

Department of Conservation

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

Presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to
Section 39 of the Public Finance Act 1989

Cover photo: 'Trevor', one of 62 kakapo left in the world,
photographed on Maud Island eating poroporo
berries

Photographer: Rob Suisted

Hon Sandra Lee
Minister of Conservation

I present the Department of Conservation's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2001.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hugh Logan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'H' and 'L'.

Hugh Logan
Director-General

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AN OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

This past year began with the Government's announcement in June 2000 of an extra \$187 million for biodiversity protection over the five years between 2000 and 2005. As one of the agencies responsible for biodiversity protection, the Department received an additional \$12 million in 2000/01 including more than \$2 million to assist protection of conservation values on private land.

This substantial new funding has allowed the Department to make headway on many 'if only' projects. Complementing this, special 'Green Package' funding of \$2.5 million enabled the Department to greatly expand its community awareness and conservation education initiatives.

The results have been very encouraging. Significant species protection work made possible by the biodiversity package included the establishment of five kiwi sanctuaries, the commencement of the largest island restoration project in the world (on the 11,300 ha sub-Antarctic Campbell Island), and expanded weed and animal pest control. New projects to manage threatened native species were begun, and several marine reserve proposals were progressed. Landowner willingness to protect conservation areas on private land was reflected in increased interest in the Nature Heritage Fund and Nga Whenua Rahui. Community willingness to become involved in biodiversity protection projects was extremely heartening.

Other highlights this year included the announcement of Rakiura National Park, New Zealand's 14th, and the announced transfer of 130,000 ha of ecologically important forests from Timberlands West Coast to the Department. Some 35,000 ha of additional high-value high country tussock grasslands are now also protected by the Department, a result of many years of tenure review negotiations.

Restoration and maintenance of historic heritage assets continued throughout the country, and included work at sites of importance to both Māori and Pakeha: the ongoing restoration of Auckland's Fort Takapuna, a system of tracks and interpretative signs at Huriawa Pa north of Dunedin, and restoration work at several Otago goldfields sites.

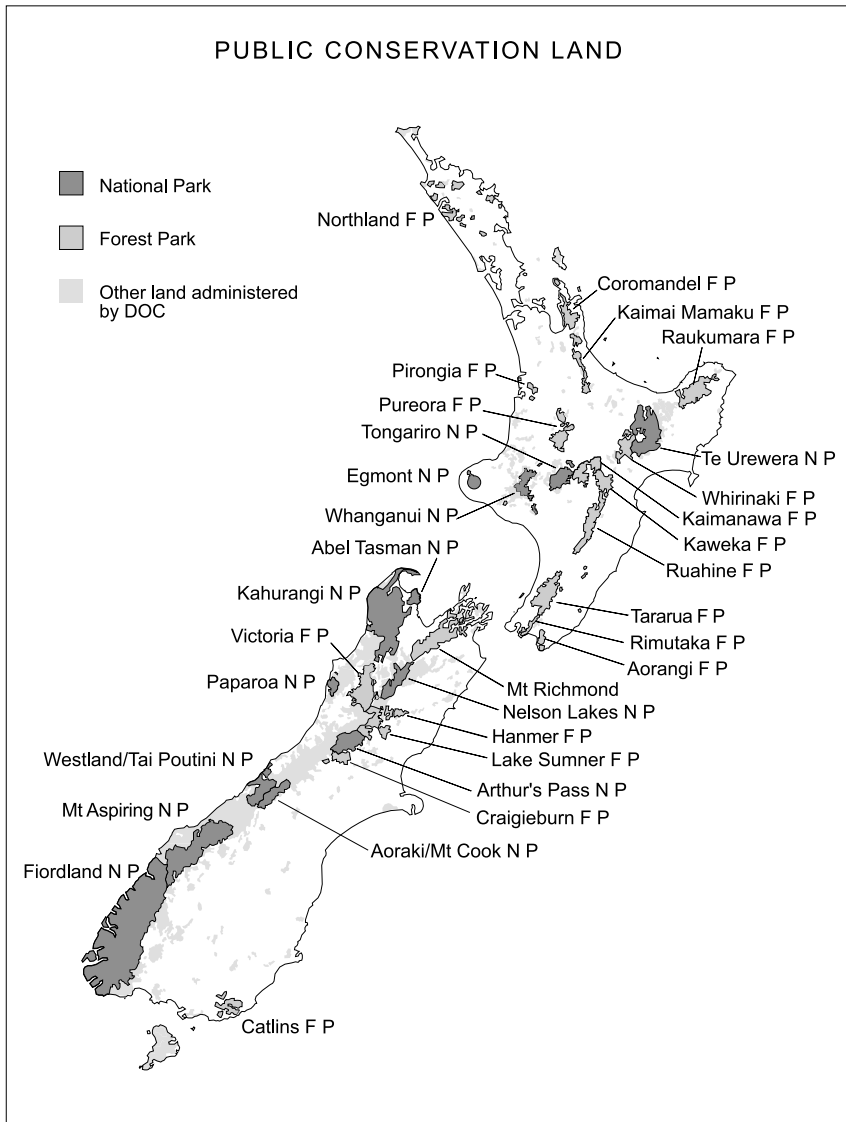
A five year programme of inspections and upgrades of visitor structures such as bridges, boardwalks and jetties was concluded, and most tracks and huts have now received baseline inspections in readiness for maintenance or replacement over the next three years. The centennial of Egmont National Park in October 2000 was marked at official openings of renovated visitor centres at North Egmont and Dawson Falls.

Over the coming year the Department will continue to build on the progress made implementing the *New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy*, and its management of recreational and historic resources. In this the

Department will be guided by the priorities and goals of its new Statement of Intent, the major strategic milestone of last year, which spans the years 2001–2004.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hugh Logan". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each name being significantly larger and more stylized than the others.

Hugh Logan
Director-General



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Statutory Mandate

The Department of Conservation is the leading central government agency responsible for the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic heritage. Its legislative mandate is the Conservation Act 1987 and other key statutes such as the National Parks Act and Reserves Act.¹ Like other government departments, the Department of Conservation has the responsibility to advise Ministers and the Government and to implement government policy.

The Department's key functions as set out in the Conservation Act are:

- to manage land and other natural and historic resources;
- to preserve as far as practicable all indigenous freshwater fisheries, protect recreational fisheries and freshwater habitats;
- to advocate conservation of natural and historic resources;
- to promote the benefits of conservation of natural and historic resources (including those of Antarctica) here and on the international stage;
- to provide conservation information; and
- to foster recreation and allow tourism, to the extent that use is not inconsistent with the conservation of any natural or historic resource.

The Department has a particular responsibility under section 4 of the Conservation Act to interpret and administer the Act so as to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. This involves building and supporting effective conservation partnerships with tangata whenua at the local level.

The Department also contributes to the conservation and sustainable management of natural and historic heritage in areas for which it is not directly responsible. It does this through its roles under other statutes including the Resource Management Act 1991, the Fisheries Acts 1983 and 1996, the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1997 and the Crown Pastoral Lands Act 1998.

Conservation management and the work of the Department are characterised by a high level of public input. Conservation is based on societal support, and on the concept that conservation land is the common heritage of all New Zealanders. As such, conservation land is public land. These principles are inherent in all conservation legislation. This legislation also establishes a hierarchy of conservation boards and the New Zealand Conservation Authority, an independent body appointed by the Minister. The Authority has powers to approve formal management plans to guide the Department, and also serves to advise the Minister.

¹ The legislation determining the Department's mandate is listed in the First Schedule to the Conservation Act 1987.

Mission and Vision

The Department's challenge is to manage natural and historic heritage assets for the greatest benefit and enjoyment of all New Zealanders, by conserving, advocating and promoting natural and historic heritage so that its values are passed on undiminished to future generations.

The Department's mission is:

To conserve New Zealand's natural and historic heritage for all to enjoy now and in the future.

He āta whakaute, manaaki, me te tiaki ia Papatuanuku ki Aotearoa kia ū tonu ai tōna whakawaiūtanga hei oranga ngakau mō te tini te mano ināianeī, āke tonu ake.

The Department's vision is:

New Zealand's natural and historic heritage is protected; people enjoy it and are involved with the Department in its conservation.

Kei te mahi ngātahi te Papa Atawhai me nga iwi whānui ki te whakaute, te manaaki me te tiaki i nga taonga koiora me nga taonga tuku iho o Aotearoa hei painga mō te katoa.

The Department's Structure

The nature of the Department's work means that structurally it is decentralised and operates a far-flung network of offices. The Department manages almost one third of New Zealand's landmass: about 8 million ha held in 13 national parks², 20 conservation parks and about 3,500 reserves and other categories of protected land. In the marine environment, the Department manages almost 7% of the territorial sea (less than 1% of the area within the Exclusive Economic Zone): 1.1 million ha have some form of protection in 16 marine reserves, two marine mammal sanctuaries, two marine parks and one specially protected area.

The Department has a decentralised organisational structure that reinforces the importance of conservation delivery in the field. The Department has 1,434 permanent staff, and employs a large number of temporary and seasonal staff and contractors. Thirteen Conservancy offices are located throughout New Zealand. Their main role is to ensure quality conservation management. Each Conservancy has several area offices that deliver conservation outputs. Three regional offices are tasked with continuous quality improvement. The Department's Head Office, based in Wellington, develops national policies, provides leadership, and national service and support functions.

² A 14th park, Rakiura National Park, is due to be gazetted in 2001/02.

CONTRIBUTION TO KEY GOVERNMENT GOALS

The Department's management of conservation contributes both directly and indirectly to the achievement of the *Key Government Goals to Guide Public Sector Policy and Performance* (April 2001):

- Protect and enhance the environment;
- Strengthen national identity and uphold the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi;
- Grow an inclusive, innovative economy for the benefit of all; and
- Improve New Zealanders' skills.

In addition, the *New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy* (February 2000), as developed and approved by the Government, establishes national goals and a comprehensive range of actions to 'turn the tide' on the decline of our biodiversity. It aims to maintain and restore a full range of our remaining natural habitats and ecosystems and viable populations of all native species.

Protecting and Enhancing the Environment

The Department's work is fundamentally based on protecting and enhancing the environment, and all of its outputs contribute to this key goal. The Department manages and protects the land and marine area network entrusted to it for conservation purposes and works to protect and enhance populations of threatened indigenous species, and to protect marine mammals and their habitats. The Department provides advice outside the protected area network to local communities, local government and landowners to aid protection of indigenous biodiversity. It also provides administrative support and advice to conservation-related statutory bodies such as the New Zealand Conservation Authority, Conservation Boards, Nga Whenua Rahui and the Nature Heritage Fund. The Department has a role in biosecurity, responding to exotic disease or pest incursions, detecting unwanted organisms in indigenous forests, and contributing to the costs of administration of regional councils' pest management strategies.

An important part of protecting and enhancing the environment is enhancing the experience for people who visit protected areas, and encouraging their participation. The Department manages the many huts, tracks, signs and bridges in the protected area network in order to help visitors appreciate and enjoy the natural, historic and cultural values of the place they are visiting, in safe and sustainable ways. Visitor and information centres are located throughout the country to inform the public about New Zealand's natural and historic heritage. The Department promotes public awareness and community participation, so ensuring that current and future generations are committed to protecting and enhancing their natural and historic heritage. Commercial enterprise and tourism are allowed, and recreational activities are fostered on conservation land while protecting its intrinsic values, and this in turn encourages people to visit protected areas.

Strengthening National Identity

New Zealand's national parks, reserves, marine reserves, indigenous biodiversity and historic and cultural heritage are essential components of national identity. Internationally, New Zealand is identified by its natural brands – the kiwi and the silver fern. National identity is strengthened among New Zealanders through the Department's work to conserve areas of historic heritage and cultural value, and to develop partnerships and devolution arrangements for conservation management. It is also strengthened through increased public awareness and community participation in conservation of natural and historic areas.

Treaty of Waitangi

The Department has an important role in giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and this is expressed in section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987. The Department consults extensively with iwi on many aspects of its work, fosters relationships with Māori, and is working to develop more opportunities for Māori to be involved in conservation through cooperative conservation management projects. The Department participates in negotiations of Treaty settlements insofar as they relate to conservation, and develops protocols and other statutory instruments to ensure recognition and protection of iwi relationships with a specific area and its natural, historic and cultural attributes.

Economy

Conservation makes a valid contribution to the growth of an inclusive, innovative economy for the benefit of all. The Department manages the commercial and other use of land entrusted to it in a consistent and business-like manner that is cost-effective, maximises revenue, allows enterprise, permits tourism and fosters recreation while protecting conservation values. The Department also provides appropriate environmental and conservation input into statutory planning activities.

Skills

Important skill-building opportunities are provided through conservation training and volunteer schemes. This year the trainee conservation ranger programme developed by the Department and Nelson Polytechnic had its second graduates, releasing newly skilled workers into the conservation arena. New Zealanders and tourists alike enthusiastically join the Department's volunteer scheme to develop their conservation skills and make a valuable and practical contribution. The Department, together with the Ministry for Youth Affairs, also develops projects for Conservation Corps workers to provide them with adaptable skills.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The completion of the *Statement of Intent* was an important strategic milestone for the Department. The Statement of Intent established 10-year national priority outcomes and three-year strategic directions consistent with the Department's role and responsibilities in relation to the key Government goals, and the additional goals identified in the *New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy*.

The Statement of Intent spans the years 2001–2004. It supersedes the Strategic Business Plan 1998–2002 (entitled *Restoring the Dawn Chorus*). The Department will publish the Statement of Intent annually in order to provide contemporary information on short-term objectives, outputs and supporting financial information that was previously published in the annual Departmental Forecast Report. The longer-term strategic information contained in the Statement may periodically be updated.

The concept and format of the Statement of Intent was developed through the Department's involvement as a participant in the State Services Commission's project to trial new approaches to capability, accountability and performance reporting. The seven key steps that the Department will take towards fulfilling its conservation responsibilities are:

- Expand biodiversity effort;
- Minimise biosecurity risks;
- Increase emphasis on historic and cultural values;
- Promote appropriate recreation and increased public enjoyment of protected areas;
- Engage the community in conservation;
- Promote effective partnerships with tangata whenua; and
- Improve our capability.

The review of the 2000/01 year that follows is structured on the key steps identified above.

KEY STEP 1: EXPAND BIODIVERSITY EFFORT

Under this key step the Department aims to maximise long-term biodiversity gains, especially by using additional New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (NZBS) funding approved in the 2000 Budget.

TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY

National Priority Outcomes for maximising long term biodiversity gains on land are:

- i. Maintain and restore a full range of terrestrial habitats and ecosystems to an indigenous natural character.
- ii. No avoidable human-induced extinctions of indigenous species have occurred and, where practicable, representative populations of all indigenous species have long-term security in natural or semi-natural habitats within their natural range.
- iii. A more comprehensive range of terrestrial natural heritage is legally protected.

Species Conservation Programmes

This year recovery work on high priority threatened species under baseline expenditure spanned 237 of the 403 Category A, B and C threatened species. NZBS funding allowed additional work to be carried out on 28 species. Highlights included a new recovery plan for the orange-fronted parakeet, recently confirmed as a separate species from the yellow-crowned parakeet.

Six recovery plans for threatened species were completed and reviewed during the year, providing an indication of the progress the Department is making in this area:

- The wild population of takahe in the Murchison Mountains is showing an increasing trend, with total numbers and number of pairs higher in every year but one in the last eight. Takahe habitat has continued to improve in quality after successful deer control. A database of takahe information is proving to be a powerful decisionmaking tool for management of this species.
- The black stilt recovery programme has recorded a marked increase in captive bird productivity, and improved survival rates in the wild after release. The success of captive rearing techniques has enabled chicks to be released in large numbers at once to maximise pair formation. Research is being focused on discovering causes (other than predators) of chick and adult mortality in the wild, and new predator control methods.
- Current estimates suggest populations of New Zealand dotterel are larger than when the recovery plan for this species was drafted in 1993. A census will be undertaken in the coming year. A population expansion has occurred on in the East Coast/Hawke's Bay area, but an apparent reduction on the North Island west coast is of concern. More encouragingly, predator control at breeding sites on Stewart Island has resulted in a strong population recovery there.

- Otago and grand skink: strategic land purchases in Otago have been completed or are in the late stages of negotiation. These will ensure protection of most of the core habitat for these two skinks. The range and population of both skinks appears to have been maintained as a result of the recovery work.
- Mohua (yellowhead) populations have suffered at sites on the mainland in the past year as a result of extremely high numbers of ship rats after recent warm winters and two successive beech seed mast years. Despite the development of good systems for controlling rats at important Mohua sites, more research is required to find ways of combating rats when numbers reach the extreme levels recently experienced.
- A recovery programme for the endangered *Kowhai ngutukaka* species (kakabeak) found in Auckland and East Coast/Hawke's Bay has seen the number of wild plants in East Coast/Hawke's Bay increase more than six-fold from approximately 200 in 1992 to 1,333 in 1999. There are now no naturally occurring plants of kakabeak found in Auckland. However, progress has been made on *ex situ* work to conserve the genetic diversity of both areas. The Auckland Regional Botanic Gardens hold *ex situ* stock of the Auckland population and some transplanting work has occurred.

Kiwi Recovery Programme

This flagship programme (carried out in partnership with the Bank of New Zealand) was significantly enhanced by NZBS funding. Five kiwi sanctuaries were established, three in Northland, Coromandel and Tongariro to protect the North Island brown kiwi, while the two sanctuaries on the South Island's West Coast protect the Okarito brown kiwi (rowi) and the Haast tokoeka respectively. The aim in the 2001/02 breeding season is to have 25% of kiwi chicks surviving to 1 kg in weight, when they are thought to be safe from stoat predation. This would represent a 5% annual increase in kiwi populations at the sanctuaries. At present, mainland populations are decreasing by about 5% annually.

Kakapo Recovery Programme

There was no kakapo breeding this summer despite encouraging signs. In April, all adult female kakapo from Maud Island were transferred to Whenua Hou (Codfish Island), swelling the number of females to 20. The anticipated rimu fruiting in spring, a recognised precursor to successful breeding, will mean the extra females will potentially double chick production. This season will be the first opportunity to see if Hoki, a hand-reared female, is capable of breeding. The breeding programme was complemented by several research projects investigating hormonal stimulation, diet, genetic techniques for sexing birds from droppings, remote telemetry logging devices and video technology. The Kakapo Recovery Programme is sponsored by Comalco through the Threatened Species Trust, administered by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and the Department.

Mainland Islands

The Department's six Mainland Island projects continued to provide encouraging signs of biodiversity recovery thanks to ongoing intensive pest control work during the past year.

- Kiwi chick survival rate at the Trounson Reserve in Northland was 54% (the national average is 10%), while populations of kukupa have remained stable at increased densities achieved in past years.
- Bird densities have risen 50% in the Northern Te Urewera Ecosystem Restoration Project, where North Island kokako have made a spectacular recovery to now number about 60 pairs, compared with eight in 1994.
- Kokako from Te Urewera were transferred to large aviaries in the Boundary Stream Mainland Island in northern Hawke's Bay where pest control has kept goats, rats, stoats, ferrets and weasels at low numbers. Reintroduced North Island brown kiwi and robins continue to thrive at Boundary Stream.
- Long-tailed bat were discovered in Wanganui's Paengaroa Mainland Island this year. Five pairs of threatened robins produced 15 fledglings. Surveys have found good populations of two threatened plants: *Coprosma walli*, and *Pittosporum obcordatum*.
- A review of the Rotoiti Mainland Island project in Nelson Lakes National Park has led to the decision to considerably expand the area under predator control to enable the reintroduction of native species lost to the area such as saddleback and yellowhead. In the long term it is also hoped to move kiwi into the Mainland Island.
- The Hurunui Mainland Island recorded its first rat plague after a second consecutive beech seed mast. High numbers of mice were also present; however, their impacts on wildlife can't be fully determined until the coming year.

Island Management and Restoration

Pest-free island refuges are the last hope for many endangered native species threatened on the mainland by introduced predators. Some notable achievements were made possible by NZBS funding during the year.

The most significant involved the world's largest island restoration project on the 11,300 ha sub-Antarctic Campbell Island where Norway rats have had severe impacts on rare birds. Monitoring of the success of the operation will continue with the aim of declaring the island rodent-free in 2004.

A cat and rat eradication operation on Tuhua (Mayor) Island (1,280 ha) was completed in 2000 and ongoing monitoring will confirm success by the end of 2002. Conservancies with major rodent-free islands or island groups were also funded by the NZBS to establish preventative and contingency measures to ensure these islands remain rodent-free. Whenua Hou (Codfish) Island was declared rat-free this year.

Threat Classification System

The Molloy-Davis priority ranking system for threatened species, in use since 1992, was replaced this year by a new threat classification system pioneered by the Department. The new system will be an important element of the Department's strategy for reversing the decline in biodiversity.

To determine the threat status of species, categories within the new threat classification system provide an indication of the level of threat of extinction that taxa face. Threatened species are thus grouped into three major divisions: 'acutely threatened', 'chronically threatened' and 'at risk'. Acutely threatened species are those with a high risk of extinction; chronically threatened includes species facing extinction but which are buffered slightly by either a large total population or a slow rate of decline. At risk species don't meet criteria for either acutely or chronically threatened, but may have restricted ranges or small scattered sub-populations.

By the end of 2001 it is intended that all species for which there is sufficient information will have been classified by the new system.

Animal Pest Control

Possum control: About 761,000 ha of Conservation land is under sustained long-term possum control. NZBS funding allowed possum control on 11,600 ha of forests containing high priority threatened species. Operational problems, bad weather, consents delays and in some instances local opposition to 1080 poisoning affected a number of planned operations; however the majority of these have been carried over into the 2001/02 year.

Goat Control: Conservation values in a total of 2.3 million ha directly benefited from a sustained goat control programme run by the Department. Additional NZBS funding allowed goats to be targeted at seven sites where they threatened native vegetation, with more than 86,000 ha expected to gain from the control.

Other Animal Pest Control: Deer and thar control programmes met or exceeded targets this year. Extra thar control operations were funded by the NZBS. This was the first year of the Department's integrated stoat control research programme which involved 30 projects. The NZBS also funded a pest information management position, and research into the use of toxins for pest control. The research will help ensure that pest control agencies undertake pest control in the most safe and effective way, and with continued community support, which is vital if New Zealand is to sustain long-term pest control programmes.

Invasive Weed Control

The Department recognises almost 250 introduced plants as weed species. Under additional NZBS programmes new projects targeting

particular weeds were initiated throughout the country, while new inventory and threat assessment work was also carried out on important biodiversity sites. A standard operating procedure for weed surveillance was completed, so that staff now have procedures and funding to actively search for weeds that are new to New Zealand or to a particular region. The completed national weeds database now contains more than 60,000 pieces of information about weed identification, their location and control methods.

