some terminology has been updated but this policy retains the same intent as the current General Policies.

Policies for the management of specific activities

These questions apply to all subcategories of policies from policy 27 to 53.

12. ***Are there other management matters we should consider for one (or more) of these activities?***
13. ***Is there any additional feedback relating to these activities you wish to pass on?***
14. ***Should any other activities be managed by the NCPS?***

Exemption from land use consents

54. Work or activities undertaken by the Department are considered to meet the requirements for an exemption from district council land use consents under section 4(3) of the Resource Management Act where the work or activity:
- is consistent with area plans; and
 - does not have a significant adverse effect beyond the boundary of the area of land.

Exemption from land use consents

Some operational activities of the Crown do not need district land use consents. Section 4(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) provides for an exemption from resource consents for Crown works on Conservation Act land.

The NCPS would provide a non-exhaustive list of works or activities which are undertaken by the Minister of Conservation or Director-General to exercise their functions, duties or powers under the Conservation Act in Appendix 5.

The activities in Appendix 5 are considered to be exempt from district land use consents only where they meet the requirements of the RMA exemption.

It should be noted that 'exemptions' in this section refer only to activities exempt from a district land use consent under section 4(3) of the RMA. These are often 'business-as-usual' activities undertaken by the Department as part of our role as a land manager and steward. These RMA exemptions do NOT relate to the exempt activities covered in policies 21 and 22.

This is not a new policy and is being carried over from existing documents to allow us to continue being exempt from district land use consents where required. There are anticipated to be similar clauses within the new Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill, should these be enacted.

There are likely to be other activities that should be exempt from the requirement for a resource consent that cannot be anticipated now. Other activities can be exempted provided they are consistent with the area plan(s), and any adverse effects can be managed.

The NCPS would not empower area plans to list additional activities. This will avoid inconsistencies across area plans.

Exemption from district land use consents

15. *Are there other activities you think should be included in the non-exhaustive list (noting the activities must meet the requirements of the RMA section 4(3) exemption)?*

Policies for land classification

Policies to classify (or reclassify) public conservation land

The following section contains a variety of reclassification policies which have been carried over from the General Policies. These are largely unchanged, but these policies outline process for reclassification of PCL and national parks, as well as allowing for establishing specially protected areas or wilderness areas on PCL.

Reclassification of public conservation land (besides national parks)

55. Subject to statutory requirements, the classification of any public conservation lands aside from national parks may be reviewed from time to time to ensure that the classification of such lands continues to either:
- a. give appropriate protection and preservation for their natural resources, and/or historical and cultural heritage; or
 - b. give appropriate protection and preservation for their educational, scientific, community, or other special features, for the benefit of the public; or
 - c. enable integrated conservation management identified in area plans; or
 - d. provide for access and enjoyment by the public where that is in accordance with the purposes for which the land is held; or
 - e. reflect the values of public conservation lands that are present; or
 - f. enable specified places to achieve conservation outcomes in the future.
56. Land acquisition, outside of an exchange, for public conservation land aside from national parks may be undertaken to manage, for conservation purposes, natural resources or historical and cultural heritage; or for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, including public access, where the land has international, national or regional significance; or where land acquisition or exchange will either:
- a. improve representativeness of public conservation land; or
 - b. improve the natural functioning or integrity of places; or
 - c. improve the amenity or utility of places; or
 - d. prevent significant loss of natural resources or historical and cultural heritage; or
 - e. improve the natural linkages between places; or
 - f. secure practical walking access to public conservation lands and waters, rivers, lakes or the coast; or
 - g. achieve any other purpose allowed for under the relevant Acts.

Reclassification of national parks

57. Lands recommended for national park status will contain, for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the public, the following:
- a. scenery of such distinctive quality that its preservation in perpetuity is in the national interest; or
 - b. ecosystems or natural features so important that their preservation in perpetuity is in the national interest.
58. The inclusion in national parks of the beds of lakes and rivers vested in the Crown, within the boundaries of the national park, and of any foreshore adjoining the national park, must be sought wherever possible, as they are ecologically continuous with the national park and their inclusion would allow for better integrated management of the national park.
59. Land may be recommended for new national park status if it is relatively large natural area, in terms of thousands of hectares, and comprising contiguous areas and related areas.
60. Predominantly natural areas may be considered for national park status if they:

- a. contain modified areas which can be restored or are capable of natural regeneration; or
 - b. contain features which have no equivalent in a national park and which are so important that they should be protected in a national park.
61. Before requesting an investigation and report on any proposal that land should be declared to be a national park or part of a national park, the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority):
- a. must seek the views of the conservation board within whose area of jurisdiction the land is located;
 - b. must seek the views of tangata whenua within whose rohe the land is located; and
 - c. may seek the views of the any territorial authority and any Fish and Game Council within whose area of jurisdiction the land is located.
62. Investigation reports on any proposal that land should be declared to be a national park or part of a national park must include an assessment of the likely social, recreational, cultural and economic implications for tangata whenua and local and regional communities, as well as the nation generally.
63. The investigation process must include consultation with tangata whenua and seek written comments from, and have regard to the views of, interested people and organisations.
64. Before making a recommendation to the Minister on the creation of a new national park, the Authority will consult with the conservation board within whose area the national park will lie and must have regard to public submissions and the views of tangata whenua.
65. The Authority may recommend additions or boundary adjustments to a national park without requesting a formal investigation or following the requirements before requesting an investigation, when the land to be added has been specifically acquired for national park purposes, and in other circumstances, including one or more of the following:
- a. the addition or adjustment would create a boundary that more closely follows natural features;
 - b. the land to be added is contiguous with the national park or largely surrounded by the national park, with the same, or complementary, natural values;
 - c. the national park values have already been investigated or are already well documented;
 - d. there are no significant adverse effects on tangata whenua values;
 - e. the land does not contain significant known mineral deposits or energy opportunities with commercial potential which are economically viable for extraction;
 - f. the addition is considered unlikely to have significant adverse effects on communities beyond the boundaries of the national park.
66. The following matters must be considered by the Authority before recommending, and by the Minister before approving, the boundaries of new parks, additions to existing national parks and changes to existing boundaries:
- a. the need to protect natural, historical and cultural heritage in national parks from adverse effects of activities outside national park boundaries, and avoid any potential adverse effects of national park status on adjoining land;
 - b. the goal of a representative range of ecosystems, natural features and scenery types being included in national parks;
 - c. landscape units;

- d. readily identifiable natural features;
- e. convenience for the efficient management of the national park; and
- f. access options, consistent with the need to preserve national park values.

67. The Authority may consider recommending exclusion of land from an existing national park if:

- a. the land to be excluded does not have national park values; or
- b. a boundary more consistent with policy 66 is created; or
- c. the land is required for an upgrade to an existing legal road or railway route to improve safety

Specially protected areas

68. Specially protected areas may be established to preserve indigenous species, habitats and ecosystems, natural features, or sites and objects of archaeological or historical and cultural interest of such significance that public access should be controlled.

Wilderness areas

69. Wilderness areas may be established where they are large enough and sufficiently remote and buffered to be unaffected by human influences, except in minor ways, consistent with section 14(2) of the National Parks Act 1980.

Policies for land reclassification

16. Is there any feedback you wish to provide regarding these reclassification policies?

Glossary

Glossary

Definitions in the NCPS glossary align with existing definitions in the General Policies. Updates have been made for simplicity or to align with changes to legislation.

Aircraft

Any machine that can derive support in the atmosphere from the reactions of the air otherwise than by the reactions of the air against the surface of the earth (section 2, Civil Aviation Act 1990).

Animal

Any member of the animal kingdom other than a human being (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Aquatic life

Any species of plant or animal life (except birds) that must, at any time of the life history of the species, inhabit freshwater; and includes any part of any such plant or animal (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Archaeological site

- a. Any place in New Zealand, including any building or structure (or part of a building or structure), that—
 - i. was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 or is the site of the wreck of any vessel where the wreck occurred before 1900; and
 - ii. provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand; and
- b. Includes a site declared an archaeological site (section 6, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014)

Authorisation

Collective term for all types of approvals by the Minister and the Director-General of Conservation provided for in a statutory process.

Biodiversity

The variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and ecological complexes of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

Biosecurity

The exclusion, eradication or effective management of risks posed by pests and diseases to the economy, environment and human health.

Building

Has the same meaning as given to it by sections 8 and 9 of the Building Act 2004.

Bylaw

A bylaw made by the Minister of Conservation, by notice in the New Zealand Gazette, under section 56 of the National Parks Act 1980 or sections 65 and 106 of the Reserves Act 1977.

Commercial hunting

Hunting or killing or capturing or holding any wild animal for personal gain or pecuniary rewards from the sale, barter, exchange, or giving of the animal or any part thereof, whether or not the commercial

activity or transaction constitutes the sole or any lesser part of the means of livelihood of the commercial operator (section 2, Wild Animal Control Act 1977).

Companion dog

As defined in the National Parks Act 1980.

