



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Conservation Amendment Bill: Approval for Introduction

Portfolio

Conservation

On 4 May 2026, following reference from the Cabinet Legislation Committee, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that the Conservation Amendment Bill (the Bill) holds a category 5 priority on the 2026 Legislation Programme (to be referred to select committee before the 2026 election);
- 2 **noted** that the Bill will streamline the conservation land management framework, better enable appropriate use of conservation land, and support more effective administration of conservation land;
- 3 **approved** additional proposals for the Bill as set out in the paper and Appendix A under the submission CAB-26-SUB-0154;
- 4 **noted** the policy decisions made during drafting, consistent with Cabinet's earlier delegations, which are set out in Appendix B to the submission under CAB-26-SUB-0154;
- 5 **noted** that no change to the threshold that must be met in concession decisions (relating to the purpose for which the land is held) has been made, s9(2)(h)
- 6 **agreed** to amend the purpose-related provisions (amended section 6(e) and new sections 13D, 13H and 14 in the Bill) to recognise the economic opportunities that arise from the use and development of land and other natural and historic resources managed by the Department, and enable this use and development to the greatest extent practicable under this Act and other enactments;
- 7 **authorised** the Minister of Conservation, with advice from the Parliamentary Counsel Office and Crown Law, to approve the final wording used in the Bill to give effect to the decision in paragraph 6 above;
- 8 s9(2)(f)(iv)
- 9 **authorised** the Parliamentary Counsel Office to continue to make minor and technical changes to the Bill, in line with Cabinet policy decisions, up until the Bill is introduced;
- 10 **approved** the Conservation Amendment Bill [PCO 28229] for introduction, subject to final drafting to give effect to the above decisions;

- 11 **agreed** that the Bill be introduced as soon as possible;
- 12 **agreed** that the Government propose that the Bill be referred to the Environment Committee for consideration.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet