



# Briefing: Further policy approvals and draft Cabinet paper to introduce the Conservation Acts (Land Management and Other Matters) Amendment Bill

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                       |               |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| <b>To</b>             | Minister of Conservation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Date submitted</b> | 12 March 2026 |
| <b>Action sought</b>  | Decide on outstanding policy matters required for Bill drafting, and agree to advise or seek Cabinet agreement of these decisions through the attached draft Cabinet paper.<br>Provide feedback on the attached draft Cabinet paper by 17 March to ensure Ministerial consultation can commence on 23 March. | <b>Priority</b>       | High          |
| <b>Reference</b>      | ADVB-139                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>DocCM</b>          | DOC-10663174  |
| <b>Security level</b> | In Confidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |               |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                  |               |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| <b>Risk assessment</b> | High<br>The approvals sought in the briefing range in risk. However, some issues (such as the proposed purpose changes) have potential to be high risk for the Department.                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Timeframe</b> | 17 March 2026 |
| <b>Attachments</b>     | Attachment A - Changes instructed by DOC during drafting requiring Minister of Conservation agreement (under delegation)<br>Attachment B - Changes instructed by DOC during drafting requiring Cabinet agreement<br>Attachment C - Draft Cabinet paper to introduce the Conservation Acts (Land Management and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2026 |                  |               |

| Contacts                                      |          |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Name and position                             | Phone    |
| Bryan Dunne, Deputy Director-General - Policy | s9(2)(a) |
| Sam Thomas, Director - Policy                 | s9(2)(a) |

## **Executive summary – Whakarāpopoto ā kaiwhakahaere**

---

1. Drafting of the Conservation Acts (Land Management and Other Matters) Amendment Bill (the Bill) is well underway, and the Bill is nearly complete for introduction.
2. This briefing:
  - Seeks your approval, under delegation, on outstanding policy matters to confirm our drafting approach (Attachment A);
  - Advises you on outstanding policy matters that are the subject of previous Cabinet decisions, and seeks your agreement to seek amended Cabinet decisions through the attached Cabinet paper to confirm our drafting approach (Attachment B); and
  - Seeks feedback on the draft Cabinet paper seeking agreement to the proposed policy changes above, and to introduce the Bill (Attachment C).
3. Following your decision on these matters, we will work with PCO to finalise the Bill and Cabinet paper ahead of Cabinet.
4. We require your feedback on the draft Cabinet paper by 17 March at the latest to ensure Ministerial and Agency consultation can commence as planned on 23 March.
5. The draft Bill will also be sent to you for your feedback on 1 April as planned, for feedback and then Ministerial consultation to commence on 2 April.
6. In order to meet expectations to introduce the Bill into the House by 20 April (and to have it passed by the end of term), the Cabinet paper and Bill will need to be lodged with Cabinet Office on 16 April.
7. Any delay in introduction would either shorten the Select Committee period further or would leave less time to complete all remaining Parliamentary stages that follow.

**We recommend that you ... (Ngā tohutohu)**

|                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Decision</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| a)                                                           | <b>Agree</b> to the recommended policy changes, under delegation, outlined in Attachment A.                                                                                              | Yes / No        |
| b)                                                           | <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet approval on the matters outlined in Attachment B.                                                                                                           | Yes / No        |
| c)                                                           | <b>Provide</b> feedback on the draft Cabinet paper (Attachment C) and the matters in the briefing by <b>17 March</b> to enable Ministerial and agency consultation to start on 23 March. | Yes / No        |
| d)                                                           | <b>Note</b> that we will provide updated advice and recommendations relating to provisions for upholding Treaty settlements for the lodgement version of the Cabinet paper.              | Noted           |
| <b><i>Changes to the purpose of the Conservation Act</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |
| e)                                                           | <b>Agree</b> to retain “consistency with the purpose for which the land is held” as a threshold for concessions decisions, s9(2)(h) [REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]                             | Yes / No        |

s9(2)(a)

Date: 12/ 03 /2026

Bryan Dunne  
Deputy Director-General, Policy

Date: / /

Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister of Conservation**

## Purpose – Te aronga

---

1. In preparation to seek Cabinet approval to introduce the Conservation Acts (Land Management and Other Matters) Amendment Bill (the Bill), this briefing:
  - Seeks your approval, under delegation, on outstanding policy matters to confirm our drafting approach (Attachment A);
  - Advises you on outstanding policy matters that are the subject of previous Cabinet decisions, and seeks your agreement to seek amended Cabinet decisions through the attached Cabinet paper to confirm our drafting approach (Attachment B); and
  - Seeks feedback on the draft Cabinet paper seeking agreement to the proposed policy changes above, and to introduce the Bill (Attachment C).

## Background and context – Te horopaki

---

2. Drafting of the Conservation Acts (Land Management and Other Matters) Amendment Bill (the Bill) is well underway and nearly complete for introduction.
3. The drafting process has identified a number of policy matters that will require changes to existing direction. Some of these changes will require you to seek Cabinet approval to revise previous Cabinet decisions, while others can be decided by you under existing Cabinet delegations.<sup>1</sup>
4. Due to timing constraints, these policy issues have already been instructed on (pending your/Cabinet's agreement) and will be reflected in the draft Bill you receive on 1 April 2026.
5. The draft Cabinet paper, which seeks Cabinet approval to introduce the Bill, also outlines all of these recommended changes and is attached for your review.
6. Agency and Ministerial consultation on the Cabinet paper are scheduled to start on 23 March. This means that we require your feedback by 17 March at the latest, to ensure we can incorporate your feedback and return it to your office by 19 March.

## We are seeking your decision, under Cabinet delegation

---

7. Because of the condensed time available to draft the Bill to meet your expectations around introduction, we have already provided PCO with drafting instructions on a range of matters. We are now seeking your decision on them in **Attachment A**.
8. The decisions you have previously made under Cabinet delegation, as well as those sought through Attachment A and outlined below, are included in the draft Cabinet paper for Cabinet endorsement (Attachment C).

## We require revisions to some previous Cabinet decisions

---

9. Due to timing constraints, policy issues were resolved as they arose during drafting and instructed on (pending future Cabinet approval through the LEG paper). As a result, we require you to seek Cabinet approval on the Cabinet decisions outlined in **Attachment B**.
10. We have included the higher profile issues below for your convenience.

---

<sup>1</sup> Cabinet delegated you the authority to make decisions required for drafting (CAB-25 MIN-0213.01). In July and November 2025, you made decisions under delegation on a range of matters (25-B-0292 and 25-B-0389 refer).