Concession

A lease, licence, permit or easement, granted under Part 3B of the Conservation Act 1987 and includes any activities authorised by the concession document (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Conservation

The preservation and protection of natural and historic resources for the purpose of maintaining their intrinsic values, providing for their appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public, and safeguarding the options of future generations (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Cultural heritage

Natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and culture, including historic sites, structures, places, and areas; archaeological sites; sites of significance to Māori; including wāhi tapu; and surroundings associated with the natural and physical resource.

Cultural heritage value

Possessing aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, commemorative, functional, historical, landscape, monumental, scientific, social, spiritual, symbolic, technological, traditional, or other tangible or intangible values, associated with human activity

Cumulative effect

An effect which arises over time or in combination with other effects (section 3, Resource Management Act 1991).

Customary use

Gathering and use of natural resources by tangata whenua according to tikanga.

Department

Department of Conservation.

Disability-assist dog

A dog certified by one of the organisations listed in Schedule 5 of the Dog Control Act 1996 as being a dog that has been trained (or is being trained) to assist a person with a disability.

Ecosystem

A biological system comprising a community of living organisms and its associated non-living environment, interacting as an ecological unit.

Effect

Any positive or adverse effect; and any temporary or permanent effect; and any past, present or future effect; and any cumulative effect, regardless of the scale, intensity, duration, or frequency of the effect and also includes any potential effect of high probability; and any potential effect of low probability which has a high potential impact (section 3, Resource Management Act 1991).

Environment

Includes:

- a. ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities;
- b. all natural and physical resources; and
- c. amenity values; and

- d. the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect those matters (Resource Management Act 1991).

Eradicate

To remove completely.

Exempt activity

As defined in Conservation Amendment Bill.

Facilities

Facilities that enable people to enjoy a range of recreational opportunities including (but not limited to): visitor and information centres, camping areas, tracks and walkways, bridges, backcountry huts, roads, car-parking areas, toilets, picnic areas, signs and interpretation panels, viewing platforms, wharves and boat ramps.

Fish and Game Council

Statutory body with functions pertaining to the management, maintenance and enhancement of the sports fish and game resource in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters (section 26Q, Conservation Act 1987).

Fishery

One or more stocks or parts of stocks or one or more species of freshwater fish or aquatic life that can be treated as a unit for the purposes of conservation or management (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Freshwater fish

- a. All species of Anguillidae *Anguilla*, Cyprinidae, Eleotridae *Gobiomorphus*, Galaxiidae, Ictaluridae, Percidae, Poeciliidae, Retropinnidae, and Salmonidae
- b. all species of *Echyridella*:
- c. all species of *Paranephrops*:
- d. Cheimarrichthyidae *Cheimarrichthys fosteri*:
- e. Geotridae *Geotria australis*:
- f. Gobiidae *Acentrogobius pflaumii*:
- g. Microdesmidae *Parioglossus marginalis* (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Game

The wildlife declared to be game specified in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act 1953. As at the date of the adoption of this Policy Statement they are all birds, viz: black swan, chukar, Australasian shoveler, grey duck, mallard duck, paradise shelduck, grey partridge, red-legged partridge, pheasant, pukeko, Bobwhite quail, Brown quail and California quail.

Game animal

Any chamois, deer, or tahr; any pig that is living in a wild state and is not being herded or handled as a domestic animal or kept within an effective fence or enclosure for farming purposes; and includes the whole or any part of the carcass of the animals (section 4, Game Animal Council Act 2013).

Habitat

The environment within which a particular species or group of species lives. It includes the physical and biotic characteristics that are relevant to the species concerned.

Indigenous species

Refers to plants and animals that have established in New Zealand without the assistance of human beings and without the assistance of vehicles or aircraft. The includes species that are unique to New Zealand as well as those that may be found elsewhere in the world. Use of the words 'indigenous' and 'native' have the same meaning in this Policy Statement.

Integrated conservation management

The management of natural resources and historic and cultural heritage, and existing or potential activities in a manner which ensures that priorities are clear and that the effects of each activity on others are considered and managed accordingly.

Intellectual property rights

The right to own and to exploit ideas or inventions, or other works.

Kaitiakitanga

The exercise of guardianship in accordance with tikanga Māori in relation to natural and physical resources; and includes the ethic of stewardship.

Mana whenua

Customary authority exercised by an iwi or hapū or individual in an identified area (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Mātauranga Māori

Māori traditional knowledge.

Mining

To take, win, or extract by whatever means, a mineral existing in its natural state in land, or a chemical substance from a mineral existing in its natural state in land, and includes the injection of petroleum into an underground gas storage facility and the extraction of petroleum from an underground gas storage facility, but does not include prospective or exploration for a mineral or chemical substance (section 2, Crown Minerals Act 1991).

Minister

Minister of Conservation.

Natural

Existing in or produced by nature.

Natural character

The qualities of an area which are the result of natural processes and taken together give it a particular recognisable character. These qualities may be ecological, physical, spiritual or aesthetic in nature.

Natural quiet

Natural ambient conditions in a natural area; the sounds of nature.

Natural resources

Plants and animals of all kinds; and the air, water, and soil in or on which any plant or animal lives or may live; and landscape and landform; and geological features; and systems of interacting living organisms, and their environment; and includes any interest in a natural resource (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Personal mobility device

A device designed to transport one person, that is propelled by hand or a propulsion system with a maximum speed of 15 km per hour, and is ridden by a disabled person.

Pest

Any organism, including an animal, plant, pathogen or disease, capable or potentially capable of causing unwanted harm or posing significant risks to indigenous species, habitats and ecosystems or freshwater fisheries.

Place

An area identified in an area plan which may include any combination of terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas and may be determined by a range of criteria including but not limited to: ecological districts, geological features, catchments, internal departmental, regional or district council or rohe/takiwā boundaries, land status, major recreation or tourism destinations, commonality of management considerations, unique management needs.

Plant

Any angiosperm, gymnosperm, fern or fern ally; and includes any moss, liverwort, alga, fungus, or related organism (section 2, National Parks Act 1980).

Pounamu

New Zealand greenstone, as defined in the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997.

Pre-approved activity

As defined in the Conservation Amendment Bill.

Pre-assessed activity

An activity listed in Appendix 4 of this Policy Statement, which has been assessed for its consistency with the land's classification and visitor zone.

Preservation

In relation to a resource, means the maintenance, so far as is practicable, of its intrinsic values (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Private accommodation

Exclusive use of a place to live or lodge which is not available to the general public on an open basis. Private accommodation does not include club or staff accommodation, university and other education facility accommodation, concessionaire accommodation and accommodation able to be booked via and public booking system.

Protected areas

Terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas that are protected primarily for the purpose of the conservation of natural resources and historic and cultural heritage, using a range of legal mechanisms that provide long-term security of tenure, status or land use purpose, either privately or publicly owned.

Protection

In relation to a resource, means its maintenance, so far as is practicable, in its current state, but includes:

- a. its restoration to some former state; and
- b. its augmentation, enhancement, or expansion (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Public conservation lands and waters

Lands and marine areas administered by the Department of Conservation for whatever purpose, including the natural resources and cultural heritage of those areas covered by this Policy Statement. Reserves administered by other agencies are not included in this definition.

Public interest

Interest that is open to or shared by all people.

Recreational freshwater fisheries

Means any freshwater fisheries where the fishing of sports fish and indigenous freshwater fish is lawfully carried out for recreational purposes.

Reserve

Has the meaning given to that term in the Reserves Act 1977 and includes the following reserves: recreation, historic, scenic, nature, scientific, government purpose, local purpose (section 2, Reserves Act 1977).

Road

Meet the definition of road under section 2 of the Land Transport Act 1998, and:

- a. Are formed and maintained for vehicle use by the public, or routes that are marked by the Department of vehicle use by the public; or
- b. Are formed and maintained for vehicle access for construction or maintenance of other structures or facilities.

Rohe

Geographical territory of an iwi or hapū.

Site

A defined area within a wider place.

Specially protected area

Any part of a national park set apart as a specially protected area under section 12 of the National Parks Act 1980.

Species

A group of organisms which has evolved distinct common inheritable features and occupies a particular geographical range, and which is capable of interbreeding freely but not with members of other species.

Sports fish

Every species of freshwater fish that the Governor-General may declare, by Order in Council, to be sports fish for the purpose of the Conservation Act 1987; and any such Order in Council may be expressed to apply to freshwater fish in any specified freshwater or other waters (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Sports fish and game management plan

Plan approved by the Minister of Conservation under section 17M of the Conservation Act 1987.

Takiwā

Place or territory used by or associated with an iwi, hapū or whanau.

Tangata whenua

Iwi or hapū that has customary authority in a place.

Taonga

Valued resources or prized possession held by Māori, both material and non-material. It is a broad concept that includes tangible and intangible aspects of natural resources and cultural heritage of significance to Māori, including wāhi tapu and intellectual property.

Tikanga

Māori customary values and practices (section 2, Resource Management Act 1991).

Utilities

Includes but not limited to: structures and infrastructure for telecommunications; energy generation and transmission; sewerage; water supply and flood control; oil and gas; roads and airstrips; hydrological and weather stations.

