



New Zealand Legislation
National Parks Act 1980

Warning: Some amendments have not yet been incorporated

Part 1
National parks

Principles to be applied in national parks

4 Parks to be maintained in natural state, and public to have right of entry

- (1) It is hereby declared that the provisions of this Act shall have effect for the purpose of preserving in perpetuity as national parks, for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of the public, areas of New Zealand that contain scenery of such distinctive quality, ecological systems, or natural features so beautiful, unique, or scientifically important that their preservation is in the national interest.
- (2) It is hereby further declared that, having regard to the general purposes specified in subsection (1), national parks shall be so administered and maintained under the provisions of this Act that—
 - (a) they shall be preserved as far as possible in their natural state:
 - (b) except where the Authority otherwise determines, the native plants and animals of the parks shall as far as possible be preserved and the introduced plants and animals shall as far as possible be exterminated:
 - (c) sites and objects of archaeological and historical interest shall as far as possible be preserved:
 - (d) their value as soil, water, and forest conservation areas shall be maintained:
 - (e) subject to the provisions of this Act and to the imposition of such conditions and restrictions as may be necessary for the preservation of the native plants and animals or for the welfare in general of the parks, the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the parks, so that they may receive in full measure the inspiration, enjoyment, recreation, and other benefits that may be derived from mountains, forests, sounds, seacoasts, lakes, rivers, and other natural features.

Compare: 1952 No 54 s 3; 1972 No 87 s 2



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Part 5
Control and management of national parks

Administration of parks

43 Parks to be administered by Department

The Department shall, subject to this Act, and in accordance with—

- (a) any statements of general policy adopted under [section 44](#); and
- (aa) any conservation management strategy for the time being in force in respect of a park; and
- (b) any management plan for the time being in force in respect of a park—

administer and manage all national parks in such a manner as to secure to the public the fullest proper use and enjoyment of the parks consistent with the preservation of their natural and historic features and the protection and well-being of their native plants and animals.

Compare: 1952 No 54 ss 15, 26; 1974 No 69 s 8

Section 43(aa): inserted, on 10 April 1990, by [section 116](#) of the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990 (1990 No 31).