### ***Changes to the purpose of the Conservation Act***

11. Cabinet directed you to amend the purpose statement of the Conservation Act to ensure that wider reforms to the conservation land management system enable greater economic development on conservation land [CAB-25-MIN-0213.01].
12. Cabinet subsequently noted that you intend to make *targeted* changes to parts of the Conservation Act that form the existing 'purpose architecture' which can then be implemented through the NCPS and area plans [CAB-25-MIN-0334.01]. You advised Cabinet that conservation would remain the primary purpose of the Act.
13. The specific purpose changes that you proposed to Cabinet, subject to further advice from PCO and Crown Law, were to:
  - a. Amend section 6 (DOC's functions), to include economic development.
  - b. Add new purpose provisions to Parts 3A (management planning) and 3B (concessions) that clearly state the NCPS and area plans can include policies for the use and development of conservation land.
  - c. Ensure the new empowering provisions for the NCPS and area plans explicitly state that one of their functions is to provide additional detail about the relationship between various activities and the purposes for which different types of land are held.
  - d. For concession decisions, change consistency with "the purposes for which the land concerned is held" from a threshold that must be met to a mandatory consideration.
14. You clarified to Cabinet that you were not seeking more fundamental changes to the purpose architecture. s9(2)(h) Further, it would require a scale of drafting changes that cannot be delivered on current Bill timeframes (enactment by the end of term).
15. Your incisive, or targeted, amendment to the purpose architecture of the Act is intended to impact those few applications declined under the status quo (only 2% of all applications last year), while reducing risks that would come from more extensive, far-reaching change to the Act's purpose. Activities will still need to be consistent with the conservation purpose of the Act.
16. Under the status quo, the vast majority of applications to use conservation land are approved. Last year<sup>2</sup> DOC processed around 2,800 concession applications and 120 mining applications under the Crown Minerals Act 1991 (CMA). Of those considered, only 2% of concessions applications and mining approvals were declined.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, projects with significant regional or national benefits can gain quicker approvals through the Fast-Track Approvals Act.
17. Your reforms are already intended to generate more economic development on conservation land than the status quo. The reform will facilitate economic development by simplifying the structure of statutory planning documents; enabling more efficient processing of concessions and more proportionate consideration of common, low-impact applications; and providing clearer direction on the compatibility of economically significant activities on conservation land.
18. Changes to the parts of the Conservation Act directed at its purpose are expected to result in a small number of concessions being approved that would have otherwise been declined under current settings (a net gain in economic activity on conservation land). The changes will:

<sup>2</sup> For concessions decisions data is taken from January 2025 – October 2025; for mining permissions data is taken from November 2024 – October 2025.

<sup>3</sup> Around 90% were approved and 7-9% withdrawn.

- support streamlining processes by explicitly acknowledging that economic development is an acceptable activity on conservation land (where not inconsistent with conservation); and
- increase the likelihood of concessions being granted where they otherwise may not have been, but where they would still be consistent with conservation.

19. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

20. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*We recommend that you do not progress the change to the thresholds that must be met in concessions decisions*

21. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

22. We recommend that you do not progress the change to the decision-making threshold described in paragraphs 13d and 21. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

23. If you want to retain this change, it could be included in the Bill that is introduced and we could continue to work [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### **Changes relating to section 4**

24. The Bill reflects your decisions on ADVB-114, which you communicated verbally to officials on 9 February 2026. In addition to retaining section 4, the Bill contains a descriptive clause with signals/signposts to new obligations being added to other parts of the Conservation Act. There is no 'deemed compliance' element to the drafting (i.e. drafting that states that complying with specified provisions is sufficient to comply with section 4). We understand that you are having conversations with key Ministers ahead of Cabinet to socialise this approach, and minimise the risk of delays at Cabinet.

25. In addition, Cabinet agreed that the Bill would state that section 4 does not require making concessions contestable, and this wording has been used in Bill drafting. This reflects the Crown's view that section 4 does not require any or all concession opportunities to be contestable. This addresses the underlying issue (i.e. suggestions that section 4 does require concessions to be contestable in all circumstances), without going any further.

26. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

s9(2)(h)

## We are seeking your feedback on the draft Cabinet paper

27. To introduce the Bill into the House by 20 April (and to have it passed by the end of term) as agreed with the office of the Leader of the House, Ministerial and Agency consultation on your final Bill is planned to commence in two parts:

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23 March – 10 April | Consultation on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Cabinet paper</li> <li>• Supplementary analysis report required for the purpose changes</li> </ul> |
| 2 April – 10 April  | Consultation on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Bill</li> <li>• Draft departmental disclosure statement</li> </ul>                                 |

28. Agency consultation on the Cabinet package will take place at the same time as Ministerial consultation to ensure that timelines are met. We have been liaising with agencies throughout the process, and no major concerns have been raised.
29. The draft Bill will be sent to you for your feedback on 1 April as planned, for feedback. Agency and Ministerial consultation on the draft Bill will then start on 2 April.
30. We require your feedback and approval of the draft Cabinet paper (**Attachment C**) by **17 March** at the latest.
31. The draft Cabinet paper seeks:
- Cabinet endorsement of the remaining policy decisions you have made under delegation (Attachment A),
  - Cabinet agreement to the policy matters outlined in Attachment B; and,
  - Cabinet approval to introduce the Bill.
32. The Cabinet paper has been drafted as if you have agreed to the recommendations in this paper (**Attachments A and B**). This will be updated pending your feedback.

## ***We will provide updated recommendations relating to provisions for upholding Treaty settlements in the lodgement version of the Cabinet paper***

33. We will provide you with updated advice and recommendations for Cabinet in the lodgement version of the Cabinet paper covering:
- Aligning our approach to engagement with post-settlement governance entities (PSGEs) to uphold their settlement redress with the approach taken by the Government in the Planning and Natural Environment Bills. The Planning and Natural Environment Bills include a general 'upholding Treaty settlement' provision and a negotiations clause with a two-year sunset period for the Crown to initiate discussions with PSGEs and seek to enter agreements for upholding redress.
  - Our approach to drafting for deeds of recognition in the Bill.
34. While the updated recommendations will not be reflected in the version of the Cabinet paper circulated in the first tranche of Ministerial consultation papers on 23 March, the changes will be reflected in the draft version of the Bill that will form the second tranche of Ministerial consultation on 2 April.

35. We recommend you inform your colleagues of the pending changes when you provide them with the draft Cabinet paper for comment on 23 March.

### Risk assessment – Aronga tūraru

s9(2)(h)

### Risk to Bill timeframes and delivery

39. Your office has agreed with the office of the Leader of the House that the Bill will be introduced on 20 April, with first reading occurring on 23 April.
40. It is possible to achieve this timeframe if drafting and approval processes proceed on planned timeframes without unanticipated delays. However, any significant delays would necessarily further shorten Select Committee and/or House processes. This is likely to compromise the quality of the consultation undertaken and limit the ability of the Select Committee to adequately consider the large and complex Bill before them, and/or leave less time to complete all remaining Parliamentary stages that follow before the House rises ahead of the general election.

### Consultation – Kōrero whakawhiti

41. We have undertaken targeted agency consultation on the individual policy decisions being sought through this paper and the attached LEG paper. This includes:
- Testing the approach to the purpose amendments with PCO and CLO. s9(2)(h)
  - Consulting with PCO, Crown Law, DPMC and the Ministry of Justice on the approach to section 4, and also informing the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Tari Whakatau on the approach to section 4. The approach to drafting for section 4 (see paragraph 24 above) reflects DOC's view, s9(2)(h)
  - Consulting Treasury on changes to land disposal revenue, who advised this is permissible provided it is implemented in accordance with the requirements as set out in the *Cabinet Office Circular CO (18) 2: Proposals with Financial Implications and Financial Authorities*.
  - Informing Treasury and the Ministry for Regulation about the approach to drafting for major tourism concessions and competitive allocation (in terms of what



information is included in the Bill, and what will be regulated through secondary legislation). The Treasury had no comments.

- Consulting aircraft infringements and infringement notices with the Ministry of Justice to test that the proposed infringements are appropriate mechanisms for responding to the specific conduct and that the penalties are proportionate.
  - Consulting the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) on Reserve Board audit changes following advice from PCO on the changes to disapplication. OAG recommended the changes to which we are now seeking agreement.
42. Agency and ministerial consultation on the complete draft Cabinet paper package will occur concurrently after we have incorporated your feedback.

### **Financial implications – Te hiraunga pūtea**

43. There are no direct financial implications from the decisions in this briefing. However, some of the changes outlined in Attachments A and B will have financial implications once the Bill is passed. These implications have been discussed in both attachments where applicable.