Preparatory work was completed for the launch of the Department's wilding conifer strategy in July 2001. Wilding conifers threaten over 300,000 ha of publicly owned South Island conservation land or land with conservation value, with the most extensive areas of spread occurring in the eastern high country. The strategy will raise public awareness, promote a coordinated control effort with regional councils and other stakeholders (through the establishment of a South Island Wilding Conifer Steering Group), and seek the inclusion of wilding conifers in regional pest management strategies.

Protecting a More Comprehensive Range of Terrestrial Natural Heritage

Cabinet approval for the 163,000 ha Rakiura National Park, and the announced transfer of 130,000 ha of indigenous forests managed by Timberlands West Coast to the Conservation Estate, were significant biodiversity gains. Eighty-five per cent of Stewart Island now falls under a single management system, enabling a much more efficient system of protecting Rakiura's unique and largely unmodified conservation values. Most of the Timberlands forests are ecologically important remnants of lowland indigenous forests that have been seriously depleted elsewhere in the country. Under the Department's management, greater focus can now be placed on restoring ecosystems and targeting alien predators.

Some 35,000 ha of high country pastoral land, mostly in Otago Conservancy, came to the Department during the year after the completion of 25 Land Act tenure reviews of Crown pastoral lease land. This was a significant achievement for Departmental staff who have worked, in some cases up to 10 years, with Land Information New Zealand (LINZ), lessees, NGOs and iwi for this result. The bulk of the land encompasses tall snow tussocklands grading into alpine herbfields and fellfields. Substantial new holdings have been transferred to the Department on the Remarkables Range, with smaller areas on the Rock and Pillar, Old Man and Old Woman ranges.

Increased biodiversity funding for protecting natural values on private land has been received positively by landholders and led to greater interest in pursuing legal protection options.

Nature Heritage Fund

The Nature Heritage Fund advises the Minister on protection proposals on private land. The Department administers and supports the Fund, which was established in 1990 to provide contestable funding for protection proposals on private land. Since 1990, 623 applications have been approved, resulting in protection of 176,000 ha of indigenous ecosystems throughout the country, either by direct purchase or through covenants, at a cost of \$40 million.

The Fund's budget this year of \$2.5 million included a \$1.5 million allocation from the Government's biodiversity package. This allocation resulted in the protection of 1,400 ha of land in four separate blocks, all with high conservation value. It also helped complete several previously approved projects which added a further 970 ha. Funding has also been committed for a further four properties, totalling 1,469 ha.

Of the 44 applications received, 16 were approved under this year's budget, while a number of others were deferred. In total, 4,212 ha was protected by the Fund during the year. Notable achievements included the gifting of a 754 ha mature podocarp/broadleaf forest adjacent to Northland's Hikurangi Scenic Reserve by the family of the late Hilel Korman, and the purchase of 1,307 ha of tall tussock grassland in Central Otago's Lammerlaw Range.

Nga Whenua Rahui

Nga Whenua Rahui is administered by an independent committee serviced by the Department that is directly responsible to the Minister of Conservation. It was established in 1990 to facilitate the voluntary protection by Māori of indigenous ecosystems on Māori-owned land. The purpose of the fund is to provide an appropriate protection mechanism that allows for tikanga and tino rangatiratanga of landowners to be maintained. Through the fund Government assists Māori landowners to meet the costs associated with protection in recognition of the general public benefit that is derived from nature protection. The criteria and mechanisms of Nga Whenua Rahui also gives special recognition to protecting and enhancing the cultural and spiritual values associated with land and its water bodies.

Nga Whenua Rahui received a total of \$1.12 million for this financial year, which included an allocation of \$800,000 from the NZBS package. This allocation resulted in the fund being able to meet its obligations under signed kawenata to assist with management costs. This included \$500,000 spent on pest control programmes on areas of land already protected as well as fencing projects. Support for the fund has grown dramatically with 47 new applications from Māori landowners this year covering 47,000 ha. Eight protection mechanisms/kawenata or covenants, for eight parcels of land totalling 8,369 ha, were approved by the Minister of Conservation.

Nga Whenua Rahui also administers the NZBS funded Matauranga Kura Taiao fund. The objective of this fund is to support Māori initiatives to increase their capability to retain, promote and use traditional Māori knowledge and to participate in the management of biodiversity. The under-use and ongoing loss of customary Māori knowledge about nature was identified as a key issue to be addressed if the strategy's goals were to be achieved. This year involved the development of the fund in preparation for projects in the new financial year.

FRESHWATER BIODIVERSITY

National priority outcomes for the Department's freshwater work programmes are:

- i. A representative range of freshwater ecosystems and habitats is maintained in or restored to an indigenous natural character.
- ii. Where practicable, viable populations of indigenous freshwater species are maintained within their natural range, and freshwater fisheries administered by the Department are managed effectively.
- iii. A more comprehensive range of natural freshwater ecosystems and habitats is legally protected.

Threatened Species Work

Threatened freshwater fish surveys undertaken around the country yielded new information about the status of several species. New populations of northern mudfish were identified in Northland, and a three year survey of short-jawed kokupu in Nelson/Marlborough completed this year found 75 streams and rivers containing the fish, 64 of which were previously unknown. Monitoring of high density populations of short-jawed kokupu in Taranaki has significantly increased the available information on the biology of this species.

Intensive surveys in Otago established the distribution of at least nine non-migratory galaxiid species in order to identify priority areas for protection. A yet to be described adult fish caught in the remote southwest of Chatham Island may be a new species.

The Department's Biodiversity Recovery Unit has begun preparing national threatened species recovery plans for non-migratory galaxiids, the large galaxiids and mudfishes.

Wetlands

The Department (Waikato Conservancy) has undertaken several projects as part of the restoration of the Whangamarino Wetland, one of five internationally significant wetlands protected in New Zealand under the Ramsar Convention. This project, some of which is being carried out in conjunction with Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council, is the largest wetland restoration project in the country.

Waikato Conservancy, NIWA and Waikato Regional Council are participating in a multi-agency project on the Waipa Peat Lakes. One of these lakes is particularly important as it is one of the few examples nationally that support solely native plant communities. Efforts are being concentrated on managing the impacts of an exotic fish on these communities.

MARINE BIODIVERSITY

National priority outcomes for the Department's work in the marine area are:

- i. Marine protected areas are being maintained in or are recovering towards an indigenous natural character.
- ii. No avoidable human-induced extinctions of marine species have occurred and, where practicable, such species have long-term security within their natural range.
- iii. A more comprehensive range of marine areas is legally protected.
- iv. The natural character of the coastal environment is preserved.

Marine Reserves

The Department has a target of creating 15 new marine reserves over the term of the *Biodiversity Strategy*, in addition to the 16 existing reserves. This will go a long way towards the NZBS aim of achieving a network of representative marine protected areas throughout New Zealand.

With NZBS funding, the Department undertook surveys of several possible marine reserve sites during the year – at Hokianga Harbour and the surrounding coast, in Northland; around Tiritiri Matangi Island, in the Hauraki Gulf; in the eastern Bay of Plenty; on the Wairarapa/Cape Palliser coastline; and in Fiordland. In addition, progress towards application or approval was made on a number of marine reserve proposals.

NZBS funding enabled biological monitoring programmes to be undertaken at six existing marine reserves. Increases in the size and numbers of target species, such as snapper, rock lobster and blue cod, were recorded at sites monitored for more than two years. A coastal-marine environment classification system is being developed which will guide selection of suitable marine habitats and ecosystems for protection. As well, a two-year investigation into marine reserve design was commenced to increase understanding of what size a marine reserve needs to be to protect different species and habitats.

The review of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 attracted considerable public interest, with a total of 259 submissions received and analysed. A Bill is expected to go to Parliament later in 2001.

Marine Mammals

The Department worked closely with the commercial fishing industry and developed good working relationships with the Ministry of Fisheries (Mfish) on marine mammal management. Declining populations of Hector's dolphin as a result of commercial and recreational set netting continues to be of concern. The North Island subspecies is now believed to number only 100–200, a fact which led to the announcement of a set netting ban between North Taranaki and Dargaville from August 2001. Research included an aerial survey and pioneering genetic surveying techniques to enable identification of individual animals, and establish estimates of abundance. In the South Island, good inter-agency work built a strong case for banning set nets in Canterbury to protect the South Island Hector's dolphin. A temporary closure was established, and a process for long-term review of this was initiated with Mfish.

The Department and tangata whenua are working together on marine mammal issues, particularly with regard to the recovery of cultural materials from carcasses of stranded whales. A hui in Otago with Ngai Tahu focused on this work and sought to train iwi to be involved in stranding events.

No mass strandings of whales were recorded this year. Instead the year was characterised by single strandings – in total staff dealt with 438 callouts involving 541 animals.

KEY STEP 2: MINIMISE BIOSECURITY RISKS

The Department is one of four agencies involved in coordinating New Zealand's response to biosecurity threats. New Zealand's biosecurity system has historically been focused on protecting agricultural, horticultural and forestry industries from pests and diseases affecting farm animals and crops. This has provided some level of general protection against unwanted introductions. However, a large number of introduced species have become established in New Zealand, either intentionally or accidentally, with the result that introduced pest animals and weeds are, after habitat loss, the biggest threat to the survival of New Zealand's unique biodiversity.

The Department has the following national priority outcomes for biosecurity management:

Where feasible and practicable:

- i. No new species, pathogen or genetic stock which poses a significant risk to indigenous flora or fauna has entered New Zealand and become established in the wild.
- ii. Newly naturalised animal pests and weeds which pose a significant risk to indigenous flora or fauna have been eradicated or contained, and those already established but not yet widespread have not significantly expanded their range.

Policy Development

This year the Department continued to provide policy and technical input into Biosecurity Council policies, the development of the New Zealand Biosecurity Strategy and policy initiatives of other biosecurity agencies, including pest management agencies. The Department works closely with the other biosecurity agencies as they develop capacity in areas such as risk assessment and monitoring.

Policy development initiatives carried out by the Department this year included:

- Development of an unwanted organism list – an initial high priority list of 106 plants is expected to be completed by August 2001;
- Development of a risk-assessment framework for use when organisms are first identified;
- Establishment of an inter-agency working group to identify gaps in information-gathering at the border;
- Efforts to improve international networks and intergovernmental cooperation in the management of alien species through the Department's role as lead agency for the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;
- Participation in a new technical advisory group on wildlife diseases; and
- Development of an operational kit for use by Departmental staff during biosecurity responses.

Biosecurity Research

Departmental research funded by a \$75,000 appropriation (incl. gst) from Vote Biosecurity was carried out into border controls for potential aquatic weeds and the risks to marine ecosystems from introduction of exotic organisms, including an examination of pathways from ports to high value conservation areas.

Operational Work

Operational work was carried out on pest animals and weeds, pest fish eradication and surveys, *Undaria* eradication, eastern banjo frogs and forest health assessments.

Pest Animals and Weeds

Ninety per cent of Vote Biosecurity funding the Department receives is spent on pest and weed control under Regional Council Pest Management Strategies (RPMS). About 80% of this involvement is in meeting landowner responsibilities to control agricultural pests present on Conservation land.

Pest Fish

After finding koi carp and gambusia (mosquito fish) in the South Island for the first time, the Department declared these species to be unwanted organisms. After surveying for the fish, Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy's attempted eradication of them from 20 sites appears to have been successful. Monitoring and further surveys are planned for the coming summer.

Initial pestfish surveys were also undertaken by Northland, Auckland, Waikato and Wanganui Conservancies. This work has highlighted the need for a comprehensive survey of the North Island to establish the extent of pest fish and identify future management priorities. Bay of Plenty Conservancy attempted to eradicate two populations of koi carp last year. Koi carp are considered a major threat to Bay of Plenty's waterbodies which are presently believed to be free of koi carp.