Vehicle

Has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Land Transport Act 1998; but includes any vehicle from which any wheels have been removed; and does not include:

- a. a pushchair or pram;
- b. a child's toy;
- c. a personal mobility device used by a disabled person.

Wāhi tapu

A place sacred to Māori in the traditional, spiritual, religious, ritual or mythological sense (section 6, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014).

Wetlands

Permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water and land-water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions (Resource Management Act 1991, section 2). They include swamps, bogs, estuaries, braided rivers, and lake margins.

Whanau

Family groups.

Wild animal

Has the meaning set out in the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 and includes: deer, chamois thar, wild goats, wild pigs, and any members of any species or class of land mammals the Governor-General may by Order in Council declare to be wild animals for the purposes of the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (section 2, Wild Animal Control Act 1977).

Wilderness Area

Any conservation area set aside as a Wilderness Area under section 18 of the Conservation Act 1987.

Wildlife

Any animal (as defined in the Wildlife Act 1953) that is living in a wild state; and includes any such animal or egg or offspring of any such animal held or hatched or born in captivity, whether pursuant to an authority granted under the Wildlife Act 1953 or otherwise; but does not include wild animals subject to the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (section 2, Wildlife Act 1953).

Appendix 1: Visitor zones

Table 1: Visitor zones

Visitor zone	General description	Attributes	Objectives
Visitor amenities area (land classification)	Areas to provide for facilities and infrastructure that support visitor access to and use of conservation areas. Legislation enables development and operation of recreational and public amenities and related services appropriate for public use and enjoyment of conservation land.		
High Visitor Zone	Areas that provide easy access where most recreation and tourism occur while protecting the significant natural resources or cultural heritage that attract visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-moderate tranquillity/natural quiet • Moderate levels of naturalness including visual, landscape qualities, natural light • At urban sites low levels of naturalness • May include significant natural resources or cultural heritage that attract visitors • Low levels of solitude 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant natural resources and cultural heritage at key visitor sites are protected from cumulative effects. • Visitors of most ages and abilities can easily access this zone. • There is some (and occasionally higher) intrusion of infrastructure and other activities and a high degree of control, generally focused around key visitor sites and other high-use areas without diminishing the quality of their experience. • There is a range of group sizes and social encounters, including large groups at times. Group sizes are managed to maintain a balanced experience, with thresholds set for some key sites and tracks. • There are tolerate moderate levels of artificial light at some sites where it contributes to the visitor experience. • There are low levels of noise, except at some sites where moderate levels of noise are associated with the visitor experience, so long as it does not unduly compromise the sense of tranquillity (low-medium tranquillity level).
Medium Visitor Zone	Large-scale natural settings where recreational activities are encouraged but infrastructure is limited to appropriate facilities, and the visitor experience supports a sense of space and quiet while the integrity of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate-high tranquillity/natural quiet • Moderate-high levels of naturalness (including visual, landscape qualities) • Moderate-high levels of solitude • Predominantly natural light source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural resources and cultural heritage are protected from cumulative effects. • Access requires some effort and planning (typically involving gravel roads, 4WD, tracks, waterways or aircraft landings, with walking and biking focused beyond the influence of motorised access). • Appropriate infrastructure can be expected where the effects on the visitor experience are adequately avoided, remedied or mitigated.

	natural resources and cultural heritage that attracts visitors is protected.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are moderate to high levels of solitude with opportunities to be away from other groups. • There are generally low noise levels, but moderate noise is tolerated at times, provided it does not significantly compromise the tranquillity of the setting (medium tranquillity level). • Artificial light is generally limited to low levels, with higher levels tolerated only at key sites where it supports safety and amenity without significantly affecting the tranquillity of the environment.
Low Visitor Zone	Large-scale remote natural settings with limited low impact infrastructure, where the experience is centred on solitude, immersion in nature, low contact with others and personal challenge ensuring protection of the natural remote setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High levels of tranquillity / natural quiet • High level of naturalness (including visual, landscape qualities) • Reasonably high level of solitude • Natural light source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access requires considerable self-reliance on back country skills (five or more hours travel mostly on foot from High Visitor Zone, occasionally access supported by aircraft). • There is minimal intrusion of infrastructure. • There is a reasonably high level of solitude, with minimal visual and noise intrusion from other people or activities, allowing for a peaceful and immersive experience in the natural environment (high tranquillity level). • There is very low level of artificial light.
Wilderness area (land classification)	Areas of solitude and natural quiet. Legislation restricts erection of buildings, machinery; access for livestock, vehicles, or motorised vessels or motorised aircraft; and construction of roads, tracks, or trails.		

Appendix 2: Criteria and conditions for exempt activities

Conditions for all exempt activities

- The activity must be undertaken in line with the bylaws and regulations that apply to the sites on which it is taking place.
- You must ensure that public access, public viewing opportunities and public enjoyment of public conservation land is not obstructed or restricted as a result of the activity.
- You must take all precautions to ensure weeds and pests are not introduced to the land; this includes ensuring that all equipment, including vehicles, watercraft, footwear, gaiters, and packs are clean before entering the land.
- You must comply with all Biosecurity Act requirements and biosecurity regulations, and any notices, best practice, hygiene protocols, or other guidance issued by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to prevent and avoid the spread of pests/threats including:
 - Kauri Dieback Disease (*Phytophthora taxon Agathis*) and other plant diseases.
 - Freshwater weeds and pests when using and moving between waterways.

News of the day filming and photography

- Activity is undertaken by a news media organisation that is a member of the New Zealand Media Council.
- Filming and photography should be using standard media tools, excluding drones.
- No temporary or permanent structures are to be erected.
- You must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
- Where possible, you must remain on formed tracks and not exceed any loading limitations placed on facilities and structures.
- Reporting activity should not require the exclusive use of the areas or compromise the enjoyment or safety of other users in the area.

Collection of air for research purposes

- You must only use handheld equipment to collect samples.
- You must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
- Where possible, you must remain on formed tracks or well-used routes designed to protect natural resources and cultural heritage of the land and not exceed any loading limitations placed on facilities and structures.
- You must remove all markers, tape, or other material used for the purposes of the activity within one day of the activity being completed.
- Collection sites are to be left in as natural a state as possible. All equipment must be removed from the site after the activities have been completed.
- The activity must be undertaken in line with the bylaws and regulations that apply to the sites on which it is taking place.

Limited collection of water for research purposes

- You must only use handheld equipment to collect samples.
- Samples are limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period.
- You must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
- You must remove all markers, tape, or other material used for the purposes of the activity within one day of the activity being completed.
- Collection sites are to be left in as natural a state as possible. All equipment must be removed from the site after the activities have been completed.

- Where possible, you must remain on formed tracks or well-used routes designed to protect natural resources and cultural heritage of the land and not exceed any loading limitations placed on facilities and structures.
- You must ensure that public access, public viewing opportunities and public enjoyment of public conservation land is not obstructed or restricted as a result of the activity.

Observational activities for research purposes (e.g. observing wildlife)

- You must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
- Where possible, you must remain on formed tracks or well-used routes designed to protect natural resources and cultural heritage of the land and not exceed any loading limitations placed on facilities and structures.
- You must ensure that public access, public viewing opportunities and public enjoyment of public conservation land is not obstructed or restricted as a result of the activity.

Appendix 3: Pre-approved activities

Activity descriptions

Table 2: Activity descriptions

Guiding
<p>Guided walking (day walk or overnight/multiday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial guided walking on formed tracks or formed routes where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.• Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).• Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by vehicle to and from PCL and vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below).
<p>Guided biking/mountain bike trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial guided trips on formed roads and designated bike tracks or multi-use tracks where the activity not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.• Includes guided trips on e-bikes (i.e. power assisted cycles with an auxiliary electric motor with a maximum power not exceeding 300W) on formed tracks where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws.• Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
<p>Guided horse-trekking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial horse-trek guiding on formed roads and tracks where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.• Activity must be undertaken within a day, with no need for overnight accommodation.
<p>Guided rock-climbing trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial guided rock-climbing day trips where the activity is not prohibited through by-laws or regulations.• Includes rope-climbing only where there are authorised fixed bolts and anchors already in place and bouldering.• Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
<p>Non-powered, water-based guiding (e.g. kayaking, canoeing, white-water rafting)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Launch and landing non-powered boats (including but not limited to kayaking, canoeing, white-water rafting) for the purpose of guiding and where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.• Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
<p>Four-wheel driving and quad-biking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial guided motor vehicle trips (including in 4WD, quad bikes or motorbikes) on roads where the activity is permitted by bylaws and regulations.

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- Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
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Transportation

Commercial boat transport using powered watercraft (e.g. water taxis, charter boat trips, scheduled boat trips)

- Launch and landing of powered watercraft for water transportation (including water taxi trips charter boat trips, jet boat trips).
 - Includes drop off and pick up using existing vehicle access and watercraft launching facilities where they exist and where the activity is not prohibited through by-laws or regulations.
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Commercial transport to and from public conservation land

- Commercial transport to and from public conservation land using formed roads and carparks, where the activity is permitted by by-laws or regulations.
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Drone use

- One-off drone use on PCL where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.
 - May include use for recreational, commercial or scientific purposes.
-

Research and collection

Limited collection of rocks

- Limited collection of rocks for research or cultural purposes.
 - Limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period and limited to a maximum 3 day trips per year.
 - Excludes fossils and cave formations, including stalactites and stalagmites.
 - Excludes all metallic minerals, fuel minerals, precious stones (as defined in the Crown Minerals Act 1991) and a prescribed substance within the meaning of the Atomic Energy Act 1945.
 - Excludes pounamu.
-

Limited collection of soil

- Limited collection of soil for research or cultural purposes.
 - Sampling fewer than five times at the site.
 - Limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period. and limited to a maximum 3 day trips per year.
-

Limited collection of non-protected wildlife

- Limited collection of species not protected under the Wildlife Act 1953 for research or cultural purposes.
- Excludes non-protected invertebrates of interest as listed on [schedule].
- Includes catching, handling and collection of live or dead animals, any parts of such, and any eggs or progeny.
- May include destructive samples.
- Does not include bird banding.

Collection of non-threatened flora

- Collection of non-threatened flora (including plants, fungi and seeds) for research purposes.
- Does not include collection of threatened or at-risk flora listed on [schedule].
- Includes collection for cultural purposes.

Events and filming

Small scale commercial events on formed tracks or in established visitor areas

- The event must occur within one day (no more than 24 hours) including set up and pack down.
- Non-competitive events only (for example, does not include competitive sporting events that include running, biking, horse riding, vehicles).
- Separate concession needed for commercial filming, photography or drone use.
- High Visitor Zone – Max group size 15 people.
- Medium Visitor Zone – Max group size 15 people.
- Low Visitor Zone – Max group size 8 people.

Small to medium scale commercial filming or photography on formed tracks or in established visitor areas

- Concession is for one-off filming or photography projects and all onsite filming must take place within a 7-day period (consecutive days) for small scale filming or within a 21-day period (consecutive days) for medium scale filming.
 - Filming can only take place on existing tracks and/or in established visitor areas.
 - High Visitor Zone – Max group size 15 people (small scale) or 30 people (medium scale). Includes crew and talent.
 - Medium Visitor Zone – Max group size 15 people (includes crew and talent).
 - Low Visitor Zone – Max group size 8 people (includes crew and talent).
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Assessment against land classification

Table 3: Assessment of activities against land classifications

Activity	Land classification												% of PCL	
	National Parks	Conservation Parks	Stewardship Areas	Scenic Reserves	Recreation Reserves*	Ecological Areas	Marginal Strips	Wildlife Management Areas	Amenity Areas*	Historic Reserves	Sanctuary Areas	Land held under s7 that is not a specially protected area	Other *	
% of PCL	34.16	23.78	26.81	4.73	2.62	1.5	0.6	0.24	0.11	0.07	0.04	1.48	3.86	
Commercial guided day walks or overnight walks on formed tracks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		96.14
Commercial transport to and from public conservation land on formed roads and carparks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		96.14
Commercial biking/mountain bike/e bike trips on formed tracks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		95.26
Commercial boat activities using powered boats (e.g. water taxis, charter boat trips) using existing jetties and wharves	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		95.26
Limited collection of rocks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		95.54
Limited collection of soil	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		95.54
Limited collection of non-protected wildlife (e.g., most insects, pest species not covered under Wildlife Act 1953)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		95.54
Limited collection of non-protected flora /plants / fungi	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		95.54

Rock climbing (commercial guides) in areas already set up for this purpose	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		94.36
Small scale commercial events on formed tracks or in established visitor areas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		94.36
Small scale commercial filming or photography on formed tracks or in established visitor areas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		94.36
Commercial guiding in non-powered boats (e.g. kayaking, canoeing, white-water rafting)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		94.36
Medium scale filming or photography on formed tracks or in established visitor areas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		94.36
Drone use		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		61.7
Guided vehicle trips (including 4WD trips) on formed roads		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		60.2
Commercial horse-trek guiding		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		60.2

*Exempt and pre-approved activities are proposed to apply to Recreation Reserves that are not used for a specific purpose e.g. sports field, racecourse, campground, visitor centre, swimming pool.

*Amenities Areas include Visitor Amenities Areas and Natural Character Areas.

**Other conservation land includes:

- *Local and Government Purpose reserves* (0.54% of PCL), as these are held for a range of specific purposes, so it is not possible to assess the effects of activities at land classification level. Most of these reserves are vested in an administering body and are not required to have management plans in place.
- *Nature and Scientific Reserves* (1.34% of PCL), as access permits may be required for these areas.
- *Wilderness Areas* (1.28% of PCL) as activities can only be authorised in these areas if desirable or necessary for preserving indigenous natural resources, which would require case-by-case assessment.
- *Wildlife Sanctuaries held under the Wildlife Act* (0.02% of PCL), as these areas can have place-specific conditions (for example, restrictions on undertaking recreational activities) and would require case-by-case assessment.
- *Land administered under the Waitangi Endowment Act* (0.01% of PCL), as the overarching purpose of the land is afforestation and silviculture.
- *Land held under section 7 of the Conservation Act that is designated as a Specially Protected Area* (0.66% of PCL) – set apart to preserve intact, with minimum human interference; an area that possesses indigenous plant or animal life or ecological, geological or historical features of significance.

Terms and conditions

Table 4: Terms and conditions

Conditions for all pre-approved activities	
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The concession does not confer any right of access over any protected area leased by the Department of Conservation (DOC).• Any arrangements necessary for access over private land or leased land are the responsibility of the concessionaire.• All pre-approved activities must be undertaken in line with the bylaws and regulations that apply to the sites on which they are taking place.• It is the responsibility of the concessionaire to check availability of access to protected areas (including any seasonal access restrictions) prior to the trip (including checking DOC's website and any relevant bylaws).
Biosecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Concessionaire must take all precautions to ensure weeds and pests are not introduced to the Land; this includes ensuring that all equipment, including vehicles, watercraft, footwear, gaiters, and packs used by the Concessionaire, its staff and clients are clean before entering the land.• The Concessionaire must comply with, and ensure its clients comply with, all Biosecurity Act requirements and biosecurity regulations, and any notices, best practice, hygiene protocols, or other guidance issued by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to prevent and avoid the spread of pests/threats including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Kauri Dieback Disease (<i>Phytophthora taxon Agathis</i>) and other plant diseases.○ Freshwater weeds and pests when using and moving between waterways.• The Concessionaire must update themselves on any requirements under the Biosecurity Act or national regulation, and any MPI requirements, on a regular basis and provide advice to its clients as appropriate.
Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Concessionaire must not take and (for any guided activities) must ensure that its clients do not take, any animals, including dogs or any domestic pets, onto the land unless otherwise authorised.• The Concessionaire must take all precautions to ensure pests or predators are not taken onto to the Land.
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Department may send any officer of the Department to investigate any of the activities authorised during the term of this Concession for the purpose of assessing the impact on conservation values, the standard of service offered (where relevant) and compliance with the terms and conditions of the Concession, at no expense to the Grantor.• If the Department determines that the conditions of the concession or the effects of the Concession Activity should be monitored, the Concessionaire shall meet, either: (a) the full costs of any monitoring programme that is implemented; or (b) if the Grantor determines that the costs should be apportioned among several Concessionaires who use the same locations, part of the costs of the monitoring programme.

- These costs will include the Department’s standard charge-out rates for staff time and the mileage rates for vehicle use associated with the monitoring programme.

Competitive allocation

- Pre-approved concessions for each activity are available until any decision taken to tender the right to make an application, invite applications, or carry out other actions that may encourage specific applications for that activity under section 17ZG(2) (a).

Guiding – terms and conditions for all pre-approved guiding activities

Maximum term length 12 months

Maximum group sizes **High Visitor Zone** – Max group size 15 people (including guides).

Medium Visitor Zone – Max group size 15 people (including guides).

Low Visitor Zone – Max group size 8 people (including guides).

- If a guided trip will cover more than one zone the lowest maximum will apply (e.g. a trip that crosses a remote and backcountry zone would have a limit of 8 people).
- *Additional note re: overnight trips* – The same maximums apply, but there may be additional limitations on group size for specific huts or campsites, in line with general condition (below) that the Concessionaire and their clients together with all other concessionaires and their clients must not occupy more than half the bunk space of any hut or half the camping sites (unless the hut is a sole use hut booked by the Concessionaire).

Huts and campsites

- Bookings must be made in accordance with the Department’s accommodation booking policies.
- The Concessionaire and their clients together with all other concessionaires and their clients must not occupy more than half the bunk space of any hut or half the camping sites (unless the hut is a sole use hut booked by the Concessionaire).
- The Concessionaire or their clients must carry alternative accommodation for any non-bookable hut stays operated under this Concession.
- All charges, fees and levies for the use of Department facilities are to be paid by concessionaires and clients (where applicable).
- The Concessionaire must ensure that no permanent camp sites are created nor stores, or cache of any equipment is left on the Land or waters or in any hut without the specific authority of the Department’s appropriate Operations Manager.
- Where the Concessionaire makes use of Department-administered huts, the Concessionaire must enter relevant details of the activity into the relevant hut book.

Other general conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Concessionaire must ensure that clients remain on formed tracks and do not exceed any loading limitations placed on facilities and structures. The Concessionaire must ensure that none of its vehicles or vehicles of its clients are taken off formed roads. The Concessionaire must ensure that its vehicles and the vehicles of its clients are only parked only in designated parking areas. The Concessionaire must check track conditions before the trip and obey any signs regarding track closure. Toilets must be used where provided. Any toilets supplied by the Concessionaire must be completely self-contained and all waste must be removed from the sites. The Concessionaire must remove their rubbish from PCL and ensure that their clients' rubbish is removed. The Concessionaire must have a copy of this concession on them for the duration of the trip.
Other permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Concessionaire must check that their clients hold relevant licenses and permits necessary to undertake the activity before starting that activity (e.g. drivers licenses).
Interaction with other PCL users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Concessionaire must ensure that public access, public viewing opportunities and public enjoyment of public conservation land is not obstructed or restricted as a result of the activity. The Concessionaire must ensure that they and their clients share the track with other recreational users and concessionaires (i.e. allow others to pass on the track without being blocked by the group). The Concessionaire must ensure that they and their clients do not increase hazards or risks to other users of public conservation land.
Indigenous vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No indigenous vegetation is to be disturbed or cleared.
Interaction with wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Concessionaire must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Concessionaire must not disturb cultural heritage values on the Land and/or in the Water, including (but not limited to) archaeological sites, cultural heritage sites, historic areas and landscapes, wāhi tapu, urupā, artefacts/taonga and protected New Zealand objects.
Interpretation materials and wāhi tapu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Concessionaire must seek guidance of iwi who claim mana whenua over any parts of the Land if they wish to use cultural information or interpretation on matters of iwi cultural significance. The Concessionaire must recognise the sensitivity of wāhi tapu and urupā. If the Concessionaire wishes to use the Tōpuni or statutory acknowledgement information contained in any Settlement Act, they are requested to notify the relevant iwi, as a matter of courtesy. The Concessionaire must, as far as practicable, attend any workshops held by the Department for the purpose of providing information to concessionaires about the use of cultural information and wāhi tapu.

Guiding – activity-specific conditions

Description of activity	Terms and conditions
Guided walking (day walk or overnight/multiday)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commercial guided walking on formed tracks or formed routes where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by motor vehicle to and from PCL and motor vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below). Air transport is not included as a pre-approved activity and requires a standard concession.	No additional conditions.
Guided biking/mountain bike trips	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commercial guided trips on formed roads and designated bike tracks or multi-use tracks where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.Includes guided trips on e-bikes (i.e. power assisted cycles with an auxiliary electric motor with a maximum power not exceeding 300W) on formed tracks where e-biking is not prohibited by bylaws.Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by vehicle to and from PCL and vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maximum group size– as per guiding conditions above.The Concessionaire must ensure that their guides and clients adhere to the Mountain Bikers Code at all times.Bikes must not be taken into huts, or onto or under hut steps, verandas or porches.
Guided horse-trekking	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commercial horse-trek guiding on formed roads and tracks where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.Activity must be undertaken within an 8-hour period, with no need for overnight accommodation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maximum group size– as per guiding conditions above.All horses, staff, and clients must stay on formed roads and tracks designated for horses and where horse-riding is not prohibited by bylaws.The Concessionaire must ensure that they and their clients share the track with other recreational users and concessionaires (i.e., single file where

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- Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by vehicle to and from PCL and vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below).

practicable and allowing others to pass on the track without being blocked by the horse trekking group).

- The Concessionaire and their clients must not ride or lead horses in an inconsiderate, careless, or dangerous manner.
- The Concessionaire must ensure that any horses brought onto the land are fed on weed-free fodder and pastures wherever practicable.
- The Concessionaire must, as far as practicable, clear horse manure from the tracks used.

Guided rock-climbing trips

- Commercial guided rock-climbing day trips where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations and in [to specify locations].
- Includes rope-climbing where there are authorised fixed bolts and anchors already in place) and bouldering.
- Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
- Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by vehicle to and from PCL and vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below).

- Maximum group size– as per guiding conditions above.
- It the responsibility of the concessionaire to update themselves on the availability of a location prior to undertaking the activity.
- You must encourage guides and clients to take care not to disturb or damage vegetation on and around the abseiling sites.
- Any abseiling ropes and carabiners used for the activity must be placed in a manner that avoids damage to trees and native vegetation and must be removed from the site following each trip.
- Do not brush moss or lichen from the cliff unless necessary for safety reasons.
- You must brush off chalk tick marks.
- When other climbers are present, guides and clients must give them due consideration and allow them access to the bolts, routes and locations.
- Respect any temporary restrictions on access to climbing sites. These are identified by signage at site and/or alerts on the Department's website.
- Limit your activities at a crag to the cliff, its top and its base to minimise damage to surrounding areas.
- Do not add to fixed bolting equipment. A separate concession is required to install bolts and anchors.
- Always be aware of hazards to others, especially at busy crags and/or crags with loose rock.

- The Department does not undertake safety inspections or monitoring of any bolts, anchors routes or climbing equipment in public conservation land. This is the responsibility of the users.
- You must adhere to the New Zealand Alpine Club's codes and standards ([link](#)).

Non-powered, water-based guiding (e.g. kayaking, canoeing, white-water rafting)

- Launch and landing non-powered boats (including but not limited to kayaking, canoeing, white-water rafting) for the purpose of guiding and where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.
- Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
- Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by vehicle to and from PCL and vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below).
- Maximum group size– as per guiding conditions above.
- The Concessionaire must use existing vehicle access and watercraft launching facilities wherever possible.
- The Concessionaire must ensure that any vehicle and trailer used by the Concessionaire or its clients does not restrict access to members of the public.
- The Concessionaire must ensure that any watercraft and trailer used are removed from launching areas when not in use. The Concessionaire acknowledges that this concession conveys no special rights or privileges regarding the use of a boat ramp, jetty or any other facility.
- The Concessionaire must ensure that the watercraft used for the concession activity is well maintained.
- The Concessionaire must comply with any loading restrictions on structures (e.g. jetties).
- The Concessionaire must take all practicable measures to keep noise to a minimum and maintain the natural quiet of areas visited.

Four-wheel driving and quad-biking

- Commercial guided motor vehicle trips (including in 4WD, quad bikes or motorbikes) on roads where the activity is permitted by bylaws or regulations.
 - Activity can be within a day, overnight or multi-day and may include staying in accommodation on PCL (whether a tent or hut etc).
 - Transportation (e.g. transporting clients by vehicle to and from PCL and vehicle transfers associated with a guided trip) is a separate activity (refer below).
 - Maximum group size– as per guiding conditions above.
 - The Concessionaire must display a copy of this concession in the vehicle.
 - The Concessionaire must ensure that any vehicles used under this concession are only used on formed roads and driven to limit track damage.
 - All vehicles must be driven in a responsible and safe manner respecting other traffic on the road, including other 4WD's, motorcycles, mountain bikers, horse riders, and walkers.
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- The Concessionaire must take all practicable measures to keep noise to a minimum and maintain the natural quiet of areas visited.
 - All motor vehicles should yield to other recreational users.
 - The Concessionaire must not refuel or lubricate machinery or vehicles on any riverbed and must not store fuel on public conservation land.
 - The Concessionaire must have emergency plans in place, including for cleaning up any fuel or oil spills.
 - All vehicles used under this concession must have a spark arrestor. The Concessionaire must ensure that a fire extinguisher in good working order is carried at all times and that the Concessionaire and its staff (if applicable) are trained in the use of the fire extinguisher.
 - In the event of a vehicle break-down, it is the responsibility of the Concessionaire, with the relevant permissions from the Department, to remove the vehicle.
 - The Concessionaire must always thoroughly clean any vehicles used under this concession before and after trips to minimise spreading weeds and diseases.
 - The Concessionaire must respect the right of others for quiet enjoyment and avoid noisy driving.
 - If winching is necessary, use another vehicle. If you must use a tree, use webbing or padding to prevent damage to the tree.
 - Some areas are only accessible by 4wd seasonally. It is the responsibility of the Concessionaire to find out from the relevant land manager (the Department, local council, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, landowners, etc) about seasonal restrictions on 4wd use and seasonal road closures.
-

Transportation

Description of activity	Terms and conditions
Commercial boat transport using powered watercraft (e.g. water taxis, charter boat trips, scheduled boat trips)	
Launch and landing of powered watercraft for water transportation (including water taxi trips charter boat trips, jet boat trips). Includes drop off and pick up using use existing vehicle access and watercraft launching facilities where they exist and where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.	<p>Maximum term length 12 months</p> <hr/> <p>Boat use conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Concession does not give any authority for organised guiding activities to take place on the Land and any such activity requires a separate concession.• The Concessionaire's vessel must display the concession.• The Concessionaire's vessel must have a fully operational tracking device.• The Concessionaire must have all relevant documentation to cover all aspects of their operation both on the Land and the coastal waters. This includes any relevant Maritime Document required by a Maritime Rule made under the Maritime Transport Act 1994, any licence or other written authorisation required by any relevant Act or Bylaw. The concession shall cease to have effect for any period that any such document or authorisation is not held or current. <hr/> <p>Other conditions Other conditions as per standard conditions for guiding activities above.</p>
Commercial transport to and from public conservation land	
Commercial transport to and from public conservation land using formed roads and carparks, where the activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.	<p>Maximum term length 12 months</p> <hr/> <p>Vehicle use conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Concessionaire must ensure that any vehicles used under this concession are only used on formed roads and in designated parking areas.• The Concessionaire must display a copy of this concession in the vehicle.

