



Briefing: 24-B-0293 – Stewardship Land reclassification – letters to National Panel members

To	Minister of Conservation	Date submitted	17 June 2024
Action sought	Approve letters to National Panel members thanking them for their work on the reclassification of stewardship land	Priority	High
Reference	24-B-0293	DocCM	DOC-7666077
Security Level	In Confidence		
Risk Assessment	Low 9(2)(g)(i)	Timeframe	29 June 2024 The National Panel member appointments expire on 30 June 2024
Attachments	Attachment A – Individual letters for National Panel members (11 letters in total)		
Contacts			
Name and position		Cell phone	
Ruth Isaac, Deputy Director General Policy and Regulatory Services		9(2)(a)	
Nicole Kunzmann, Reclassification Manager		9(2)(a)	

Executive summary – Whakarāpopoto ā kaiwhakahaere

1. You recently returned Briefing 24-B-0015: 'Background and progress update on the reclassification of stewardship land' indicating your preference to progress the work to reclassify stewardship land without further use of panels.
2. As described in the briefing, the National Panels were appointed using Ministerial powers through section 56 of the Conservation Act 1987.
3. The two National Panels were first appointed for a two-year period through to June 2023 to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island and Northern South Island regions of DOC.
4. Their appointments were extended by a further year to allow for work to continue progressing.
5. Your recent decision has directed the Department to progress the work without further use of Panels.
6. This briefing provides you with letters to send to the members of the two National Panels thanking them for their work to date and letting them know that their appointments will lapse at the end of June.

We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)

		Decision
a)	Sign each letter to members of the two National Panels appointed to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island and Northern South Island Regions of New Zealand.	

Date: / /

Ruth Isaac
Deputy Director-General Policy and
Regulatory Services

Date: / /

Hon Tama Potaka
Minister of Conservation

Purpose – Te aronga

1. This briefing follows on from 24-B-0015 'Background and progress update on the reclassification of stewardship land', seeking your approval to send letters to the National Panel members who have been undertaking the reclassification of stewardship land.

Background and context – Te horopaki

2. As described in 24-B-0015, we are able to progress the reclassification of stewardship land without further use of panels.
3. As members of the two National Panels were Ministerially-appointed, we recommend that you communicate your decision to them and thank them for their work to date.

Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru

4. 9(2)(g)(i)

5. 9(2)(g)(i)

Treaty principles (section 4) – Ngā mātāpono Tiriti (section 4)

6. We are working with Treaty partners on implementing your preferred option outlined in 24-B-0015. They are aware of your decision with regard to panels, and we will inform them that communications will be sent out to the members of the National Panels.
7. As per briefing 24-B-0015, we will continue working with Treaty partners on the reclassification of stewardship land in a manner consistent with our s4 obligations.
8. 9(2)(ba)(i)

Consultation – Kōrero whakawhiti

9. We will inform stakeholders of your preferred approach to progress the reclassification of stewardship land. This will include iwi, NGOs, interest groups, and other Government agencies such as the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

Financial implications – Te hīraunga pūtea

10. As described in 24-B-0015, progressing the reclassification of stewardship land without further use of panels will reduce the cost to deliver this work as we will not be compensating the panel members for their time or funding their associated expenses.

Legal implications – Te hīraunga a ture

11. 9(2)(g)(i)

Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga

12. We will work with your office to ensure that the letters are sent out.
13. We will keep you informed of any developments through your Status Report.

ENDS

Hon Tama Potaka

Minister of Conservation
Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
Minister for Māori Development
Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Hon Philip Woollaston
Chair of Northern South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Mr Woollaston,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as Chair for the Northern South Island National Panel drafting recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Northern South Island. I understand that you did an excellent job providing leadership to your panel and developed close working relationships with the Ngāi Tahu Mana Whenua Panel.

I have made the decision to not reappoint the two National Panels beyond 30 June 2024 when your current appointments expire. I appreciate that you may be disappointed with this decision, but I would like to reassure you that the work you and your panel have undertaken so far will provide an excellent resource for the Department should the work progress in the Northern South Island. I am still considering options for the future work.

Thank you again for your work on this project.

Mauriora

Hon Tama Potaka
Minister of Conservation

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Minister of Conservation
Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
Minister for Māori Development
Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Mr Neil Clifton
Chair of Western South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Mr Clifton,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as Chair of the Western South Island National Panel. I appreciate the difficult task that you and your panel undertook to draft recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island. You will be pleased to know that I have committed to making final decisions on land classifications by the end of the year for those pieces of stewardship land which were notified.

I have also made the decision to not reappoint the two National Panels beyond 30 June 2024 when your current appointments expire. I understand that you may be disappointed with this decision, but I would like to reassure you that the work undertaken so far will provide an excellent resource for me to use when making my final decisions.

Thank you again for your work on this project.

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Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Mr Philip Blakely
Member of Western South Island and Northern South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Mr Blakely,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a panel member of both the Western South Island National Panel and the Northern South Island National Panel. I am aware that you agreed to fill the role of landscape expert in the Northern South Island National Panel when it became vacant and thank you for this.

I appreciate the difficult task that you and the panel undertook to draft recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island. You will be pleased to know that I have committed to making final decisions on land classifications by the end of the year for those pieces of stewardship land which were notified.

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Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Dr William (Bill) Lee
Member of Western South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Dr Lee,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a panel member of the Western South Island National Panel. I appreciate the difficult task that you and the panel undertook to draft recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island. You will be pleased to know that I have committed to making final decisions on land classifications by the end of the year for those pieces of stewardship land which were notified.

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Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Dr Katharine Watson
Member of Western South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Dr Watson,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a panel member of both the Western South Island National Panel and the Northern South Island National Panel. I appreciate the difficult task that you and the panel undertook to draft recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island. You will be pleased to know that I have committed to making final decisions on land classifications by the end of the year for those pieces of stewardship land which were notified.

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Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Ms Jo Breese
Member of Western South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Ms Breese,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a panel member of both the Western South Island National Panel and the Northern South Island National Panel. I appreciate the difficult task that you and the panel undertook to draft recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island. You will be pleased to know that I have committed to making final decisions on land classifications by the end of the year for those pieces of stewardship land which were notified.

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Dr Marama Muru-Lanning
Member of Western South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Dr Muru-Lanning,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a panel member of the Western South Island National Panel. I appreciate the difficult task that you and the panel undertook to draft recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Western South Island. You will be pleased to know that I have committed to making final decisions on land classifications by the end of the year for those pieces of stewardship land which were notified.

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Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing (Social Housing)



Ms Mary O'Keeffe
Member of Northern South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Ms O'Keeffe,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a member of the Northern South Island National Panel drafting recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Northern South Island. I understand that your panel made excellent progress and developed close working relationships with the Ngāi Tahu Mana Whenua Panel.

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Mr Geoff Canham
Member of Northern South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Mr Canham,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the work you have done as a member of the Northern South Island National Panel drafting recommendations to reclassify stewardship land in the Northern South Island. I understand that your panel made excellent progress and developed close working relationships with the Ngāi Tahu Mana Whenua Panel.

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Mr Willie Shaw
Member of Northern South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Mr Shaw,

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Ms Laura Coll McLaughlin
Member of Northern South Island National Panel
9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Ms Coll McLaughlin,

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