Undaria

Two operations were carried out to eradicate founding populations of *Undaria* from Bluff Harbour and Stewart Island's Big Glory Bay. *Undaria* is a highly invasive species of seaweed that is well adapted to New Zealand's environmental conditions. It has already changed the 'natural character' and ecology of localised areas, and has the potential to cause more widespread and significant changes. *Undaria* eradication was complemented by a vessel-monitoring programme in Southland, Otago and Canterbury to determine the extent of hull infestation by *Undaria*.

Eastern Banjo Frog

Surveys of the Waitakere Range were carried out after the discovery of Australian eastern banjo frogs in 1999. A search completed in August 2000 using sound recording equipment did not locate the frog. If the banjo frog becomes established the species will have a devastating impact on native fauna, especially the Hochstetter's frog. The banjo frog has the potential to become established in the north of the North Island from Coromandel to Northland.

The eastern banjo frog can also carry chytrid fungus – a key factor in global amphibian decline. Surveys for the fungus on the Coromandel Peninsula and in Tauranga confirmed the disease was present in the Tauranga area.

Forest Health Surveys

The Department contracted the Forest Research Institute to carry out surveillance of forest areas and tree species considered most likely to be at risk from exotic organism establishment. Aerial surveys of at-risk indigenous forests were completed for Waitakere, Hunua, Egmont and Mt Richmond forests. Ground examinations for introduced insects and diseases were carried out for a representative range of indigenous tree species at hazard sites around the country, including sites within 5 km of 22 New Zealand ports. Department staff received training on tree health awareness at two workshops during the year.

The Department of Conservation's Role in Biosecurity

Introduced invasive species are, after habitat loss, the single largest threat to the survival of New Zealand's threatened native species and ecosystems. The Department believes robust assessments and management of biosecurity risks are required if the decline of New Zealand's unique biodiversity is to be halted.

The Department is now doing much more work on biosecurity risk assessment and management to prevent new pests arriving and becoming established. Policies are being developed to determine organisms that are unwanted, and surveillance services are being purchased for the detection of new pests and diseases of indigenous forests. It has also developed policies for rapid responses to new incursions of exotic pests. More emphasis has also been placed on staff training.

At a national biosecurity management level, the Department's staff are the key advisors to the Biosecurity Minister on threats to indigenous flora and fauna. The establishment in 1997 of the Biosecurity portfolio brought together the operational biosecurity functions of the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, Fisheries and Health and the Department of Conservation under a single Minister.

In 1999, the MAF Biosecurity Authority was established and since then MAF has taken a greater leadership role in terms of co-ordinating Government's biosecurity programme and responding to incursions. The Department has supported MAF Biosecurity Authority undertaking this wider role.

In recent times the Authority has taken a lead role in responding to pests of concern to conservation as well as agriculture, including the eastern banjo frog, scoliid wasp and red imported fire ant. Our experience as managers of conservation threats is utilised by the other biosecurity agencies in various ways – for instance in the case of *Undaria* seaweed control, the Department is assisting the Ministry of Fisheries to develop surveillance and monitoring programmes.

The eradication or containment of established conservation pests such as possums, goats and rats, and newer threats such as koi carp, gambusia and *Undaria* seaweed, continues to be the major focus of the Department's operational work. The securing of funding for pest-fish surveys over the next three years was welcome recognition of the threats that species such as koi and gambusia pose to New Zealand waterways.

KEY STEP 3: INCREASE EMPHASIS ON HISTORIC AND CULTURAL VALUES

The Department is the manager of historic resources on the Conservation estate. Its work in this area involves the collation of information, research, monitoring and restoration work on specific sites, preparation of interpretative material and the preparation of strategies and policy advice. Active management is carried out on 831 historic sites around the country. This includes the management of 142 of New Zealand's 213 historic reserves, and 140 historic places registered by the Historic Places Trust.

The Department has two national priority outcomes for its work in this area:

- i. Historical places in areas we manage are identified and protected and, where appropriate, conserved and interpreted.
- ii. A more comprehensive range of historic heritage is protected by a range of methods.

To achieve these outcomes the strategic direction of the Department is to:

- Place stronger emphasis on historic and cultural values of protected areas;
- Conserve high priority historic places in areas we manage by implementing an asset management approach;
- Significantly enhance interpretation of historic and cultural values; and
- Work with others, including the Historic Places Trust, local government and communities for the protection of a more comprehensive range of historic heritage.

Policy Initiatives

The lead role for historic heritage policy and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and its Act transferred to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage in 1999. Nevertheless, the Department continues to be an important owner of and adviser on land-based heritage and useful networks are operating between the lead agencies and the Department. Work of wide interest on assessing and prioritising sites and landscapes for protection has been assisted by scientific publications on assessment and predictive modelling of archaeological site distribution.

The Department is revising its historic heritage policy to reflect the greater emphasis on these issues. An important renewed initiative is a package of policies on the Department's places and functions of interest to Māori – these include Treaty principles, customary use and waahi tapu. *Ngā Akiakitanga Nuka Kaupapa Māori a Te Papa Atawhai* was published and distributed for discussion and consultation (see Key Step 6).

An ongoing relationship is being built with iwi that have had reserves vested in them and other powers under Treaty settlements. Departmental staff may advise iwi on reserves and continue the relationship in other aspects of reserve management. Other advice includes some 380

requests for archaeological data delivered from the Central Index of New Zealand Archaeological Sites, to iwi, local bodies, heritage consultants and the Department's own staff.

Significant publications this year were Tony Walton's *The Archaeology of the Taranaki-Wanganui Region* and Jill Hamel's *The Archaeology of Otago*, both of which have a strong emphasis on sites of Māori origin. Practical conservation guides on historic concrete (such as in coastal fortifications), in-situ wood and also archaeological site management are nearing completion.

An important boost to policy initiatives was provided by two visitors from the United States: Dwight Pitcaithley, Chief Historian for the National Park Service and Janelle Warren-Findlay (a senior Fulbright Fellow) who visited widely and boosted future initiatives for interpretation and leadership in this field.

Historic Asset Management System

Conservancies were fully engaged this year carrying out baseline surveys of most of the Department's actively managed historic assets in readiness for the integration in 2001/02 of the Historic Asset Management System (HAMS) with the Visitor Asset Management System (VAMS). As with visitor assets, this will enable the Department to identify and cost remedial and ongoing maintenance at historic sites, and allow for better programming of the work needed to keep each place in good condition.

Properties

Remedial work was carried out for 30 high priority historic assets around the country, while maintenance work was carried out on 350 assets. In Auckland the Department contributed to the cost of purchasing the Otuaatua Stonefields, the archaeologically significant site of what was once the largest Polynesian village in the Pacific. Recent conservation work carried out on Fort Takapuna, North Head, The Camp House (Taranaki), Ripapa Island (Canterbury), Brunner and Big River (both West Coast) has generally been well received. Three high priority historic sites in the Otago Goldfields received remedial work: the Bannockburn Post Office, Mitchells Cottage and the Invincible Mine.

All conservancies worked with iwi or initiated consultations on a range of projects aimed at improving the quality of management of historic places of value to Māori. Otago Conservancy continued its relationship with the Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki for the ongoing development of tracking and interpretation on the Huriawa pa at Karitane.

Ngati Awa are working directly with Bay of Plenty Conservancy to prepare a Maturanga Māori cultural, spiritual and natural history educational vision for Moutohora Island that will meet the needs of Ngati Awa, the Department and others in the Bay of Plenty. Wellington Conservancy is working with tangata whenua on a proposal for historic reserve status for Kupe's Sails at Cape Palliser. These and other projects highlight some of the progress that is being made in building cooperative partnerships with iwi.

Historic Heritage Managed by the Department – an Overview

The areas managed by the Department were mainly acquired by the Crown for their natural qualities. Nevertheless, areas managed by the Department, including historic reserves, contain over 5,000 recorded historic places, most of which are archaeological sites. Most apparently natural landscapes have been modified by human activity.

All areas managed by the Department are of cultural significance to Māori as tangata whenua. The tangible and the spiritual elements together comprise the ancestral landscapes of tangata whenua which are an integral part of their living traditions. Sites of significance to Māori include places of discovery, settlement, warfare, horticulture, rock art, natural resource use, waahi taonga and waahi tapu.

Tongariro National Park is inscribed on the World Heritage List as a natural and cultural site. It was the first site in the world to be listed as an associative cultural landscape on the basis of the spiritual and ancestral associations of the natural landscape.

Historic places managed by the Department include over 140 historic reserves with a combined area of 3,766 ha. These have been considered to be of such significance that historic preservation in perpetuity is declared to be their primary purpose. Many historic reserves are historic places of significance to tangata whenua, including prominent fortified pa sites. Many other areas of historic significance managed by the Department are classified as scenic or recreation reserves. Under the Ngai Tahu Settlement Act a number of natural features such as Mount Cook (Aoraki) are recognised as having high cultural value to Ngai Tahu.

Over 140 historic places managed by the Department are registered by the Historic Places Trust under the Historic Places Act 1993. Some of these are well known nationally. These include Mansion House (Kawau Island), Fort Jervis (Ripapa Island), and the Kawarau suspension bridge (Otago), all registered in Category I under the Historic Places Act 1993.

Other areas managed by the Department contain many of New Zealand's important historic places characteristic of human activity in mountainous and coastal areas since European contact. These include:

- Sites of early European contact, exploration and settlement;
- Sealing and shore whaling sites;
- Redoubts from the New Zealand wars;
- Remains of nineteenth century and later extractive industries such as gold, copper and coal mining, timber milling and gum digging;
- Pastoral farming landscapes;
- Historic bridges, tracks and routes;
- Backcountry buildings, mostly huts related to mustering, deer culling, and mountaineering;
- Buildings and structures relating to recreation and tourism;
- Sites and structures from the history of nature conservation; and
- Coastal defences and fortifications.

KEY STEP 4: PROMOTE APPROPRIATE RECREATION AND INCREASED PUBLIC ENJOYMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS

The Department has three national priority outcomes for the work it carries out in this area:

- i. More New Zealanders enjoy protected areas and receive in full measure the inspiration, enjoyment, recreation and other benefits that may be derived from them consistent with the protection of their conservation values.
- ii. The Department's facilities and services are located, designed, constructed and maintained and operated in accordance with all relevant legislation and best practice, to meet user needs to appropriate standards.
- iii. Visitor impacts on natural and historic heritage values are minimal.

About 30% of the Department's annual budget is spent providing recreational opportunities, facilities and information for the public. Recent research commissioned by the Department found that these services and facilities are used and highly valued by a large cross-section of the New Zealand community. One third of the adult population (aged 18 and over) had stayed in a Department hut and/or camped in a Department-managed area at some stage in their lives. Approximately one in ten had done so in the previous year. Similarly, more than two-thirds of the adult population had visited a Department visitor centre and/or been on a short walk in a Department-managed area at some time in the past. One third of the adult population had done so in the last twelve months. The survey also found that visitors believe that the Department should provide a range of basic facilities and services to cater for visitors of varying experience and skill.

Clearly there is a public mandate for the Department's work in this area. At the same time this raises important questions about the extent to which the Department is able to meet public demands for recreational services given fiscal constraints, the need to ensure a balance is achieved between recreation provision and the Department's obligations to conserve natural and historic places, and the need to ensure visitors have a quality experience. Accordingly, the Department's strategic direction for this key step is to provide for a range of appropriate recreational opportunities on Conservation lands to the extent that:

- Recreational use is not inconsistent with the conservation of natural and historic heritage;
- Recreational use preserves the quality of visitors' opportunities and experiences; and
- Maintaining the range of recreational opportunities is affordable and achievable.