- The Concessionaire must abide by the laws and regulations covering all vehicles and drivers and have all relevant documentation to cover all aspects of their operation. This includes any relevant licence or other written authorisation required under any relevant Act or Bylaw. This concession shall cease to have effect for any period that any such document or authorisation is not held or current.
- All vehicles must be driven in a responsible and safe manner respecting other traffic on the road.
- The Concessionaire must have emergency plans in place, including for cleaning up any fuel or oil spills.
- The Concessionaire must ensure that a fire extinguisher in good working order is carried at all times and that the Concessionaire and its staff (if applicable) are trained in the use of the fire extinguisher.
- In the event of a vehicle break-down, it is the responsibility of the Concessionaire, with the relevant permissions from the Department, to remove the vehicle.
- The Concessionaire must always thoroughly clean any vehicles used under this concession before and after trips to minimise spreading weeds and diseases.
- The Concessionaire must respect the right of others for quiet enjoyment and avoid noisy driving.
- The Concessionaire's vehicle must have a fully operational tracking device.

Other conditions

Other conditions as per standard conditions for guiding activities above.

Drones	
Description of activity	Terms and conditions
Drone use	
One-off drone use on PCL where activity is not prohibited by bylaws or regulations.	Maximum term length 3 months

May include use for recreational, commercial or scientific purposes.

It is the responsibility of the concessionaire to update themselves on the availability of a location prior to undertaking the activity.

CAA requirements You must ensure you have identified the type of airspace you are operating in, and any additional Civil Aviation Rules for operating in that airspace.

You must comply with the New Zealand Civil Aviation Rules for drone operators.

When flying the drone, you must:

- Ensure you have a copy of this concession with you.
- Always keep your drone in direct sight.
- Not fly in darkness, cloud, or fog.
- Not fly above 120 metres (400 feet) from the ground.

You must cease operation if required by a uniformed or warranted member of staff of the Department of Conservation.

Interaction with other aircraft

If you encounter piloted aircraft, you must give way and land the drone immediately. You must not resume operating the drone until the piloted aircraft has left the area.

Interaction with other PCL users

You must keep the drone a safe and reasonable distance from people and buildings/ structures/ utilities.

If filming for commercial purposes, you must take reasonable steps to advise other PCL users of the drone's presence and purpose, in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Interaction with wildlife

You may fly the drone near or over wildlife but when doing so you must:

- Take off or land at least 100m from any wildlife.
 - Fly no closer than 50m from any wildlife.
-

You must not fly the drone over roosting/nesting birds. You must not hover (i.e., keep the drone in a continuous position) over any wildlife.
If any wildlife repeatedly circles and/or engages directly with the drone (i.e., dive bombs), you must land the drone immediately and cease the drone operation.
You must not use the drone to deliberately pursue, harass, or disturb any wildlife.

These conditions also apply to any livestock animals on the land or adjoining land.

Interaction with marine mammals

To avoid disturbing or harassing marine mammals you must:

- Fly no closer than 150 metres horizontally from a point directly above any marine mammal.
- Not disturb or harass any marine mammal with your drone (i.e., do not deliberately herd or scatter them).
- Not make any sudden or repeated change in speed or direction.
- Abandon contact at the first sign of any marine mammal being disturbed.
- Take off at least 100 metres from any marine mammal on the shore or the land.

You must not hover (i.e., keep the drone in a continuous position) over any marine mammal.

If the marine mammal appears distressed or disturbed by the drone, you must land the drone immediately and cease the drone operation.

You must not use the drone to deliberately pursue, harass, or disturb any marine mammal.

Incidents or near misses

Any drone-related incidents or near misses must be reported to the relevant Department operations manager. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Collisions with or stressed wildlife or marine mammals
 - Lost drones
 - Near misses with other drones or piloted aircraft
-

- Adverse interactions with other users of PCL.

Research and collection - terms and conditions for all pre-approved research and collection activities

Maximum term length	3 months
Interaction with other PCL users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must ensure that public access, public viewing opportunities and public enjoyment of public conservation land is not obstructed or restricted as a result of the activity.
Site management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must remove all markers, tape, or other material used for the purposes of the activity within one day of the activity being completed. • Collection sites are to be left in as natural a state as possible. All equipment must be removed from the site after the activities have been completed. • Collection in wetlands must be done near the margins and not in the wetland itself. • You must, as far as practical, take all reasonable care not to damage any plant species in the vicinity of the activity sites or destabilise sites.
Interaction with wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must not disturb any cultural heritage values on the land and/or in the water which includes (but is not limited to) archaeological sites, historic heritage sites, historic areas and landscapes, koiwi/burials, artefacts/taonga and protected New Zealand objects. • In the event that a suspected site, place, object or koiwi/burial of cultural origin is found during any work on the land and/or in the water, work must cease immediately, and advice must be sought from the Department.
Wāhi tapu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must recognise the sensitivity of wāhi tapu and urupā and ensure that collection does not take place in any area identified as wāhi tapu or known site of significance to tangata whenua that has public access restrictions.
Reporting and records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concessionaire must share copies of their research with the Department and with any local iwi who request it.
Drones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of drones requires a separate approval.

Research and collection – activity-specific conditions

Description of activity	Draft terms and conditions
Limited collection of rocks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limited collection of rocks for research or Māori cultural purposes.Excludes fossils and cave formations, including stalactites and stalagmites.Excludes all metallic minerals, fuel minerals, precious stones (as defined in the Crown Minerals Act 1991) and a prescribed substance within the meaning of the Atomic Energy Act 1945.Excludes pounamu.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period and limited to a maximum of 3 day trips per year.Not using more than handheld, unpowered equipment to collect samples.No blasting or use of explosives to remove rocks.Collection limited to terrestrial protected areas.Collection must not be from:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a cultural heritage site.archaeological sites protected under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 [link].a contaminated site as identified on [link].a geopreservation site as identified on the New Zealand Geopreservation Inventory [link].a Pounamu Management Area [link].Where any pounamu is found, you must notify the Pounamu Manager, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Christchurch, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae-Chairperson.
Limited collection of soil	
Limited collection of soil for research or Māori cultural purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sampling fewer than five times at the site.Limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period. and limited to a maximum 3 day trips per year.Site must be returned to the original soil profile.Collection must not be from:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a cultural heritage site.archaeological sites protected under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 [link].a contaminated site as identified on [link].

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- a geopreservation site as identified on the New Zealand Geopreservation Inventory [link].
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Limited collection of non-protected wildlife

- Limited collection of species not protected under the Wildlife Act 1953 for research or Māori cultural purposes.
 - Excludes non-protected invertebrates of interest as listed on [schedule].
 - Includes catching, handling and collection of live or dead animals, any parts of such, and any eggs or progeny.
 - May include destructive samples.
 - Does not include bird banding.
- Unless for pest species, collection is only authorised in areas where there is a population of at least 20 individuals of the species to be collected.
 - Samples are limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period and limited to a maximum 3 day trips per year.
 - Does not include use of fumigants or coring to collect samples.
 - You must take all practicable measures to avoid impacting other flora and fauna at a site.
 - You must not collect from any naturally uncommon ecosystems as listed by Landcare New Zealand
<https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/publications/naturally-uncommon-ecosystems/>
 - Wildlife subject to this concession are not to be transferred to any other person. This prohibition includes live or dead animals, any parts of such, and any eggs or progeny.
 - Feather collection must be undertaken according to the methodologies set out in the *[Department of Conservation Avian Blood/Feather Sampling and Reptilian Tissue Collection Standard Operating Procedure]*.
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Collection of non-threatened flora /plants / fungi

- Collection of non-threatened flora /plants / fungi /seeds for research or Māori cultural purposes.
 - Does not include collection of threatened or at-risk flora/fungi as listed on (schedule).
 - Not using more than handheld equipment to collect material.
- Samples are limited to what an individual can carry on their person within a 24-hour period and limited to a maximum 3 day trips per year.
 - You must take all practicable measures to avoid impacting other flora and fauna at a site.
 - You must not collect from any naturally uncommon ecosystems as listed by Landcare New Zealand
<https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/publications/naturally-uncommon-ecosystems/>
-

Non-native species For non-native species there is no limit on quantity collected.