### **Next steps – Ngā tāwhaitanga**

44. Following your decisions and feedback, we will:
- instruct PCO on any necessary changes to the Bill;
  - update the Cabinet paper and send a revised version to your office by 19 March, to be circulated for Ministerial consultation; and,
  - circulate the Cabinet paper for agency consultation.
45. To meet the planned timeline for introduction, the Cabinet paper and Bill need to be lodged with Cabinet Office on 16 April.
46. The necessary dates are noted below.

|             |                                                                                                          |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 April    | Ministerial and agency consultation on Cabinet paper and Bill ends.                                      |
| 16 April    | Final Cabinet paper and draft Bill lodged for discussion at Cabinet.                                     |
| 20 April    | Cabinet approves Bill for introduction; introduction happens later the same day.                         |
| 23 April    | First reading and referral of Bill to Select Committee.                                                  |
| Late August | Select Committee reports Bill back to the House (after about 4 months).                                  |
| September   | Remaining legislative stages: second reading, committee of the whole House, third reading, Royal assent. |
| 1 October   | Dissolution of Parliament.                                                                               |

**ENDS**

**Attachment A: Changes instructed by DOC during drafting requiring MOC agreement (under delegation)**

| Proposal                                                                      | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Decision                        | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Management planning</b>                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Removing disapplication of pre-approved and exempt activities from area plans | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Agree</b> that the NCPS will specify in full where class concessions can take place, rather than using area plans to locally disapply them</li> <li><b>Agree</b> to add a revision stage to the short NCPS process where Iwi and NZCA have 20 working days to provide final comments.</li> </ol> | <p>Yes / No</p> <p>Yes / No</p> | <p>In July 2025, under Cabinet delegation, you agreed that area plans could disapply exempt or pre-approved activities under certain circumstances (25-B-0292 refers).</p> <p>The drafting process has identified that a change is required to the mechanism for giving effect to the policy intent of disapplication. We are now recommending disapplications are given effect to through the NCPS, rather than area plans, because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>s9(2)(h)</li> <li>Disapplications are a Ministerial decision based on statutory criteria – if they are given effect to through area plans that are co-approved with a PSGE, then decision-making is shared with a Treaty settlement entity, which may make that entity vulnerable to judicial review.</li> <li>It is simpler for the public, including prospective concession applicants, to navigate a single document (the NCPS) with all relevant context about a pre-approved or exempt activity.</li> </ul> <p>With the NCPS fully defining where exempt and pre-approved activities take place, we recommend that a revision stage is added to the short NCPS process used to amend exempt/pre-approved activities. This will provide Iwi and the NZCA a second opportunity to engage on the proposals and to offer comment on the impact analysis report. As this is a truncated process, we recommend the DG provides a minimum of 20 working days for written comments instead of the 40 working days under the standard process.</p> <p>This proposed revision stage will make the short NCPS process more compliant with relevant Treaty settlement redress obligations, including decision-making frameworks (DMFs). DMFs generally require DOC to outline how feedback has been taken into account and provide multiple opportunities for PSGEs to express their views, which would not be possible without this additional step. A single round of consultation with Iwi would also make it difficult to enable informed decision-making more generally.</p> |
| <b>Visitor Amenities Areas</b>                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Application of VAAs to reserves not owned and/or administered by the Crown.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Agree</b> that visitor amenities areas cannot be established on a reserve that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>owned by someone other than the Crown and/or</li> <li>administered by someone other than the Crown.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>                                             | Yes / No                        | <p>Cabinet previously agreed to a new visitor amenities areas (VAAs) tool across a range of conservation land. However, no decision was made on the extent to which the new VAAs could be applied to reserves that are not managed by DOC.</p> <p>Reserves can have a range of management arrangements, including Crown owned reserves with control and manage arrangements with other entities (including Councils or Iwi), and reserves vested in, or owned by, others.</p> <p>We have instructed PCO to only enable VAAs to apply to Crown-owned, and DOC-administered reserves. This is because:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| Proposal                                                              | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Decision                        | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no known candidate areas for VAAs in control and manage reserves and we are not clear that there is need for them to apply to other ownership/management types, and:</li> <li>As vested and privately owned reserves are not Crown-owned land, activities on these reserves are not regulated through Part 3B of the Conservation Act (the concessions system), but through permission provisions in the Reserves Act instead. We consider that the detailed rules in the Reserves Act would prevent the benefits of VAAs from being realised for these types of reserves - approvals for activities in these types of reserves are more constrained because the decisions are made by actors outside of the Crown.</li> <li>It would be complex to apply VAAs to reserves under control and manage appointments. This is because the VAA mechanism has been designed to integrate with area plans and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some of these reserves don't have management plans which means there is no mechanism for setting VAA policies</li> <li>The reserves with reserve management plans will not be subject to the National Conservation Policy Statement (NCPS) and sometimes vesting authorities can approve these plans directly themselves which would necessitate a whole new mechanism for implementing VAAs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <b>Concessions</b>                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Providing for suspensions and rejection of stalled applications       | <p>4. <b>Agree</b> that the Minister can suspend processing of an application if requested by the applicant.</p> <p>5. <b>Agree</b> that the Minister can reject an application if it has been suspended for longer than 120 working days.</p> | <p>Yes / No</p> <p>Yes / No</p> | We have instructed PCO to include an ability for the applicant to request suspension of their application, and for the Minister to be able to decline the application if it has been suspended for at least 120 working days in total. This is intended to avoid DOC having to process applications if the applicant does not have the intention to continue with it, whilst also allowing the Minister to decline the application to avoid the system being clogged with immobile applications containing stale information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Defining one-off concessions and associated timeframes in regulations | 6. <b>Agree</b> to define and set a statutory timeframe for processing of one-off applications in regulations made under section 48AA of the Conservation Act, rather than in the primary legislation.                                         | Yes / No                        | <p>Under the status quo, "one-off concessions" are not defined in the Conservation Act. The term is used internally to speed up processing of a subset of permits (e.g., taking place over a period of three months or less, with minor environmental impacts, not involving permanent structures, and with clearly defined limits).</p> <p>In trying to refine this definition during drafting, we realised that the definition has changed over time in response to the types of applications submitted and internal application of the definition. As such, we consider it would be most practical to define and set a statutory timeframe for one-off concessions in regulations made under section 48AA (an existing regulation-making power) instead of doing it in primary legislation. This is because the definition is likely to shift over time, particularly in response to which activities are pre-approved or exempt in the NCPS.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Simplifying setting of activity fees                                  | 7. <b>Agree</b> to remove consultation requirements for activity fees set in regulations.                                                                                                                                                      | Yes / No                        | <p>You previously agreed (25-B-0389 refers):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use regulations when setting standard activity fees for concessions, and</li> <li>That the Minister must be satisfied that adequate consultation has been undertaken with interested parties before regulations setting activity fees are made or amended.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| Proposal                                                         | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Decision                     | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                              | While reviewing drafting, we realised that such a requirement was inconsistent with other regulation-making powers in the Conservation Act and could perhaps be too onerous. Given these fees will have to be agreed by Cabinet, we consider that we can rely on standard regulatory practice and convention to ensure appropriate consultation and process has been followed in setting these fees.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Setting a maximum term for concessions                           | 8. <b>Agree</b> to allow a term of up to 60 years where the useful life of fixed assets and structures associated with the concession is longer than 30 years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Yes / No                     | Cabinet agreed to enable term lengths corresponding to the useful life of fixed assets and structures associated with the concession, if longer than 30 years. However, Cabinet did not agree an upper bound on this timeframe but did agree to a maximum term length of 60 years for concessions providing critical infrastructure. This inconsistency means that there is no upper bound on term length for concessions with fixed assets and structures, but there is on concessions providing critical infrastructure (60 years). As such, we recommend setting an upper bound of 60 years on this timeframe allowing a term of up to 60 years where the useful life of fixed assets and structures associated with the concession is longer than 30 years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Competitive allocation</b>                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Competitive allocation of major tourism concession opportunities | <p>9. <b>Note</b> that Cabinet agreed that operators of major tourism concessions involving significant private capital investment will have a protected window from 2 to 5 years before expiry of the current concession to apply for a new concession</p> <p>10. <b>Agree</b> to set the protected window in secondary legislation (rather than in primary legislation), including specifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any subset of concessions that are not subject to competitive allocation, and,</li> <li>Any conditions on when those concessions would or would not be subject to competitive allocation, including procedural requirements, and</li> <li>Prescribing circumstances in which applications from other applicants (i.e., not the incumbent) can be considered for that concession opportunity.</li> </ul> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Yes / No</p> | <p>Cabinet agreed that the Bill would allow for operators of 'major tourism concessions' involving significant private capital investment to have a protected window from 2 to 5 years before expiry of the current concession to apply for a new concession.</p> <p>The settings relating to the protected window were to be set in primary legislation, while the definition of the term 'major tourism concessions' (which would set the scope of who the provisions would apply to) was to be set through secondary legislation.</p> <p>On balance, we consider the intended outcomes of this policy would be best met by setting both the policy settings relating to the protected window <u>and</u> specifying what types of concessions it applies to at the same time through secondary legislation. The protected window has been designed with specific concessions in mind and may not be appropriate for other concessions that could in future be protected from a competitive allocation process.</p> <p>Instead, we recommend that the Bill allow for regulations to specify what concessions are not subject to an allocation process of any sort. These regulations would set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What specific subset of concessions are not subject to competitive allocation (e.g. major tourism concessions), and,</li> <li>Any conditions on when those concessions would or would not be subject to competitive allocation, including procedural requirements (e.g. the protected window from 2 to 5 years before expiry), and</li> <li>Prescribing circumstances in which applications from other applicants (i.e., not the incumbent) can be considered for that concession opportunity (e.g. after the protected window closes).</li> </ul> |
| Other competitive allocation matters                             | <p>11. <b>Agree</b> that for an allocation process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Minister can invite one or more potential applicants to apply by a set deadline, and</li> <li>The applications can be processed in parallel and must comply with the standard concession application requirements and statutory tests at a</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Yes / No                     | <p>We have done further work to more clearly define what an allocation process could look like. We have instructed PCO to enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Minister to invite one or more potential applicants to apply for a concession following some scoping process,</li> <li>The applications to be processed in parallel, and</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Proposal | Recommendations                                                                                                             | Decision | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|          | minimum (with the Minister able to seek any extra information and consider other criteria appropriate for the opportunity). |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The requirement for applications to comply with the standard concession application requirements and statutory tests at a minimum (with the Minister able to seek any extra information and consider other criteria appropriate for the opportunity).</li></ul> |

## Attachment B: Changes instructed by DOC during drafting requiring Cabinet agreement

| Proposal                                                                                                                  | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Decision | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Purpose of the Conservation Act</b>                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                           | 1. <b>Agree</b> to retain “consistency with the purpose for which the land is held” as a threshold for concessions decisions, to avoid significant risk of successful litigation that would undermine your objective to provide certainty for economic opportunity.                                                                                                   | Yes / No | <p>s9(2)(h) [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Management planning</b>                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Providing the impact analysis to Iwi and the New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) at their final review of area plan | 2. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that the impact analysis report (including Treaty rights and interests) will be provided to Iwi and NZCA at their final review of an area plan.                                                                                                                                                                             | Yes / No | The impact analysis report (including Treaty rights and interests) was unintentionally missed from the package to be provided to Iwi and NZCA for this step in the area plan process. Providing this document ensures they have a more complete view of the advice being provided to the Minister, to support their final comments on the amendment, which the Minister gets to see. It also allows Iwi to provide feedback on the content of the impact analysis report, which will include an agency assessment of impacts on Treaty rights and interests.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Changes to the area plan translation                                                                                      | 3. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to remove an area plan translation process and, instead, maintain existing Conservation Management Strategy, Conservation Management Plan and National Park Management Plan content that is not inconsistent with the NCPS until area plans are implemented (e.g. existing policies and limits would become non-operative). | Yes / No | <p>Previously, Cabinet agreed that within 12 months of the Bill passing, Conservation Management Strategies (CMSs), Conservation Management Plans (CMPs), and National Park Management Plans (NPMPs) would be translated into a single layer of area plans (without a consultation process). Further analysis of the implementation of this approach has identified critical risks.</p> <p><u>Risk 1: translation process found to be beyond the bounds of the empowering provisions.</u> Current decisions on the NCPS mean that values and objectives are the only existing types of content in CMSs, CMPs, and NPMPs that will be carried over into area plans. Current plans vary significantly in the ways that they describe values and objectives. Sometimes what can be classified as values and objectives is not clear. Translating existing values and objectives-type content both across plans and within plans to ensure that it aligns with the NCPS requirements will require making judgement calls about which parts of the content qualify. This creates a significant risk that the content is perceived to be new, and therefore beyond the bounds of the empowering legislation. s9(2)(h) [REDACTED]</p> <p><u>Risk 2: possible breach of Treaty obligations.</u> Related to risk 1 above, if translation is found to create new content, it could also result in breaches of Treaty partner consultation obligations (for example, engagement protocols in settlements). The translation process was not intended to involve public consultation as it was intended to be a fast interim step until fulsome reviews of area plans are complete.</p> <p><u>Risk 3: feasibility of implementation timeframes.</u> DOC cannot complete the translation process within the 12-month timeframe if a consultation process is added to resolve the ‘new content’ issue identified above.</p> |



| Proposal                                                              | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Decision                                        | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                 | <p>The significant time and resource required to undertake the translation process as originally proposed as well as consultation are not consistent with the intent of this as an efficient interim step.</p> <p><b>Proposed change:</b></p> <p>As an alternative interim measure, we propose to temporarily maintain the existing CMSs, CMPs and NPMPs, but only with the content that the NCPS allows. The rolling out of area plans would then occur more gradually, in line with the process set out in legislation (i.e. each one through the statutory 12-month process with statutory iwi involvement). During the transition period, any existing content in CMSs, CMPs, and NPMPs that is inconsistent with the NCPS (e.g. policies and limits) would no longer be in effect once the NCPS comes into force.</p> <p>Crucially, this approach allows for the advantages of the previous translation approach; it ensures that the key benefits of the reform (e.g. the exempt and pre-approved activities, the removal of unnecessary limits) can come into effect as soon as the NCPS comes into effect. The NCPS will not be constrained by existing statutory documents. For example, all policies (including limits) in current plans would cease to have effect.</p> <p>It also means with this approach, DOC can better resource fulsome reviews to create area plans sooner. This means area plans will collectively be in place faster, and with more fit for purpose content. This approach will also be much better received by Treaty partners, who will expect fulsome involvement in the development of the new area plans.</p> <p>Note that this approach means that the full and complete transition to a single layer of plans will be completed later. As noted, however, all the key benefits of the reform will be completed just as quickly.</p> |
| Modifications to the area plan timeframes to reflect what is workable | <p>Agree to seeking Cabinet agreement to the following:</p> <p>4. <b>Agree</b> to remove the Ministerial decision from the scope of the overall timeframe</p> <p>5. <b>Agree</b> that the timeframes for area plans are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>270 working days for the standard process</li> <li>160 working days for the short process</li> </ul> <p>6. <b>Agree</b> to remove the specific statutory timeframes for the Director-General's revision of the draft area plan following public consultation</p> | <p>Yes / No</p> <p>Yes / No</p> <p>Yes / No</p> | <p>During drafting, the timeframes for area plan processes were converted from months/years to working days (as is standard legislative practice). In working through this, we also identified further refinements to the timeframes for area plan processes to ensure they are workable and provide flexibility where necessary. These changes were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removing the final ministerial decision from the scope of the overall timeframe. This means the Minister's decision, and any subsequent revisions they request, are not bound by a timeframe. This change is consistent with the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, where Ministerial decisions do not have timeframes attached.</li> <li>The space in the timeframes for drafting and revision was insufficient in either the standard or the short processes. The standard process is now 270 working days (approximately 2 months longer than initial decisions which were for a year) and the short process is now 160 working days (approximately 2 months longer than initial decisions which were for 6 months).</li> <li>Removal of the specific statutory timeframes for the DG's revision of the draft area plan following public consultation. This doesn't extend the overall timeframes at all but allows some flexibility in how the DG assigns time between this step and consultation steps, which are sometimes expressed as 'minimums'.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Aligning NCPS and area plan review timeframes                         | 7. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that the timeframe for iwi and NZCA final comments for area plans and the NCPS will be 40 working days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Yes / No                                        | The timeframe for iwi and NZCA final comments were shorter for the NCPS (30 days) than for area plans (40 days), with no justification for this difference. These have been aligned to be 40 working days.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |



| Proposal                                             | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                            | Decision | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adding conservation boards to NCPS processes         | 8. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to requiring the DG to seek written comments from conservation boards alongside iwi and the NZCA in both the standard and short NCPS processes   | Yes / No | We have recommended that the NCPS fully defines where exempt and pre-approved activities take place, rather than area plans disapplying the exemption or pre-approval (Attachment A, recommendation 1 refers). Should you agree to that change under delegation, we recommend you seek Cabinet's agreement to require the Director-General to invite conservation boards to provide written comment alongside iwi and the NZCA during the standard and short NCPS processes. Such highly localised decisions would formerly have involved conservation boards. Unlike the NZCA, conservation boards provide a localised conservation and community perspective that is unlikely to be provided by other submitters and as such their input will help the Minister make informed decisions on localised content.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Ability to initiate area plan amendment              | 9. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that the Minister may initiate an amendment of an area plan at the request of an applicant whose application has been declined.                  | Yes / No | Cabinet agreed that the Minister may initiate an amendment of an area plan at the request of a concession applicant. The intention was for this to be consistent with the status quo, which specifies that this request can only occur where the concessionaire's application has been declined. This was updated in the drafting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Visitor Amenities Areas (VAAs)</b>                |                                                                                                                                                                                            |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Aligning Iwi and NZCA consultation timelines         | 10. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that the timeframe for consultation on visitor amenities areas with iwi and the NZCA will be 40 working days                                    | Yes / No | No decision was made on the timeframe within which consultation with Iwi and the NZCA should occur. We instructed on a timeframe of 40 working days to align with similar timeframes in other steps and processes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Land exchanges and disposals</b>                  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Refinement of wording on threshold for land disposal | 11. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to narrowing one of the thresholds for land disposal: from 'conservation values' to 'threatened species and ecosystems and biodiversity values' | Yes / No | <p>Cabinet agreed to multiple thresholds for land disposals. One of which included that "<i>Conservation values present are represented in other protected areas in the region</i>".</p> <p>Original wording was very broad. Conservation values include historic (which includes cultural) and recreation values. The policy intent for this specific threshold is that it only applies to biodiversity. It has been narrowed to specify "threatened species and ecosystems and biodiversity values present are represented in other protected areas in the region" to better align with the original policy intent.</p> <p>You have previously agreed to make cultural significance a mandatory consideration rather than an exclusion for land exchanges and disposals [25-B-0389 refers]. This reflects that excluding land of cultural significance is likely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be highly constraining and vulnerable to legal challenge (given all land is likely to be culturally significant to someone).</li> <li>• prevent conservation land that would otherwise be suitable for disposal from being available to relevant Iwi/hapū.</li> </ul> <p>This decision is consistent with your previous decision above.</p> |
| Additional consideration for land disposals          | 12. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to adding consideration of how the land came to be owned                                                                                        | Yes / No | An additional consideration has been added for land disposals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |



| Proposal                                     | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Decision                                  | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                              | by the Crown and managed by the management entity to aid in disposal decisions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                           | There is some conservation land that has come into Crown ownership and under DOC or other entity management inadvertently, unintentionally, or through less-than-ideal means historically. For example, a case where land was gifted to the Crown to become a scenic reserve - it was later discovered that a portion of that gifted land belonged to other shareholders and the transfer of all of the land was an error. Correcting this error, and errors like this, has proved challenging due to limitations of current settings. We therefore think it's appropriate that the decision-maker considers how the land came into Crown ownership and/or the management arrangements as it may be important in deciding whether the Crown should retain ownership or not.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Additional considerations for land exchanges | 13. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to include additional considerations for land exchanges, similar to the Fast-track Approvals Act approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Yes / No                                  | <p>Some additional considerations have been added for land exchanges.</p> <p>Cabinet's decisions did not include the following considerations that are in the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, that we think are also appropriate here (Fast-track Approvals Act, Schedule 6, clause 26):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the conservation features of the land concerned, including how threatened or abundant they are; and</li> <li>the financial implications for the Crown; and</li> <li>whether the consequences of the land exchange would be practical to manage on an ongoing basis, including consideration of whether the land exchange would result in an enclave of private land within a conservation area or a Crown-owned reserve; and</li> <li>the legal and financial liabilities, and health and safety risks, for the Crown associated with the land exchange.</li> </ul> <p>We consider these considerations are consistent with the overall framework agreed by Cabinet in June 2025.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Application of proceeds from land disposals  | <p>14. <b>Note</b> that Cabinet agreed to amend the Conservation Act to allow proceeds from disposal of conservation land to be directed to DOC (rather than returned to the Crown) to cover:</p> <p>a) Costs of preparing the land for disposal (e.g. assessments, conveyancing) in the first instance, and</p> <p>b) Further land purchases or capital expenditure on conservation land from any remaining proceeds.</p> <p>15. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to allow remaining proceeds (after covering costs of disposal) to be spent on capital assets (including associated operating expenditure) on conservation land and further land purchases.</p> <p>16. <b>Note</b> that the Reserves Act and National Parks Act will not be amended with the changes in recommendations a) and b) above, as they already</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Yes / No</p> <p>Noted</p> | <p>Cabinet agreed that proceeds from the disposal of conservation land will be directed to DOC (rather than returned to the centre) to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Costs of preparing the land for disposal (e.g. assessments, conveyancing) in the first instance, and</li> <li>Further land purchases or capital expenditure on conservation land from any remaining proceeds.</li> </ul> <p>The current Cabinet decision would not cover the associated operating costs of new capital (e.g., maintenance, depreciation, capital charge). This would mean that DOC would be disincentivised and constrained in its ability to deliver on any capital projects as the associated operating funding would have to be found within existing baselines, which are already under significant pressure. This would require significant trade-offs with other conservation priorities and would exacerbate DOC's asset management challenges.</p> <p>To that end, we recommend slightly broadening the Cabinet decision and allowing proceeds to be spent on further land purchases or capital assets (including any associated operating costs) on conservation land. We consider that this still preserves Cabinet's intent, while preventing further pressures on DOC's baselines and preserving incentives to undertake capital projects on conservation land.</p> <p>The Reserves Act and the National Parks Act already allow for retention and recycling of proceeds of sale from reserves and national parks respectively (noting that national parks will not be subject to the new land exchange and disposal settings). In our initial advice (25-B-0140 refers), the intention was that these would remain unchanged and only the Conservation Act would be updated (i.e., the changes would apply to only</p> |