Visitor Asset Management System

In 1997 the Department set about establishing and implementing a Visitor Asset Management System (VAMS) with the goal of ensuring all recreational facilities are safe and comply with legal requirements. The recreational assets the Department currently administers are:

- 1,041 back country huts;
- 309 campsites (including 74 back country sites);
- 12,569 km of tracks and walkways;
- 13,690 structures;
- 2,131 km of road;
- 375 amenity areas;
- 911 sewage systems and toilets;
- Over 13,000 signs; and
- 1,200 recreation and tourism concessions providing an array of opportunities and facilities for the public.

Following on from last year's implementation of a life-cycle asset modelling process, this year the huge task of creating inventories and carrying out baseline inspections of all these assets was virtually completed. This important milestone means the Department is now in the position of having identified and quantified the work required to maintain these assets, and the work required to upgrade those that are below standard.

It also means that the Department now has a much better understanding of the recreational facilities it manages. The national visitor asset database contains all information on visitor assets, a significant achievement made possible by the use of portable computer technology.

Huts and Tracks

The Department now has a complete inventory of its back country huts. Baseline engineering inspections of the majority of these huts were carried out, and remedial work to bring these facilities up to standard identified and costed. Hut replacements in the future will be guided by the work done this year developing new standard back country hut designs. These new generation hut designs will be finalised in the coming year and the construction of several replacement huts started.

An inventory and inspection of the entire track network were close to completion by the end of the year, including the entry of all data and information on the asset management database.

Structures

The Department carries out inspections of some 14,000 structures under its care. These facilities, which include bridges, boardwalks, platforms and wharves are inspected once every two years and all work identified is carried out as necessary.

Roads, Campsites and Amenity Areas

Inventories of all roads, campsites and amenity areas were completed this year.

Public Consultation

Management of visitor assets is followed closely by the public. Consultations with recreational organisations about visitor asset management occur at both local and national levels. At the national level the Department has maintained close working relationships with national recreational NGOs, in particular the Federated Mountain Clubs, New Zealand Alpine Club, Council of Outdoor Recreation Associations of New Zealand, New Zealand Deerstalkers Association and the Outdoors Assembly. The result has been far greater understanding, involvement and engagement with the Department on its asset management programme than has occurred in the past.

Long Term Sustainable Management of Recreation Facilities.

The improved understanding the Department now has of the recreational facilities it manages has allowed an estimate to be made of the long-term cost of managing huts and structures to appropriate standards. What is clear is that, at present levels of revenue and cash projection, the current portfolio of visitor facilities cannot continue to be provided in coming years. In the short-term, additional revenue from the Crown will cover deferred maintenance and toilet and hut upgrades or replacements, at priority sites. The Department plans to review options for the long-term sustainability of these facilities over the next three years. Options may include increasing direct or indirect funding, cash injections, rationalising the asset portfolio, and encouraging others to maintain them.

Recreation and Tourism Concessions Management

Concession activities provide the public with another means to access, enjoy and learn about conservation in New Zealand. They are conservation tools that allow for the management of effects and impacts in partnership with local communities and private enterprise. Confidence in the tourism industry is likely to account for the 28% increase in the numbers of recreation tourism concessions managed on Department land this year – from 886 in 1999/00 to 1,134.

The Department put increased emphasis on monitoring, compliance, and environmental checks of its concession holders (which also include holders of Crown Minerals Act 1991 and cultural resource consents, and telecommunications site concessions). This reflects the desire for stronger monitoring to ensure environmental impacts from activities on conservation land are limited. All new concessions now contain the condition that environmental monitoring will be undertaken where required.

Visitor and Public Information Services

Visitor centres are primary sources of information on recreation opportunities and interpretation of New Zealand's natural, cultural and historic heritage. The Department manages and staffs 29 visitor centres (both on and off the conservation estate) which provide information services to about 2 million visitors a year. This is achieved through direct contact, publications, displays, interpretive media and visitor programmes. Substantial upgrades of visitor centres at Whakapapa (Tongariro National Park), Dawson Falls and North Egmont visitor centres (Egmont National Park) were completed during the year. Visitor numbers to North Egmont rose significantly after the upgrade. This year visitor satisfaction surveys were introduced and the results to date indicate high levels of satisfaction with services the Department provides.

The Department's website is becoming an increasingly useful source of recreational information, a trend likely to continue as more track information is added. At present the site hosts recreational information on Great Walks, national parks, huts and hut fees, camping areas, walkways and short walks, hunting and fishing, and a background to the Department's Visitor Asset Management System. The Milford Track booking form was the most downloaded page in June this year, closely followed by Great Walks track profiles and the Routeburn Track booking form.

Natural Quiet Programme

A 'Natural Quiet' programme was begun this year that will identify sites where noise from aircraft and other human-made noise should be minimised.

KEY STEP 5: ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY IN CONSERVATION

National Priority Outcomes

- i. New Zealanders treasure and derive inspiration from our natural and historic heritage.
- ii. New Zealanders have enhanced awareness of and commitment to conservation.
- iii. The Department provides national conservation leadership through effective working relationships at international, national, Conservancy and area levels.
- iv. Increased participation by public agencies, non-governmental organisations, honorary rangers and volunteers increases the achievement of conservation outcomes.
- v. Individuals, community groups and other agencies have access to the information, advice, techniques and incentives necessary to take their own conservation initiatives.

This key step emphasises the importance of building greater conservation awareness about New Zealand's natural and historic heritage, and more importantly, directly involving New Zealand communities in conservation projects. Already many people and organisations are at the vanguard of efforts to restore natural and historic sites around the country. The Department aims to build on these efforts as well as create new opportunities for community conservation initiatives. The \$187 million biodiversity package, and the \$2.5 million Conservation Awareness funding, both announced in 2000, have made significant progress possible this year toward the Department's long-term community conservation objectives. The announcement in 2001 of ongoing additional funding of \$2.5 million for Conservation Awareness will allow the Department to continue building a public conservation ethos.

Conservation Awareness Programme

Just over 60 projects were begun with the \$2.5 million funding for Conservation Awareness allocated in the 2000 Budget as part of the Cabinet contingency fund for green issues. Despite a delayed start to the programme, considerable progress was made in implementing the projects.

The projects fell into four categories:

1. Rural conservation awareness. Thirty-four projects totalling \$1.022 million were initiated by the Department with the goal of improving communications with rural communities throughout New Zealand. In many instances results exceeded expectations. Advocates were employed to work with rural communities on programmes that ranged from general awareness-raising on biodiversity issues to specific species or ecosystem recovery projects. The Department has been greatly

encouraged by the enthusiastic responses from the rural community, with conservancies reporting in most cases much improved communication, and considerable and ongoing support for the work being done as communities adopt conservation projects.

2. Urban conservation awareness. Ten urban projects (total budget \$587,000) were undertaken in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. The goal was to raise awareness of local conservation areas and cultivate enthusiasm for conservation work. Again, the outcomes have been encouraging.

The major focus of the urban conservation awareness projects was in Auckland. Several new partnership projects and improved communications with urban conservation groups, the Samoan and Chinese communities, local authorities and government agencies, have resulted. One notable project involved fostering relationships with Auckland's 50,000-strong Chinese community. Field visits, volunteer planting days, and public meetings to discuss conservation issues were well supported and attracted media attention. As well, the Department produced a brochure in Mandarin explaining Convention on International Trade and Endangered Species (CITES) regulations, and established a CITES hotline. The Department was actively involved with the Auckland Conservation forum, and met with the Auckland Regional Council and community groups to plan ways to improve communication and coordination of effort.

In Wellington, the new funding enabled alliances with groups not previously reached by community projects. Relationships forged with local authorities, research agencies and educators will carry through into year 2001/02 projects. A big increase in work with community groups and schools was achieved in Christchurch, including successful events such as World Wetlands Day in February. Progress was made in establishing the Godley Head Trust and schools' participation in 2001 Conservation Week was prepared.

3. Conservation education. Sixteen projects, funded with \$321,000, were designed to provide education resources specific to conservation sites around the country, and kura kaupapa resources for Māori. These resources are linked to the school curriculum, and support the national Environmental Education Strategy. The original target of 100 sites was not met due to the late start of the programme. However, teacher resource kits were provided for about 50 sites and a number of teacher workshops were held to develop and trial the resources. Work will continue in the coming year. A number of resource kits were placed on the Department's website. A tender for the provision of a conservation education resource for Kura Kaupapa Māori was let in February. Māori educators and the Department are working together to produce outdoor and classroom activities which will be available in CD-ROM format and on the Internet through the Ministry of Education's Te Kete Ipurangi bilingual education website, as well as the Department's website.

4. Extranet. This e-Government project (funded at \$292,000) involved merging the Department's website with its internal Intranet. This allows Internet access to, and the ability to contribute to, conservation information and databases for other environmental managers, including landowners, iwi, research organisations, universities, schools and non-government organisations. A successful pilot of the new Extranet capability was run with Environment Waikato.

Conservation Awareness Evaluation

Independent research into the effectiveness and design of nine Conservation Awareness projects was carried out. The appropriateness of national and local performance measures was evaluated and simple and effective advocacy performance monitoring and evaluation tools were recommended.

Community Relations

The Department's community relations programmes aim to promote a conservation ethic, increase public opportunities to participate in conservation, and to work collaboratively with other groups to promote conservation outcomes. These goals are achieved through volunteer and public awareness programmes, national conservation events such as Conservation Week and Arbor Day, and a proactive relationship management programme with key stakeholders.

Conservation Volunteers

This year 10,271 conservation volunteers contributed 23,242 volunteer workdays, exceeding the target of 6,000 volunteers and 18,000 workdays. The number of volunteers this year marks a return to the high numbers of volunteers recorded in the late 1990s after the dip last year to 7,448 volunteers (20,051 workdays). This year being International Year of the Volunteer may have had a positive effect on numbers. The average time contributed by each volunteer this year fell slightly to 2.26 days, compared with 2.67 in 1999/00, and 2.57 in 1998/99.

Public Awareness Programmes

This year 338 public awareness programmes were undertaken, more than double the number of programmes run last year, with the increased profile for community awareness work being a contributing factor. These programmes aim at raising awareness of specific areas of the Department's work such as the Rakiura National Park proposal, freshwater advocacy, conservation management strategies, fire prevention, deer management, 1080 possum control and wilding pine eradication.

Conservation Events

Conservation Week, Sea Week, Arbor Day and World Wetlands Day are key high profile national conservation events run by the Department.

This year 260 activities were held across the country to mark these events. Conservation Week focused on the theme 'Enjoy Your Parks'.

Learnz Programme

The Learnz Programme, a Ministry of Education-funded on-line learning programme supported by the Department and the Royal Society of New Zealand, continues to be an important and respected vehicle for conservation education. During 2000 the programme, which is operated by the Christchurch-based Heurisko Ltd, ran features and 'virtual' field trips on the Department's Operation Nest Egg (kiwi recovery) programme, Tongariro World Heritage Park and the Karioi Rahui. In 2001 the site is running an 'Island Odyssey' theme with 'virtual' field trips and information about Tiritiri Matangi and Great Barrier Islands, and the Rotoiti Mainland Island project. The theme for 2002 is mountains. In August the site won the Telecommunications Users Association of New Zealand (TUANZ) award for the most innovative example of a telecommunications education product or application in primary or secondary schools.

Community Conservation Partnership Projects

The Department continued its partnership programmes involving businesses and the community. The Project Crimson charitable trust, sponsored by Carter Holt Harvey, celebrated its tenth anniversary during the year, having led a remarkable turnaround in the fortunes of the pohutukawa species in that time. The Kakapo Recovery Programme this year launched a website jointly developed by the Department, sponsor Comalco, and the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society. A highlight of the BNZ-sponsored Kiwi Recovery Programme's year was the first hatching of an Okarito brown kiwi egg artificially incubated by the Department of Conservation under Operation Nest Egg. The chick's father has the distinction of being the first captive bird to successfully pair up in the wild in Okarito. The Department is a strong supporter of the National Parks and Conservation Foundation, an independent charitable trust launched in February whose work will add value to the efforts of the Department, volunteers and other conservation and environmental groups. A partnership developed with the Youth Hostels Association has yielded two sponsorship projects: printed plastic rubbish bags for trampers to carry out rubbish, and a three-year sponsorship of the Young Conservationist Awards.

International Environmental Treaty responsibilities

Key Step 6 also covers the Government's responsibilities to the wider international community, in particular work carried out in relation to international conservation agreements to which New Zealand is a signatory. The Department is the administering agency for the World Heritage Convention, the Ramsar Wetlands Convention and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). It

also provides scientific and technical support to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade which administers a number of conservation agreements.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): New Zealand continues to provide constructive input into CBD processes, in particular its work on alien species management, a field in which New Zealand is a world leader. A Departmental official participated in a range of meetings and consultation processes and provided support to the CBD Secretariat. A New Zealand initiative on island biodiversity management, drawing on pioneering work by the Department, will be launched at the next conference of parties in April 2002. New Zealand was also prominent in discussions about how best to support implementation of the CBD in developing countries. Later in 2001 New Zealand will host an *ad hoc* technical expert group on marine protected areas at a meeting in Leigh, with a second meeting planned for 2002.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES): A change in the Trade in Endangered Species Order in May 2001 has brought the New Zealand Trade in Endangered Species Act species listings in line with recommendations from the convention of parties in 2000. As the Oceania representative on the Animals Committee, a Departmental official participated in the 16th Meeting of the Committee in Shepherdstown, Virginia in December 2000. He was also involved in the Working Group drafting new listing criteria for the Convention, and attended meetings in Canberra in August and Shepherdstown in December 2000 to assist with this work.

International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling: New Zealand is an important advocate for whale conservation on the International Whaling Commission (IWC). The Department has a support role as the provider of scientific and technical advice, in particular to the Commission's scientific committee. During the year officials provided scientific and technical support to New Zealand's Commissioner to the IWC, the Hon Jim McLay, at February's intersessional workshop in Monaco. In April support was provided to both the Commissioner and the Minister of Conservation at a regional workshop in Samoa to progress the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary proposal. Preparations were made for the IWC Scientific Committee meeting in London in July 2001, and for the 53rd annual Commission meeting later that month, which was attended by the Minister of Conservation.

Antarctic Treaty: This treaty promotes peaceful international scientific cooperation in Antarctica. The Department provided specialist advice to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade by participation in the Officials' Antarctic Committee and Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and the 'Incidental Seabird Mortality in Longline Fisheries' programme. Advice this year has principally related to Antarctic fisheries, tourism and its associated safety issues, and to minimising seabird bycatch.

Convention on Migratory Species: This convention, signed by the Government in 1999, came into force in October 2000. Thirteen of the 28 migratory species managed under the Convention are either endemic or native to New Zealand, underlining the importance of an international response to threats to their existence.

An important early milestone for this convention was the signing in June of an international agreement on the conservation of albatrosses and petrels. This legally binding international agreement aims to provide a coordinated international approach to protect migratory albatrosses and petrels from fishing practices, alien predators and loss of habitats. Overwhelming support from iwi and the fishing industry was a feature of the extensive consultation that was undertaken before the agreement was signed.

World Heritage Convention: Two large areas of National Park on the mainland of New Zealand and a significant area of New Zealand's sub-Antarctic Islands form New Zealand's three World Heritage sites. The mainland sites are Tongariro National Park in the North Island, and Te Wahipounamu – 6 million ha in the southwest of the South Island comprising four national parks and other areas of significant value. A workshop of World Heritage Site managers from South East Asia, Australia and the Pacific was held at Tongariro National Park in October. Case studies focused on how indigenous peoples can retain meaningful involvement in control and management of their heritage, an area in which New Zealand and the Department are regional leaders. One positive consequence from the workshop was the development of a partnership between Tongariro National Park and Australia's Uluru – Keta Tjuta National Park.

Ramsar Wetlands Convention: February's World Wetlands Day provided an important public focus for the International Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention). Activities organised by the Department were held around New Zealand highlighting the significance of wetlands. A report by the Office of the Controller and Auditor-General raised concerns about the implementation of this agreement in New Zealand. The report found that while New Zealand is generally meeting the specific obligations of the Convention, these measures have failed to arrest continuing wetlands degradation, or achieve the desired outcome of stemming progressive encroachment on and loss of wetlands now and in the future. Officials from the Department, Ministry for the Environment and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade are studying the report and will consider steps necessary to address the issues raised.

Australia New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC): ANZECC provides a forum for information exchange and sharing of expertise between the two countries. The Director-General and Departmental officials supported the Ministers of Conservation and the Environment at four meetings of ANZECC during the year. The

Department is participating in an ANZECC task force on wetlands and migratory shorebirds, work which ties in with its Ramsar and Migratory Species Convention responsibilities, and its membership of other taskforces and working groups.

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP): The Department continued to provide advice to SPREP on species recovery programmes, and animal and weed pest control. It has also helped develop SPREP's next three-year strategic plan, which is due to be finalised in September 2001.

Bilateral Cooperation with Argentina: The Department and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade hosted a training programme for two senior officials from Argentina's National Parks service.

The World Conservation Union (IUCN): The Department was represented at the triennial congress meeting, held in Jordan in October 2001. The key outcome of this meeting was the development of a four-year work programme for the whole Union, the first time this has been attempted. The programme will lead to more focused and concerted action on the part of the Union and its members.

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA): In May, the Director-General chaired sessions at the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas Leadership forum in Spain. This forum of senior managers of major national agencies for conservation management provided an opportunity to share experience of major conservation issues and to develop themes for the fifth WCPA congress in Durban in 2003.

KEY STEP 6: PROMOTE EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH TANGATA WHENUA

Maintaining and enhancing partnerships with tangata whenua is core to the Department's work, and is an activity that is continually evolving. Priority has been given to building and supporting effective partnerships between conservancies and iwi. To achieve this the Department has devoted considerable time in the past few years to developing strategic policies, staff training and forming conservation partnership agreements with iwi.

National Priority Outcomes

- i. We give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in our work.
- ii. Partnerships between the Department and tangata whenua achieve enhanced conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic heritage.
- iii. Tangata whenua are able to maintain their cultural relationship with their natural and historic heritage in areas held or managed by the Department

Ngā Akiakitanga Nuka Kaupapa Māori (Kaupapa Māori strategic conservation policy initiatives)

This year the Department initiated consultation with tangata whenua and other stakeholders on its Kaupapa Māori strategic conservation policy initiatives. The objective is to develop policies that will better enable the Department to meet its statutory obligations to tangata whenua under Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987. These policies are written to address the recurring concerns of tangata whenua based on widespread discussions with them through the past decade. On the basis of these messages, the Department has drafted four policy papers:

- **Giving effect to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in the work of the Department.** This paper examines Departmental responsibilities to interpret and administer conservation legislation to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and how they may be implemented.
- **Customary uses of natural resources, according to kaitiakitanga, wise conservation and conservation legislation.** The New Zealand Conservation Authority consulted widely on the issue of customary use in the 1990s and made recommendations, which the Department is addressing. The draft strategic position statement on the customary uses of natural resources indicates the path the Department proposes to follow.
- **Waahi tapu policy guidelines.** This draft policy aims to provide guidance for the management of waahi tapu areas administered by the Department. These are based on the results of earlier consultation and again, with reference to the draft 'Giving effect to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in the work of the Department'.

- **Te kete taonga whakakotahi – a conservation partnerships toolkit.** This kete identifies a range of mechanisms designed to enable the Department and tangata whenua to build conservation management partnerships.

Tangata whenua, NGOs and conservation boards are considering these papers during a consultation phase that will end in June 2002. After this, the Department's Kaupapa Atawhai strategy will be reviewed to take account of comments on the policy papers. The strategy, implemented in 1997, remains current but will be supplemented, informed and updated by these draft policies.

Te Pukenga Atawhai

Staff training in Māori perspectives is a necessary part of building effective relationships with tangata whenua. Since its introduction in late 1999, 767 staff have participated in the Department's Te Pukenga Atawhai training programme. The balance are expected to complete the course over the next two to three years. Te Pukenga Atawhai prepares staff for interaction with Māori by improving understanding of Māori beliefs and values, systems and structures, and gaining an understanding of the Māori approach to the Treaty of Waitangi. Conservancy Kaupapa Atawhai Managers teach the programme primarily on marae, with important contributions from elders. Kaupapa Atawhai Managers report that staff feel better equipped to carry out their work. As a model for staff development, the Te Pukenga Atawhai programme continues to attract the interest of other government agencies.

The Department is now developing an assessment model for Te Pukenga Atawhai based on national unit standards. Consultation is continuing with the Public Sector Training Organisation to find a suitable assessment model.

Building Partnerships at Conservancy Level

A major focus of Conservancy work this year has been on building and recognising partnerships with tangata whenua that are appropriate to local circumstances and are based on good faith, cooperation and respect. Conservancies seek to negotiate and implement protocols and agreements that will support these partnerships, and to work cooperatively with tangata whenua to achieve conservation outcomes following consultation processes.

The nature of partnership arrangements varies from formal to informal, according to local circumstances. 'Co-operative conservation management' thus can involve a number of different arrangements involving different levels of participation – from written partnership agreements (like the Ngatiwai Whale Stranding Protocol operating in Northland/Auckland) to unwritten arrangements based on common understandings. Some highlights from the year include the signing of a

memorandum of agreement between Bay of Plenty Conservancy and Ngati Awa under the Conservancy's 'Charters of Partnership' Programme (described in more detail below). Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy led a process that will lead to the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Te Tau Ihu (comprising the eight northern South Island iwi) and most Nelson-based Crown agencies. In Otago Conservancy a memorandum of understanding was signed with Papatipu Runanga and Te Runanga O Ngai Tahu for a species relocation/co-management initiative in the Wanaka area.

Implementation of the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act continues to progress well. Kaitiaki roopu groups established under the Act meet regularly in Southland, Otago, West Coast and Canterbury. Southland's Kaitiaki Roopu iwi liaison group (four representatives from Southland Kai Tahu runaka and two iwi members of the Southland Conservation Board) meets monthly with the Southland Conservator, senior managers and staff. In the past year consultations have been carried out on the establishment of Rakiura National Park, formal Conservation Management Strategies, joint projects for the eradication of pests and the re-establishment of biodiversity on iwi-owned titi islands.

Charters of Partnership Programme

In Bay of Plenty, where there are 30 iwi with interests in areas managed by the Department, the Bay of Plenty Conservancy has embarked on a 'Charters of Partnership' programme. The purpose is the formalisation of relationships between the Bay of Plenty Conservancy and tangata whenua. The concept, (although not a component of statute) is a form of memorandum of agreement, which was developed through the Conservation Management Strategy. Last year the Department made presentations on the charter programme to a number of Bay of Plenty iwi. The first charter was signed in June with Ngati Awa, who have been involved in several conservation projects including initiatives involving Moutohora (Whale Island). Several more charters are expected to be concluded early in the 2001/02 year.

Nga Whenua Rahui and Matauranga Kura Taiao Fund

This year the Department continued to support and strengthen the work of these two funds. A five year strategic plan was developed, from which the Nga Whenua Rahui Committee will assess progress, achievements, further work and future resourcing requirements. The Nga Whenua Rahui Fund has made significant progress with voluntary protection of indigenous ecosystems on Māori-owned land. This has led to the Nga Whenua Rahui Committee being given responsibility for administering the new Matauranga Kura Taiao Fund. The work of the two Funds is discussed under Key Step 1.

Treaty of Waitangi

Progress in the settlement of Treaty of Waitangi claims has allowed the Department and tangata whenua to move closer together in managing New Zealand's natural and cultural heritage. The Department provides advice to the Government on conservation matters, and is usually a member of the Crown Treaty settlement negotiating teams.

Milestones this year included the passage of the Pouakani Claims Settlement Act 2000 which gives effect to the settlement of the claim by the Pouakani people over a large block of land situated to the north-west of Lake Taupo. The block contains part of the existing Pureora Forest Park. The Deed of Settlement includes a number of instruments to set in place a cooperative relationship between the Department and Pouakani, including a joint statement of aspirations over Mt Titiraupenga, and a Memorandum of Understanding between the Minister of Conservation and Pouakani.

The Crown signed final deeds of settlement with Ngati Ruanui of South Taranaki in May, and in October 2000 with Te Uri o Hau, a large hapu of Ngati Whatua from northern Kaipara. Both involved the return of small areas of conservation land containing sites of significance to Māori, mechanisms to formalising cooperative relationships with the Department, and measures to ensure the maintenance of public access and conservation values.

In the Bay of Plenty, negotiations with Ngati Awa and Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau continued towards deeds of settlement. The Crown made a formal offer to the Te Arawa Māori Trust Board, which addresses claims over 14 lakes in the Rotorua area.

Positive progress toward a final settlement has been made in negotiations with Ngati Tama of North Taranaki. In South Taranaki, negotiations with Nga Rauru have commenced.

KEY STEP 7: IMPROVE OUR CAPABILITY

Under this key step the Department aims to improve its systems analysis, national strategies, and measurement and reporting, in order to improve its prioritising and decisionmaking. Priority is placed on reinforcing values and leadership style, and enhancing staff skills and learning to improve conservation management.

STEWARDSHIP OF THE AREAS AND RESOURCES IN OUR CARE

The Department has three goals aimed at improving the stewardship of the areas and resources it manages:

- i. We manage conservation areas and resources as public assets efficiently and effectively, add value to them, and make them accessible for the benefit of the community.
- ii. The public has confidence in our stewardship of conservation areas and resources.
- iii. The level of achievement of conservation outcomes increases.

Decision-Support Framework and Ecological Management

The Department is developing a decision-support framework to provide a consistent and integrated approach to prioritising and management within the Department. Considerable progress has been made on this, and some of that work is reflected in the national priority outcomes and strategic directions within the Statement of Intent.

Having completed general work on the overall framework, focus this year was turned to the ecological management aspects of the framework. This is a particularly important and difficult area, and is being used both to provide immediate improvements in our ability to carry out integrated ecological management, and also to pilot the more detailed aspects of the decision-support framework model. A set of draft concepts and principles for ecological management was completed, and is being further developed and tested. In the next period, the focus will be on two aspects of the work: improving integrated national guidance across the whole of the Department's business, and developing systems for identifying site outcomes.

Measuring Conservation Achievement

Work continued this year trialling the Measuring Conservation Achievement (MCA) model developed in 1999 by the Department's Science and Research Unit. This theoretical model is designed to formulate a decisionmaking procedure that would allow the Department to prioritise its conservation management activities so that, among the many competing demands, effort is directed to those areas that have the greatest overall benefit to New Zealand's natural heritage.

After trialling the model in the Twizel Area during 1999/00, the Department began a second more detailed field trial of the model in the Maniapoto Area of Waikato Conservancy, in September 2000. This trial is due to be completed in 2001.

The Department will progressively test both the theoretical MCA model, and its application to conservation management, over coming years. If it proves practical, the Department will look to progressively implement this approach throughout its conservation management activities.

STAFF CAPABILITY

Four goals guide the Department's commitment to improving staff capability:

- i. Our staff have the capability to work effectively, now and in the future.
- ii. Our staff work as a cohesive and skilled team and are supported by good organisational systems.
- iii. The diversity of our staff meets our operational requirements and reflects the community we serve.
- iv. We demonstrate our commitment to the Department's People Plan vision that *staff who are valued, challenged and fulfilled achieve conservation results*.

The Department's most important asset in terms of capability is its staff. The Department is the sixth biggest employer within the New Zealand public service. Its operational bases are spread around the country in over 60 locations to provide geographically focused management of the public land entrusted to it.

Performance Management

The primary focus in performance management is to enhance people management. Significant progress was made this year with the implementation of the Leadership Foundations training course for managers (see Staff Skills below), and with the revision of the Planning and Performance Review system.

Management/Union Partnership

The Department has a three-year collective employment contract (CEC) in place that expires on 30 June 2003. Prior to settlement of the CEC a Management/Union Partnership Agreement was signed in September 1999 between the Department and PSA and the Amalgamated Workers Union of New Zealand (AWUNZ). Implementing this partnership agreement has continued during this financial year with the establishment of local forums between management and staff through their union delegates, training courses for delegates run by the unions and involvement of union delegates in a variety of projects being undertaken within the Department. Representatives from both management and unions have met four times this year to discuss issues

at a national level. The National Partnership Forum recommended a Reward Budget for 2001/02, a new salary review process, and process for interpretation of the CEC. There is ongoing work relating to anomalies in the banding system, allowances and diversity within the workforce.

Staff Skills

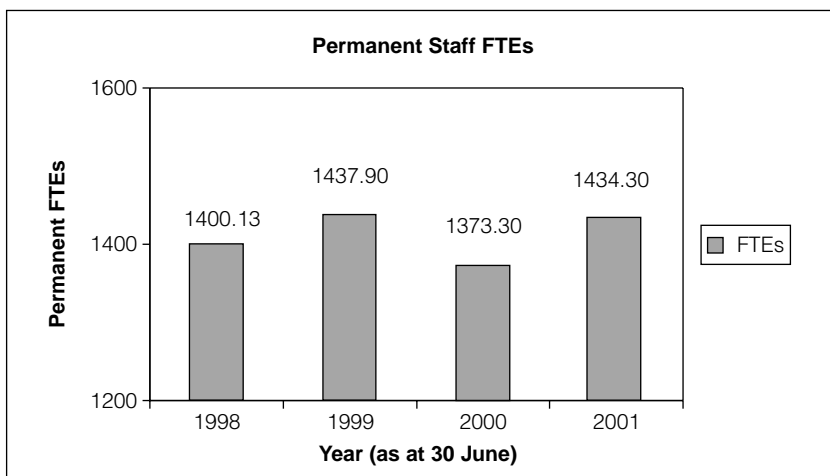
The Department runs five core national training programmes. These are Ecological Management Training, Te Pukenga Atawhai, Leadership Foundations, Health and Safety, and People Matter. Staff also receive training specific to their job requirements.

There have been 16 Leadership Foundations Workshops on managing staff performance with 148 of the identified 158 managers having completed the workshop. This year 439 people attended Te Pukenga Atawhai training, bringing total attendees to 767 since August 1999 when the programme started. 103 people attended the People Matter course in the 2000/01 year and 72 people completed the Ecological Management Training course .

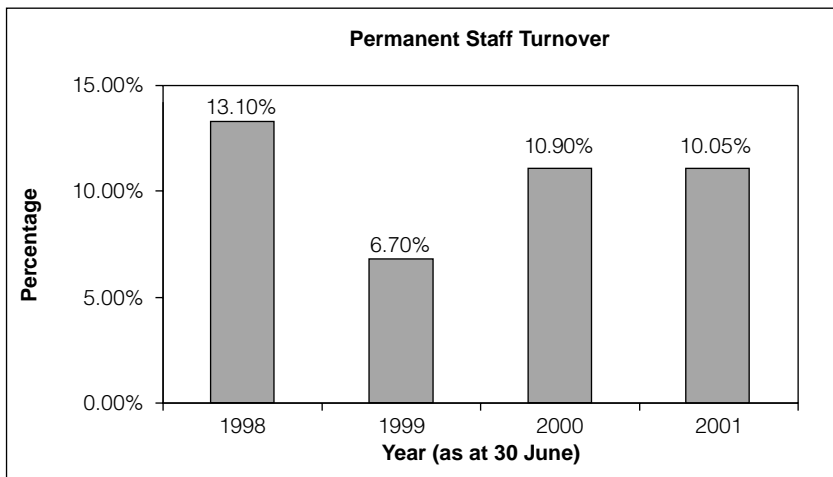
The National Certificate in Conservation (trainee ranger programme) now has its third intake of students. To date, the Department has offered 15 graduates two-year trainee positions throughout the country. Of those trainees, two are Māori and six are women. This course will help ensure that fresh ideas and energy are injected into the Department, and that rangers have the skills and talent appropriate to the important jobs they perform.

Staff Statistics

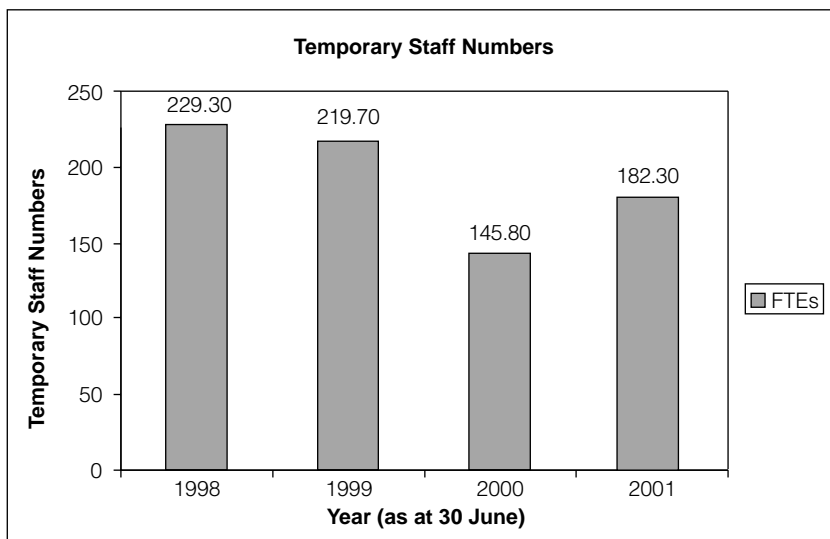
The Department employed 1,434 permanent full-time equivalent staff (FTEs) as at 30 June 2001. This represents an increase of 4.4% on the year to 30 June 2000.



During the year to 30 June 2001, turnover of permanent staff was 10.05% compared with 10.9% for the previous year.



Typically, the Department employs over 400 temporary staff in the peak summer season. Temporary staff numbers increase significantly in summer to raise capacity for handling the increased visitor numbers to public land managed by the Department, and to undertake seasonal work. For the 2000/01 year temporary staff numbers peaked at 504.5 in summer. In winter the numbers of temporary staff are lower.



Staff Diversity

The Department is committed to attracting, developing and retaining a diverse workforce. The People Diversity Strategy provides the context, business rationale and an outline of the work that needs to be undertaken to achieve this. While some of the work will result in changes to HR procedures, much of the change needed is in developing a more inclusive working environment for those staff not part of the dominant group. To achieve this a leadership programme has been put in place, which will see all managers being clearer about what behaviour is acceptable of them and of others, and what behaviour is not acceptable. The focus on removing unacceptable behaviours will change the Department's culture so that it becomes more inclusive for all staff. It is expected that the results of this effort will emerge over the next 3–5 years.