- The specimens, including any seed, must be stored in a sealed bag when transported in the field to avoid further spreading the species beyond the collection site.

Native species

- You must limit the size of samples to the smallest amount necessary for the purposes of your research activity.
- Individual plants may be sampled only once. Every attempt should be made to limit collecting to one sample per species per day.
- Samples must be collected in accordance with [*procedure with detailed info re what part of plants can be collected*].

Events and filming - terms and conditions for all pre-approved activities

Maximum term length	3 months
Use of Department facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must remain on formed tracks or well-used routes designed to protect natural and historic features of the land and not exceed any loading limitations placed on facilities and structures. • Toilets must be used where provided.
Interaction with other PCL users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must ensure that public access, public viewing opportunities and public enjoyment of public conservation land is not obstructed or restricted as a result of the activity. • For filming undertaken in or near campsites, all noise associated with filming must commence no earlier than 9am and cease no later than 10.00pm. • You must ensure that the safety of the public using conservation land is not put at risk as a result of the activity.
Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must ensure that any vehicles used to access conservation land, including to deliver film or event equipment, are used on formed roads and are parked in designated parking areas. • Vehicles used for the purpose of filming and events must not occupy more than half the available parking spaces.
Site management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must, as far as practical, take all reasonable care not to damage any plant species in the vicinity of the activity sites. • You must remove all rubbish from PCL after the event.

Interaction with wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must take all reasonable care to ensure wildlife are not disturbed unnecessarily.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must not disturb any cultural heritage values on the land and/or in the water which includes (but is not limited to) archaeological sites, historic heritage sites, historic areas and landscapes, koiwi/burials, artefacts/taonga and protected New Zealand objects.
Interpretation materials and wāhi tapu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must seek guidance of iwi who claim mana whenua over any parts of the land if you wish to use cultural information or interpretation on matters of iwi cultural significance. You must recognise the sensitivity of wāhi tapu and urupa and ensure that the activity does not take place in any area identified as wāhi tapu or known site of significance to tangata whenua that has public access restrictions. If the Concessionaire wishes to use the Tōpuni or statutory acknowledgement information contained in any Settlement Act, they are requested to notify the relevant iwi, as a matter of courtesy.
In respect to Ngāi Tahu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where filming has been undertaken on public conservation land within the Ngāi Tahu takiwā especially in an area known to be of cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu, you are requested to provide an acknowledgement in the film credits (where these exist) that some of the filming was undertaken in the tribal area of Ngāi Tahu. You are required to be aware of and adhere to guidelines for filming developed by Te Rūnanga O Ngāi Tahu and the Screen Production and Directors Association. For more information visit http://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/wpcontent/uploads/2013/11/Filming-Guidelines-Within-Takiwa-of-NgaiTahu.pdf. You are requested not to portray any Ngāi Tahu spiritual, cultural, historical, or traditional association in the film without first consulting Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and the relevant Papatipu Rūnanga. www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Events and filming – activity-specific conditions

Description of activity	Draft terms and conditions
Small scale commercial events on formed tracks or in established visitor areas	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concession is for one-off event and must occur within one day (no more than 24 hours) including set up and pack down. Type of events may include, but not limited to, weddings or other celebrations. Non-competitive events only (for example, does not include competitive sporting events that include running, biking, horse riding, vehicles). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No permanent structures are to be erected. The event must take place on formed tracks or in established visitor areas. The event must not require the exclusive use of the areas or restrict the access of others on the land. The event must not compromise the safety or enjoyment of other users in the area.

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- Separate concession needed for commercial filming, photography or drone use.

- Concessionaires may only take clients to places where the facilities (for example toilets) are appropriate for the group size and activity.
- No amplified sound.
- Public shelters must not be used for the event.

Small scale or medium scale commercial filming or photography on formed tracks or in established visitor areas

- Concession is for one-off filming or photography projects and all onsite filming must take place within a 7-day period (consecutive days) for small scale filming or within a 21-day period (consecutive days) for medium scale filming.
- Filming can only take place on existing tracks and/or in established visitor areas.

- No permanent structures are to be erected.
 - The project must not require the exclusive use of the areas or compromise the enjoyment or safety of other users in the area.
 - You must not modify natural features in order to improve camera angles or locations.
 - You must not attach any equipment to existing structures which will irreversibly change or temporarily/permanently damage structures.
 - You must take reasonable steps to advise other PCL users of the filming presence and purpose, in accordance with the Privacy Act.
 - Filming is not permitted on weekends and public holidays.
 - No road or track closures are to be in effect for the purpose of this filming.
 - The use of a drone requires a separate permission.
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Appendix 4: Activities with standardised pre-assessment

Activity descriptions

Table 5: Activity descriptions

Activity	Definition
Recreation and tourism infrastructure and facilities	
Unsealed tracks	Modifying land for the purpose of creating walking or cycling tracks. May include vegetation removal.
Sealed tracks	Construction of sealed or compacted gravel paths for the purpose of walking or cycling. May include vegetation removal, resurfacing, installing of barriers, guard rails, signage, bridges/culverts.
Large tourism facilities (hotels/motels/lodges, eateries, staff quarters)	Construction and operation of large tourism facilities (e.g., hotels, motels, lodges, eateries, staff quarters). Includes large structures with electricity, hot water, sewerage systems, and landscaping.
Commercial events	Holding of commercial events including competitive sports events, commercial filming/photography, festivals/concerts, weddings.
Small tourism facilities (huts, toilets, shelters)	Construction and operation of smaller tourism facilities (e.g., huts, toilets, shelters) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huts: No electricity. Maximum capacity of 40 people in Amenities Areas, High Visitor Zone, and Medium Visitor Zone. Maximum capacity of 6 in the Low Visitor Zone. • Toilets: permanent or temporary toilets consistent with Department standards. • Shelters: small structures, no plumbing or electricity, not intended for overnight accommodation.
Campgrounds	Development and operation of public camping facility including sites for tents and campervans, toilets and shower facilities, kitchen shelters, accommodation for camp management. Maximum capacity of 36 people or 18 camping sites in the Medium Visitor Zone.
Outdoor education camps	Development and operation of camping facility for outdoor education, including sites for tents, small tourism facilities (as defined above).
4WD tracks	Construction of unpaved, unsealed surfaces suitable for use by specialised vehicles (e.g., four-wheel-drive cars, all-terrain vehicles, quad bikes). May include vegetation removal.
Car parks	Modifying and occupying land for the purpose of temporarily parking vehicles. May include vegetation removal and resurfacing and installing signage.
Grazing, beehives, and planting	
Native planting	Planting of native locally-sourced plant species. No harvest.
Exotic harvest	Harvest of timber from exotic tree species, using existing access routes. No replanting of exotic species, no harvest of native species.

Grazing	Pasture grazing of domestic animals such as sheep, cattle, deer, goats, llamas, alpacas, or horses.
Right of way for livestock	Access for domestic animals such as sheep, cattle, deer, goats, llamas, alpacas, or horses, for farm management purposes. Animals must be actively driven through the area and must not be left to drift or graze.
Collection of flora	Collection of seeds and cuttings from plants, including native plants, by hand-picking or using non-powered secateurs.
Beehives	Placement of bumblebee or honeybee hives. Does not include permission to access (e.g., land aircraft) or construct access (e.g., construction of roads).
Cropping	Sowing, cultivating, and harvesting crops, including pasture crops for cut and carry operations.
Utilities, roading, and public infrastructure	
Monitoring	Construction and operation of monitoring stations (e.g., water, geothermal, seismic, tsunami, weather). Includes wells, buoys, rain gauges, seismic vaults, concrete pads, and associated telecommunication equipment and cabling.
Wharves	Construction of wharves and jetties. Includes portable/removable jetty structures.
Bulk fuel storage	Secure storage of fuel, including excavation for underground storage.
Retaining wall	Construction of retaining walls.
Below-ground pipes and cables	Installation and maintenance of underground pipelines and cables and associated equipment for supporting, enclosing, surrounding or protecting the pipes or cables. Including the digging of trenches for the placement of the pipes or cables.
Above-ground masts and cables	Construction and maintenance of masts (e.g., power poles, telecommunications towers) and overhead lines (e.g., power cables, telecommunications cables)
Water supply schemes	Installation, operation, and/or maintenance of structures and associated facilities for water supply, including tanks, filtration plants, and associated buildings (e.g., pumpsheds).
Flood protection	Construction of structures to protect against floods, including flood walls and stop banks.
Roads	Construction of new roads and/or repairs, upgrades and maintenance of existing roads that meet the definition of road under section 2 of the Land Transport Act 1998, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are formed and maintained for vehicle use by the public, or routes that are marked by the Department of vehicle use by the public; or • Are formed and maintained for vehicle access for construction or maintenance of other structures or facilities. May include vegetation removal, excavation, landscaping, resurfacing.
Hydroelectric	Structures for hydroelectricity schemes, including dams, weirs, pumps, turbines, tanks, penstocks, powerhouses, and pipelines.