| Proposal                                 | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Decision                     | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                          | allow for retention and recycling of proceeds of sale from reserves and national parks respectively.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                              | <p>land held under the Conservation Act, but not the Reserves Act or the National Parks Act). However, this distinction is not clear in the Cabinet decision, so we recommend that you clarify it now.</p> <p>The scopes of expenditure in the Reserves Act and National Parks Act are already broader than Cabinet's decision above, and we do not recommend changing these Acts. For instance, the Reserves Act enables proceeds of sale of reserves to be directed toward revenue-sharing arrangements with administering bodies, as well as securing access over private land for conservation outcomes (e.g., when a Great Walk crosses private land). If proceeds from any sale of reserves were limited to just land purchases and capital expenditure (even with any associated operating costs), this would create a funding shortfall for status quo activities which are largely non-discretionary.</p> <p>Treasury have been consulted on this approach, and advise this is permissible provided it is implemented in accordance with the requirements as set out in the Cabinet Office Circular on proposals with financial implications and financial authorities.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Removal of Ministerial consultation step | <p>17. <b>Note</b> that Cabinet agreed that the Minister of Conservation must consult the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations and the Minister for Māori Development before deciding whether to dispose of, or exchange, conservation land.</p> <p>18. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to remove the requirement to consult the above Ministers on all proposals to exchange or dispose of conservation land.</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Yes / No</p> | <p>Cabinet agreed that the Minister of Conservation must consult the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations and the Minister for Māori Development before deciding whether to dispose of, or exchange, conservation land.</p> <p>While this level of consultation may be considered appropriate for large transactions, it has become clear that the vast majority of land transactions undertaken at present are very small and inconsequential. In these instances, requiring Ministerial consultation is out of proportion to the scale of the transaction, and will create a procedural bottleneck. This will delay the kinds of disposals and exchanges that DOC can already do under the status quo (i.e. where there is low or no conservation value) without being elevated to ministerial level.</p> <p>There are already safeguards in place regarding Māori rights and interests in land exchanges and disposals, making the ministerial consultation step unnecessary even for the larger scale transactions that will be enabled by the reforms. These include that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one of the absolute prohibitions on land exchange and disposal is land subject of negotiations relating to a Treaty settlement claim.</li> <li>• If there has already been a Treaty settlement, then that legislation will determine whether there is an RFR and if there is, it will be upheld.</li> <li>• If the land hasn't been subject to a Treaty settlement, there is the Crown Protection Mechanism which requires DOC to check with Te Tari Whakatau before disposing of surplus Crown owned land so it can be set aside if it may be needed in future Treaty settlements.</li> <li>• There is a requirement to invite and include comment from Treaty partners. Feedback must be included in a report with analysis of Treaty rights and interests, and the report must be considered by the Minister when making their decision</li> <li>• Finally, the DG report has to include consideration as to whether the land is likely to be subject to future Treaty settlement negotiations.</li> </ul> <p>Ministerial consultation is an option, regardless of whether it is specified in the legislation. However, if you still wish to have an explicit requirement for ministerial consultation, we can work on what the bounds of this could look like (e.g. only exchanges or disposals over a certain size) through the select committee process.</p> |

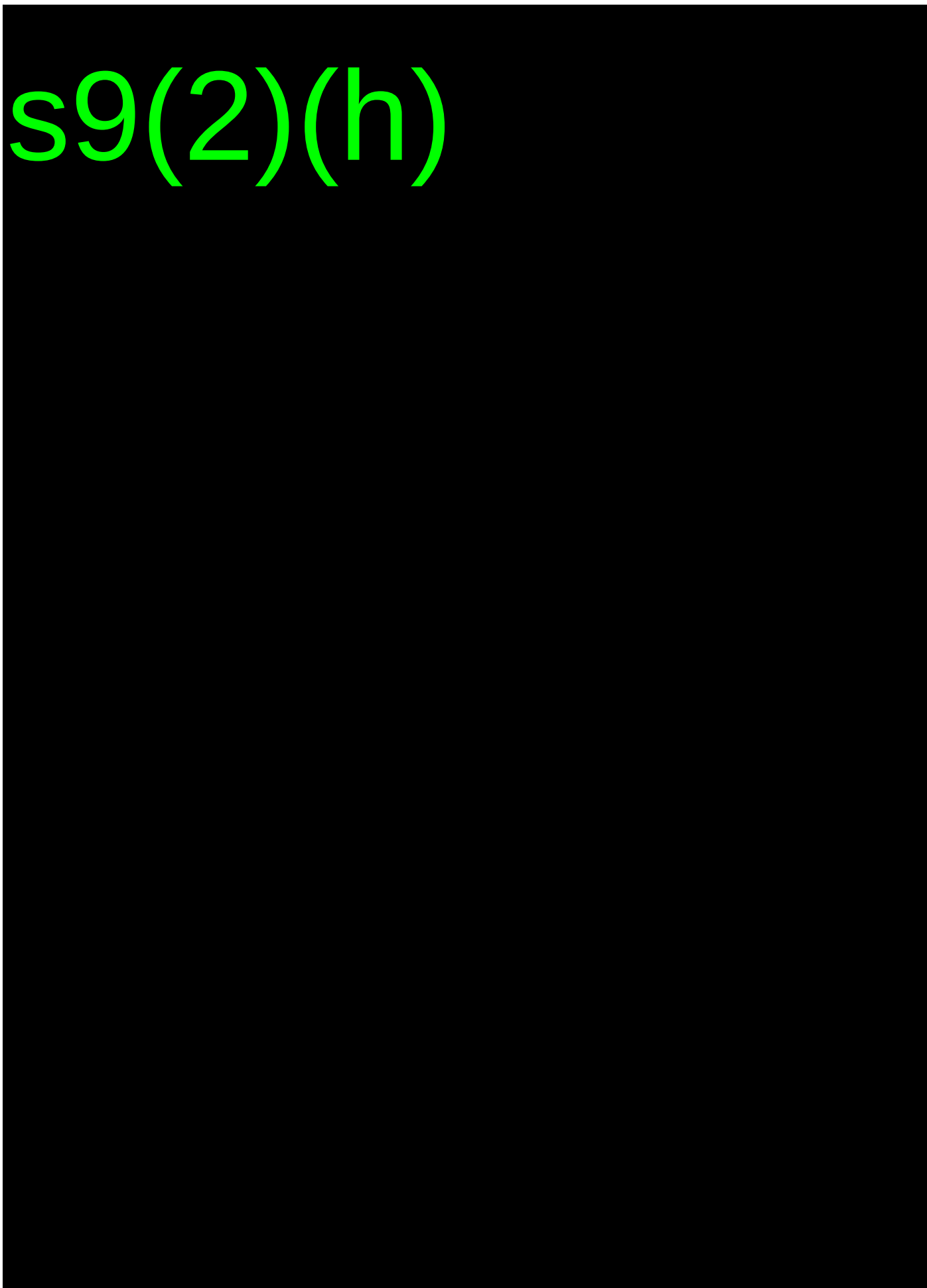
| Proposal                                                                             | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Decision                                     | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transitional provision for existing land exchange and disposal requests              | 19. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that existing land exchange and disposal requests will be processed using the existing process, unless an applicant withdraws their application and applies to go through the new system.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Yes / No                                     | <p>DOC currently has 69 requests for land exchanges and disposals at various stages of completion.</p> <p>The new settings will generally be advantageous to those seeking a land exchange or disposal. However, the intent is not to repeat process steps where they have already been satisfied and the applicant is not seeking to change the parcel of land they are requesting (which they may choose to do if the change of decision-making framework allows alternative parcels of land to be available). We would also not want to undermine where agreements have already been put in place and the ‘applicant’ wishes to continue (rather than rescope their request).</p> <p>Where Treaty partner engagement and/or public notification has occurred and/or an agreement is already in place, the request is to progress under the previous policy settings (including decision-making framework e.g. Conservation General Policy).</p> <p>However, the person requesting the disposal or exchange may choose to pull out of the current process and start again to access the new settings. This would incur new fees associated with the new application.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Removing prohibitions on World Heritage Areas and land of international significance | <p>20. <b>Note</b> that Cabinet had previously agreed that World Heritage Areas (WHAs) and land of international significance generally be excluded from being considered for land exchange and disposal.</p> <p><b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement on the following:</p> <p>21. <b>Agree</b> to remove World Heritage Areas from being excluded from being considered for land exchanges and disposals (i.e. World Heritage Areas <u>can</u> be considered for exchange or disposal).</p> <p>22. <b>Agree</b> to change the prohibition on land of international significance to a mandatory consideration instead.</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Yes / No</p> <p>Yes / No</p> | <p>Cabinet agreed that World Heritage Areas (WHAs) and land of international significance generally be excluded from being considered for land exchange and disposal.</p> <p>However, you recently agreed to explore the disposal of 17 parcels of stewardship land that fall within the Te Wāhipounamu WHA as part of your review of stewardship land in the western South Island region (25-B-0146 refers). These disposals are currently possible under the status quo, however, they will not be possible under the new legislation due to the WHA prohibition and prohibition on land of international significance relating to exchanges and disposals.</p> <p>WHAs are protected by international convention, and subject to a range of international obligations and processes. There are specific responsibilities that New Zealand is obliged to meet, which will remain regardless of changes to our domestic legislation. While land with a WHA designation can, in theory, be disposed of or exchanged, obligations remain with the State to maintain the values associated with the WHA protection. Covenants or other legal protections would need to be in place to ensure these values were protected by the new owner.</p> <p>Only the UNESCO decision-making body, the World Heritage Committee, can revoke WHA status (including modifying boundaries of a WHA). This requires a substantial and rigorous process to ensure that the values being protected are preserved.</p> <p>Given the level of protection accorded by the WHA designation, we do not consider it necessary to also retain the prohibition relating to WHAs or “land of international significance” for land exchanges and disposals. This will retain the status quo arrangements.</p> <p>We consider that all other exclusions, along with the new tests and considerations included in the Bill, will provide sufficient protection to our most precious conservation land.</p> <p>We therefore recommend removing WHAs from the exclusion for land exchanges and disposals and amending the prohibition on land of international significance to a consideration instead. This means when deciding to exchange or dispose of land, the international significance (which includes WHA designation) must be considered. Note that Ramsar wetlands remain excluded.</p> |
| <b>Treaty settlement redress</b>                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| Proposal                                                                                              | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Decision | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minister to give PSGEs with overlay classification an opportunity to make submissions on plans        | 23. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that prior to approving an area plan, the Minister must give PSGEs with a relevant overlay classification an opportunity to make submissions, including written submissions, about the plan.                          | Yes / No | Cabinet previously agreed that prior to approving an area plan, the Director-General must give PSGEs with a relevant overlay classification an opportunity to make submissions, including written submissions, about the plan. Officials recommend the Minister of Conservation now hold this role as the Minister will be the approver of plans under the new system, which is the equivalent role to the New Zealand Conservation Authority which has this requirement under the current system.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Preserving timeframes for consultation on statutory authorisations / concessions in Treaty settlement | 24. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to preserve specified timeframes in statutory authorisation / concession redress in relationship agreements, including when the timeframes across multiple consultation steps are cumulatively more than the default. | Yes / No | Cabinet previously agreed to preserve timeframes for iwi responses in decision-making frameworks where those timeframes are greater than the default already agreed by Cabinet. Officials recommend extending the previous Cabinet decision to include statutory authorisation / concession consultation process timeframes in relationship agreements, including when the timeframes across multiple consultation steps are cumulatively more than the default.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| s9(2)(f)(iv)                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Access charging</b>                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Clarifying scope                                                                                      | 26. <b>Agree</b> to seek clarification at Cabinet that access charges can be introduced to conservation land managed or administered by DOC, and remove the requirement that land is owned by the Crown.                                                         | Yes / No | <p>The Cabinet paper 'Charging for access to some public conservation land' used the term 'public conservation land' when setting the scope for the types of land to which access charges could apply. This limited the scope to just conservation land (i.e. land held under Acts such as the Conservation Act and National Parks Act) managed or administered by DOC AND owned by the Crown. This was not in line with the original intent for it to apply more broadly to any conservation land managed or administered by DOC.</p> <p>We are seeking to clarify that access charges can be introduced to any conservation land managed or administered by DOC by removing the requirement that the land be owned by the Crown. We consider land such as Taranaki Maunga is in scope, while other land such as Reserves administered or owned by others like Iwi or council groups, would still be excluded. This was the original intent and scope of access charges.</p> <p>For clarity – we are not recommending exploring access charging at Taranaki Maunga at this point in time.</p> |
| <b>Other changes</b>                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Enabling cost-recovery during any conservation process – including land exchanges and disposals       | 27. <b>Note</b> that Cabinet agreed to allow requests for payments to recover costs of processing a concession, while it is being processed, rather than at the end.                                                                                             | Noted    | The existing provisions in the Conservation Act that allow for cost-recovery (section 60B) indicate that cost-recovery for decisions made under the Act cannot occur until after a decision has been made.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| Proposal                                                                                | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Decision | Analysis and advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                         | 28. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to apply this approach more broadly so that the Director-General can recover costs while processing anything the Conservation Act currently allows under the cost recovery provisions, such as exchanges and disposals (i.e., before the final decision is made). | Yes / No | Cabinet agreed to change this for concessions and instead allow requests for payment to recover costs of processing a concession on a “rolling basis” (i.e., from when a complete application is received and throughout processing, rather than at the end). This approach helps the department smooth costs over time.<br><br>This ability to recover costs during processing would be useful for other decisions that can take significant time, effort, and cost to process (e.g. land exchanges and disposals). This is similar to the approach taken in the Fast-track Approvals Act. As such, we are proposing to apply this ability beyond concessions to anything the Conservation Act currently allows cost recovery for under sections 60A-D. |
| Enabling delivery of infringement notices via email                                     | 29. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to enable email delivery of infringement offences by adding new provisions to the Conservation Act that duplicate s27A(1)(b) of the Freedom Camping Act.                                                                                                          | Yes / No | Cabinet agreed to enable email delivery of infringement offences and remove the ability to pay them at a DOC office. To enable this, we recommend adopting a provision that duplicates s27A(1)(b) of the Freedom Camping Act.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Extending prohibitions relating to operating aircraft to other conservation legislation | 30. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement to replicate the current provisions in s17ZF of the Conservation Act and corresponding offences and penalties across the other Acts under which conservation land is managed (Reserves Act; Wildlife Act and National Parks Act).                                 | Yes / No | <div>s9(2)(g)(i)</div><br>To establish consistent aircraft restrictions across all PCL, we are seeking to replicate the aircraft provisions in s17ZF of the Conservation Act and corresponding offences and penalties across the other Acts under which conservation land is managed (Reserves Act; Wildlife Act and National Parks Act).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Transitional provision for Reserve Board audits                                         | 31. <b>Agree</b> to seek Cabinet agreement that the revised thresholds for Reserve Board audits will come into effect for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2027 and that the changes will not apply retrospectively.                                                                           | Yes / No | We have consulted with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) on the proposed change to clarify that Reserve Boards and reserve administering bodies should only be audited when their total annual operating expenditure is \$550,000 or more. OAG has advised that the change should apply for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2027 and that the changes will not apply retrospectively.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