Assessment against land classification

- **Green:** consistent with the land classification or visitor zone; this is where the Department anticipates activities will occur.
- **Red:** activity is inconsistent with the land classification or visitor zone. While concession applications may be made in these areas, they will almost certainly be declined as they will be inconsistent with the area plan – consistency with the area plan is a requirement for a concession to be approved.
- **White:** pre-assessment is not appropriate and consistency with the land classification or visitor zone will be assessed on a case-by-case basis through the concessions process.

Table 6: Assessment of activities against land classifications

Activity	Land classification													Other***	
	National Parks*	Conservation Parks	Stewardship Areas	Scenic Reserves	Recreation Reserves	Ecological Areas	Nature and Scientific Reserves	Marginal Strips	Wildlife Management Areas	Amenity Areas/Natural character areas**	Historic Reserves	Sanctuary Areas			
% of PCL	34.16	23.78	26.81	4.73	2.62	1.50	1.34	0.6	0.27	0.11	0.07	0.04	3.97		
Recreation and tourism infrastructure and facilities															% of PCL
Unsealed tracks														88.08	
Sealed tracks														88.08	
Commercial events														88.08	
Small tourism facilities (huts, toilets, shelters)														87.48	
Campgrounds														87.48	
Car parks														53.32	
Outdoor education camps														87.48	
4WD tracks														53.32	
Large tourism facilities														0.11	
Grazing, beehives and planting															
Native planting														94.32	
Exotic harvest														90.82	
Grazing														53.21	
Right of way for livestock														53.21	
Collection of flora														53.21	
Beehives														50.59	
Cropping														50.59	
Utilities, roading and public infrastructure															
Monitoring														88.71	
Wharves														87.48	
Bulk fuel storage														87.48	
Retaining wall														53.32	
Below-ground pipes and cables														53.32	
Above-ground masts and cables														53.32	
Water supply schemes														53.32	
Flood protection														53.32	
Roads														53.32	
Hydroelectric														50.21	

* Pre-assessment does not cover specially protected areas within national parks.

** These refer to amenity areas under the Conservation Act, which the Bill is amending to call natural character areas.

*** Includes local and government purpose reserves (0.54% of PCL), wilderness areas (1.28% of PCL), land administered under the Waitangi Endowment Act (0.01% of PCL), other land held under section 7 of the Conservation Act for conservation purposes (2.14% of PCL).

Assessment against visitor zone

Table 7: Assessment of activities against visitor zones

Activity	Visitor Zone				
	Amenities Areas/Visitor Amenity Areas*	High Visitor Zone	Medium Visitor Zone	Low Visitor Zone	Wilderness Areas
Recreation and tourism infrastructure and facilities					
Unsealed tracks					
Sealed tracks					
Commercial events					
Small tourism facilities (huts, toilets, shelters)					
Campgrounds					
Car parks					
Outdoor education camps					
4WD tracks					
Large tourism facilities					
Grazing, beehives and planting					
Native planting					
Exotic harvest					
Grazing					
Right of way for livestock					
Collection of flora					
Beehives					
Cropping					
Utilities, roading and public infrastructure					
Monitoring					
Wharves					
Bulk fuel storage					
Retaining wall					
Below-ground pipes and cables					
Above-ground masts and cables					
Water supply schemes					
Flood protection					
Roads					
Hydroelectric					

* These refer to current amenities areas under the National Parks Act, which will be called visitor amenity areas under the Bill.

Appendix 5: Works or activities which may be exempt from land use consents

Table 8: Non-exhaustive list of works or activities undertaken by the Minister or Director-General in exercise of their functions, duties or powers

Tracks, roads and car parks	
Activity scope	Description of associated works
<p>Construction of new tracks.</p> <hr/> <p>Improvements and upgrades to any existing track, including partial or complete realignment, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mitigate any environmental impact, health and safety concern or visitor risk; and/or take advantage of better grades and terrain features; and/or incorporate elements of natural or cultural heritage in the landscape; and/or provide improved access for any management purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct tracks and roads using cut to fill excavation, cut to waste excavation and levelling using hand tools, motorised equipment and machinery. Excavate batter slopes to a maximum height of 1.5 m. Vegetation removal from the full width of the track corridor, and discretionary removal of any vegetation beyond the track and road corridor that is considered hazardous or that may adversely affect track components such as batter slopes, drainage or track surface materials. Aggregate surfacing, including placement and compaction of local and imported materials (from approved, pest-plant-free sources). Use local materials in the vicinity of the asset corridor where necessary for obtaining fill/ surfacing materials. Ground works of in-ground timber steps, including formation and levelling, drainage, and timber construction. Construct drainage and redirect surface water from the track surface to existing natural contours using various means, such as culvert pipes, drainage sumps, cut-outs and cross boards. Re-form and widen roads to provide safe access for two vehicles and road stability to the required standards. Drainage improvement to prevent erosion and deterioration of the road surface and structure, and to provide safe vehicle access. Maintain cultural heritage associated with the track or road to ensure that they are not adversely impacted.
Structures and buildings	
Activity scope	Description of associated works
<p>Upgrade existing structures and buildings</p> <hr/> <p>Scheduled 'like for like' replacement of existing structures and buildings (substantially similar structures and buildings built on the same footprint or within the immediate vicinity)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparatory site works such as vegetation removal, formation and levelling of structures and building footprints, and excavation of piles and footings. Works associated with water reticulation and sewage containment/treatment.

<p>Construct new structures and buildings</p>	
<p>Improvements to any existing structure and building considered necessary to mitigate any environmental impact and health and safety concern, or to provide improved access for any management purpose.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct drainage and redirect surface water from structure and building footprint to existing natural contours using various means, such as culvert pipes, drainage sumps and cut-outs. • Construct structures and buildings such as bridges, boardwalks, stairs, handrails, safety barriers, viewing platforms, huts, shelters, toilets, signage and ladders. • Maintenance of cultural heritage associated with the structure or building to ensure that their integrity is not adversely impacted.

Campsites and amenities

Activity scope	Description of associated works
<p>Upgrade existing campsites and amenities</p> <p>Scheduled 'like for like' replacement of existing campsites and amenity assets (substantially similar campsites and amenities built on the same footprint or within the immediate vicinity)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory site works such as vegetation removal, formation and levelling of campsite and amenity footprint, and excavation of piles and footings. • Works associated with water reticulation and sewage containment/treatment, including effluent dispersal fields and in-ground waste tanks.
<p>Construct new campsites and amenities</p> <p>Construct new assets such as structures and buildings as a component of development work for new campsites and amenity areas.</p> <p>Improvements to any existing asset or establishment of new assets considered necessary to manage, meet regulatory requirements and mitigate any environmental impact or health and safety concern, or to provide improved access for any management purpose.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct drainage and redirect surface water from building and structural campsite and amenity footprint to existing natural contours using various means such as culvert pipes, drainage sumps and cut-outs. • Construct campsites and amenities such as bridges, boardwalks, stairs, handrails, safety barriers, shelters, toilets, showers, signage and ladders. • Maintenance of cultural heritage, including historic botanicals, associated with the campsite or amenity to ensure that they are not adversely impacted.

Historic assets – remedial work and maintenance

Activity scope	Description of associated works
Maintenance of places of cultural heritage value to departmental service standards, and ICOMOS and Heritage NZ standards and guidelines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetation management around historic places, maintenance of drainage channels and management of safety issues including barrier construction and installation of interpretative panels.• Repairs and conservation treatments as scheduled to concrete, masonry, metal, timber and earthwork structures.• Maintenance of cultural heritage, including historic botanicals, associated with the asset of cultural heritage value to ensure that they are not adversely impacted.
Stabilisation of condition of assets of cultural heritage value by conservation treatments and land stabilising, e.g. construction of retaining walls.	

Signs

Activity scope	Description of associated works
Erection of signage for the purpose of providing information and interpretation to the public.	Works associated with the erection of signage.

Other management-related activities

Activity scope	Description of associated works
Erection of boundary fences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetation removal to provide clear lines for fences.• Pest animal operations (note: discharge permits will be required for operations utilising pesticides).• Earthworks and vegetation clearance associated with habitat enhancement, i.e. pond/drain creation or re-alignment and fire management.• General access required to undertake the activity.• Clearance of indigenous vegetation and habitats incidental to any works.• Maintenance of cultural heritage to ensure it is not adversely impacted.
Installation, operation, and maintenance of any scientific monitoring equipment	
Habitat enhancement.	
Pest control and/or eradication.	
Fire management, including construction of airstrips for fire-fighting purposes	

Aircraft associated aerial operations for conservation purposes, including but not limited to biodiversity and biosecurity management

- Landing and take-off of aircraft

Hazardous goods and contaminations

Activity scope

Description of associated works

Use, transportation, storage and disposal of hazardous substances.

Use, transportation, storage and disposal of hazardous substances including, but not limited to, flammable liquids, pesticides, herbicides and treated timber.

Remediation of contaminated sites

Works associated with the remediation of contaminated sites.

Offal pits and burial pits

Clearance of vegetation and soil disturbance associated with creating offal and burial pits