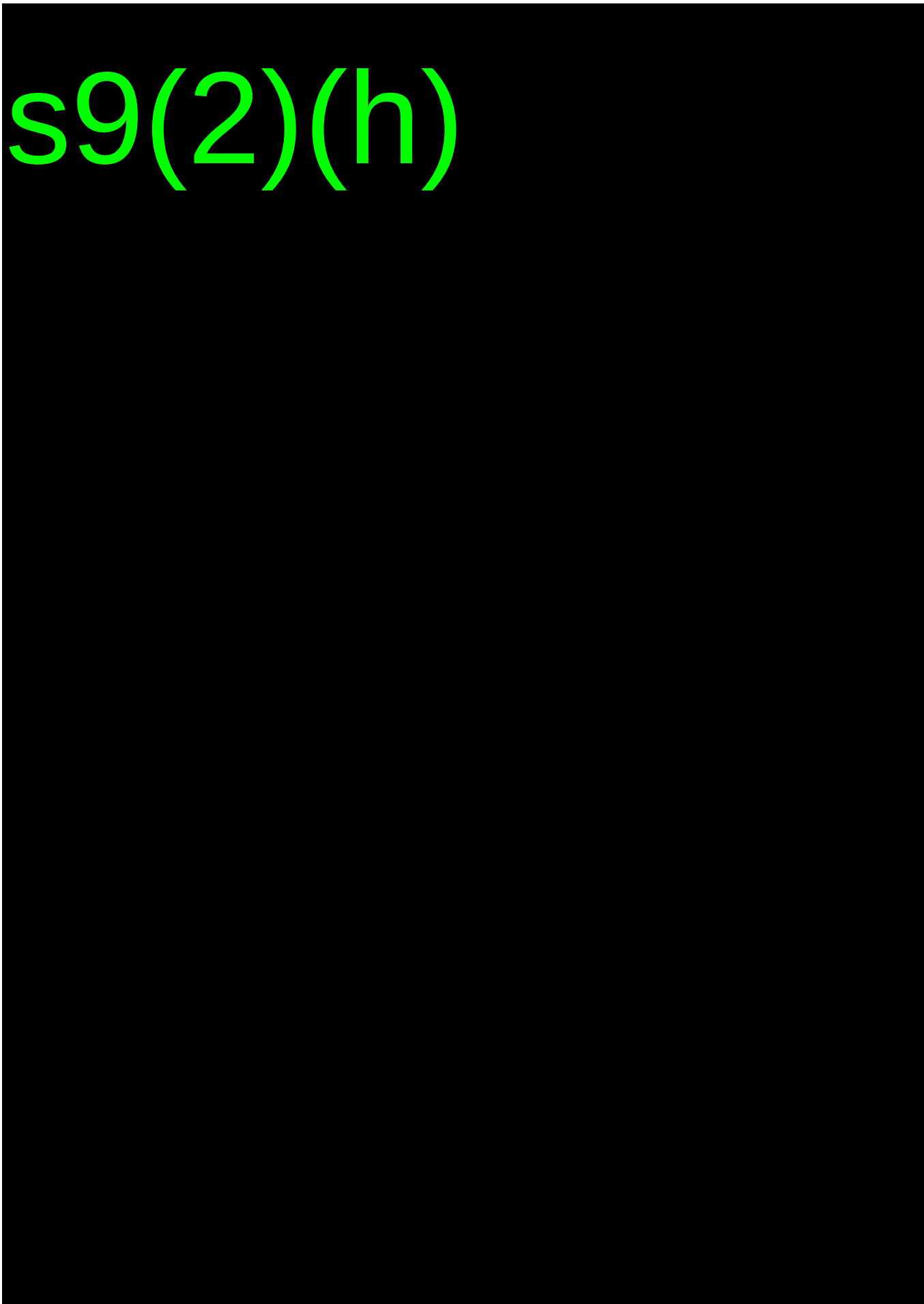
s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)





s9(2)(h)

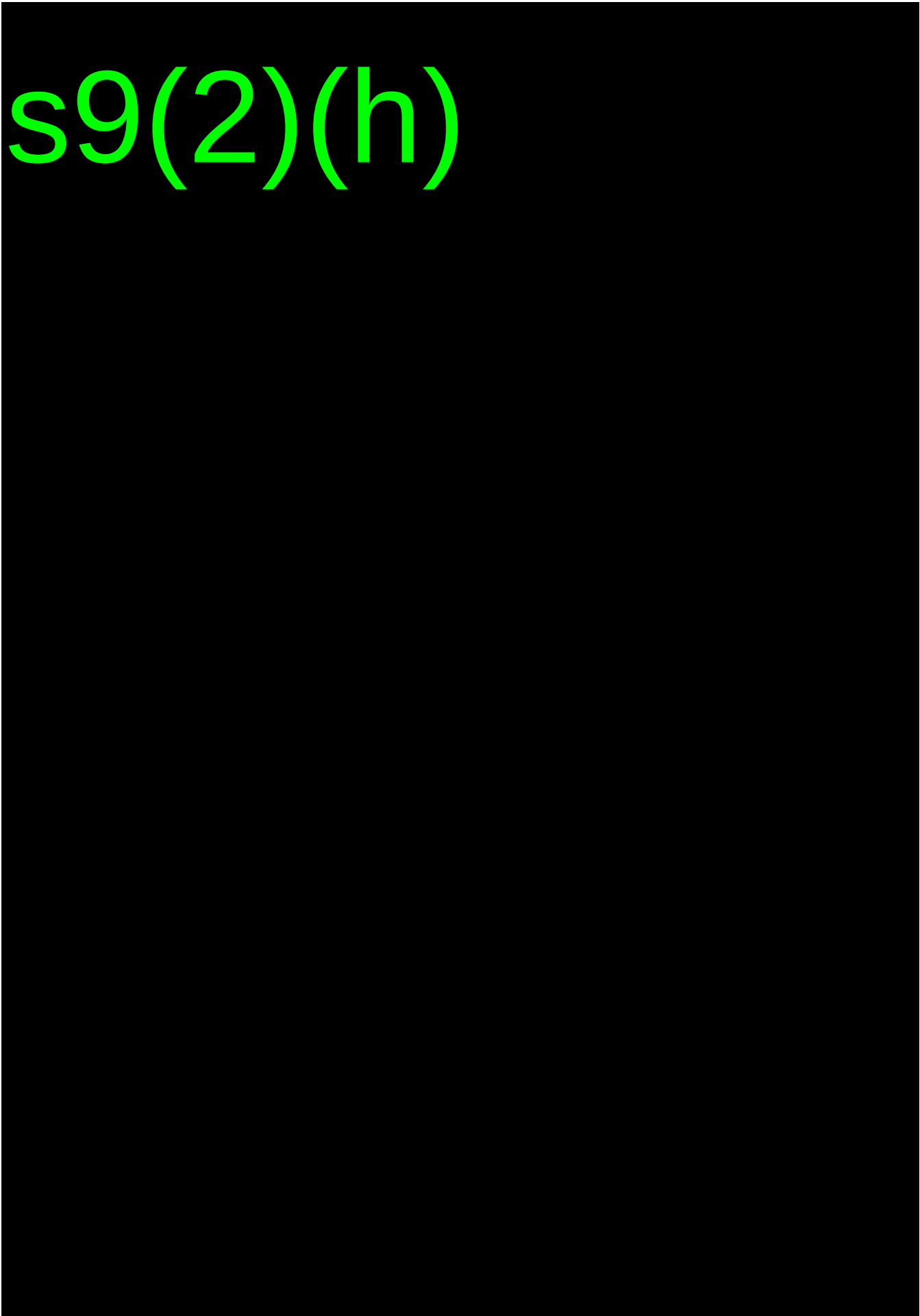




s9(2)(h)



s9(2)(h)



s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)



s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)

s9(2)(f)(iv)



s9(2)(f)(iv)



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)



s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)



s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)

s9(2)(h)