Equal Employment Opportunities Targets

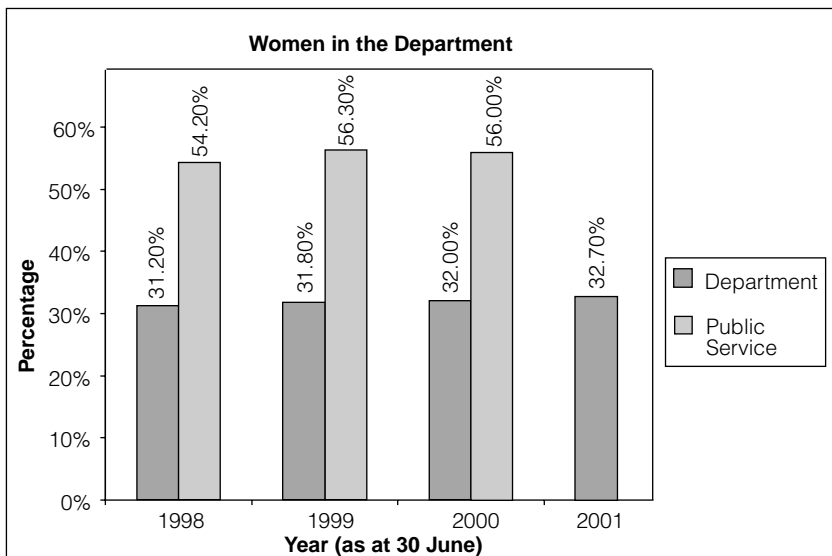
In line with Government policy, EEO targets for 2010 were set by the Department in July 2000.

EEO TARGETS TO 2010

Category	Statistics	Statistics at	Targets	Milestones
	30 June 2000	30 June 2001	to 2010	to 2005
Women	32%	32.7%	40%	35%
Māori	10%	10.1%	18%	13%
Pacific Island Peoples	0.4%	0.50%	1%	0.6%
People with Disabilities	5.5%	4.35%	10%	7.5%

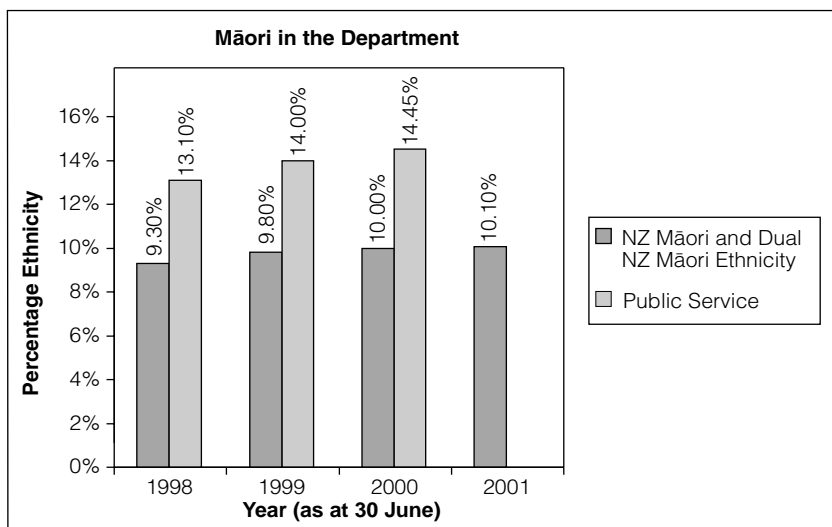
Women in the Department's Workforce

Women constituted nearly a third (32.7%) of the Department's permanent and temporary workforce as at 30 June 2001. While this figure is well below the public service average, the long-term trends are more positive with the percentage of women in the Department on an increasing trend since 1995. As part of a wider People Diversity programme of work, the barriers to the participation of women in the Department are being identified through a series of focus groups. Strategies are being developed to remove these barriers.



Māori in the Department's Workforce

Employees with New Zealand Māori or dual New Zealand Māori ethnicity constituted 10.1% of the Department's permanent and temporary workforce as at 30 June 2001. While this figure is below the public service average, the long-term trends are more positive with the percentage of Māori in the Department slowly increasing. As part of a wider People Diversity programme of work, the barriers to the participation of Māori in the Department are being identified through a series of hui and strategies are currently being developed to remove these barriers.



KNOWING WHAT TO CONSERVE AND HOW

Successful conservation management relies on good information. The Statement of Intent established three goals for this aspect of the Department's work:

- i. The Department has improved knowledge and technical capability to support improved conservation outcomes.
- ii. The Department has improved planning and decisionmaking based on the best available conceptual frameworks, strategies, science, technology, research and technology advice.
- iii. The Department manages conservation information efficiently and effectively so that knowledge is used and shared to achieve the maximum benefit.

Information Assets

Three years ago the Department embarked on a five-year overhaul of its information systems management – a process guided by an Information Systems Strategic Plan (ISSP). A review of the ISSP was carried out this year to ensure alignment with the Statement of Intent. The new publication – *Managing Information* – outlines the way forward for managing information and technology for the next five years.

Computer Network

This project involves the upgrade and extension of the Department's computer network. During the year the speed and performance of the system was increased, and the document management exchange system, which provides staff with access to all documents, was further streamlined. The Intranet is a key tool for keeping staff informed and a gateway to a range of data and services.

Information Resource Centre

The Information Resource Centre now provides its services through the Department's Intranet. A comprehensive range of library and records management services are provided. These include the Department's library catalogue, daily news scans of national and regional news items, links to other national and international library catalogues, access to relevant recognised scientific journals and abstracts, and images from the audio-visual collection.

Databases

There are several current or proposed systems and related databases to support the management of natural, visitor and historic assets, fencing and community relations. Long term the goal is to integrate these systems and databases so that information is made readily available to staff and the public. Integration of data offers significant benefits for the management of conservation assets. The ability to see all the assets and impacts at any given location and monitor their interaction over

time allows the Department to prioritise, balance and measure both the efficiency and effectiveness of the conservation management actions undertaken, in ways that would not otherwise be possible.

The Department has moved steadily towards database integration, and work this year will enable the integration of the visitor and historic asset databases in 2001/02. The Bioweb, a system of national biological databases (deployed in 1999/00 with a weeds database), was further extended this year to include threatened plants. The system is designed so that staff can enter information from anywhere in the country. Fully functioning, the Bioweb databases will contain the entire range of plants and animals the Department works with.

Biodiversity Information Platform Project

The goal of this project is to overlay the information held in the Department's national databases such as the Bioweb and visitor and historic asset databases onto maps containing geographical and other spatial information. This project supports two key strategies: firstly, ensuring all staff have access to appropriate spatial information to do their job; and secondly, to address the lack of awareness of and accessibility to information about terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity in order to halt the decline in New Zealand's biodiversity.

Development work on this project was carried out at conservancy and national levels during the year in preparation for a pilot in Bay of Plenty Conservancy planned for August 2001. Through the Intranet, staff will be able to select maps that contain features such as roads and tracks and read this information in combination with layers that display land cover or land resource inventory information. Users will be able to identify information on the map, perform database and graphical queries, and determine what information will be displayed by turning map layers on and off.

Field Radio Upgrade

In June 2001 the Department signed a five-year supply agreement with Tait Communications for the supply of equipment to upgrade its field radio network. This project covers the upgrading and expansion of the remaining 70% of the Department's out of date national VHF network, which doesn't currently meet its radio network needs. The new network will allow telephone contact with staff in the field via radio. Benefits include improved safety for staff working in remote or dangerous locations, and improved coordination during firefighting operations. Compatibility with other emergency services, for example with Police during search and rescue operations, will also be enhanced by the upgrade.

WORKING WITH OTHERS

The Department aims to work more closely with the people of New Zealand in achieving conservation objectives.

Public Opinion

The Department gauges public perceptions of its performance through participation in a monthly 'omnibus' public opinion poll. Last year, the average monthly favourability rating was 74.5%, an increase on the previous year's average favourability rating of 73%.

Target Twenty Programme

The Department has continued its programme of proactive stakeholder relationship management. Its relationship management programme involves prioritising twenty strategically important relationships ('Target Twenty') for which a structured programme of regular liaison is maintained throughout the year. A national programme was implemented in 1999/00, and this has been followed up by conservancies which this year instituted and began actively managing Target Twenty programmes for key organisations in their areas. In this way contact is maintained with associates through all levels of the Department.

The external relationships capability continues to be reinforced by the network of Kaupapa Atawhai Managers who have established strong links with iwi throughout the country (see also Key Step 6).

MEASURING AND REPORTING

The Department recognises the need to measure and report better on what it is doing, and how well it is doing it. Measurement of public sector performance is now moving beyond outputs and into areas of outcomes, capabilities and value delivered. The Department needs a performance measurement and reporting system that will:

- Support good judgement and decisionmaking at all levels, enabling a lift in organisational performance; and
- Report on value delivered and outcomes, enabling effective communication with external agencies and staff so that performance is demonstrated to all stakeholders.

Management for Performance Project

This year the Director-General established the Management for Performance project team which was asked to design a new system framework that will provide better conservation and personal performance information. This will improve the way managers manage staff and conservation, and will help the Department better meet its external reporting requirements.

The project team began work in February 2001 and will have completed the design of a new performance measurement and reporting framework

by August 2001. The framework will then be implemented in time for and during the 2002/03 financial year. Advice was taken from a steering group comprising the general managers and the Director-General, and further feedback and comment was provided by a peer review team and a group of external advisers from key public sector agencies.

The new framework is expected to include a streamlined Output Class and Key Output structure aligned with our Statement of Intent. The performance reporting for the 2002/03 financial year will provide measures of performance against the output targets that are linked to indicators of performance against the outcome and strategy statements in the Statement of Intent.

LEADERSHIP AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Corporate governance comprises stewardship, leadership and control. The Department has a framework for corporate governance founded on the models prescribed in the 1997 restructuring. The framework was established by the Director-General to ensure the Department's stakeholders, owners and users have assurance that the Department is fulfilling its responsibilities with due diligence and accountability.

The General Management Team (GMT) provides the Director-General with integrated advice and is structured so that general managers can exercise their accountabilities with the support and confidence of their colleagues. The GMT, which meets fortnightly, is not a decisionmaking body. The accountability framework makes it clear that in the Department of Conservation, accountable managers make decisions and management teams exist to provide formal opportunities for decisionmakers to seek and receive sound and appropriate advice.

The GMT has one sub-committee, which deals with resource allocation. This committee consists of the three Regional General Managers and the General Manager Business Management and General Manager Conservation Policy.

The Department's organisation has been designed using Stratified Systems Theory to group roles according to complexity of work. The organisational tiers match different strata from one to five. The Department has structure separated into tiers which enables focus on different activities:

- Head office on developing strategy (Stratum IV & V);
- Regional offices on developing the major improvement processes (standard operating procedures) needed to realise the strategy (Stratum IV & III);
- Conservancy offices on sustaining and supporting the operational base on which improvements are made (Stratum III & II); and
- Area offices and associated work sites on actual delivery of conservation outputs in the field (Stratum II & I).

The Director-General operates the Audit and Risk Management Committee, which comprises both internal and external representatives. This committee provides the Director-General with assistance in the control domain of corporate governance, primarily focusing on internal controls, financial control, health and safety, legislative compliance and risk management.

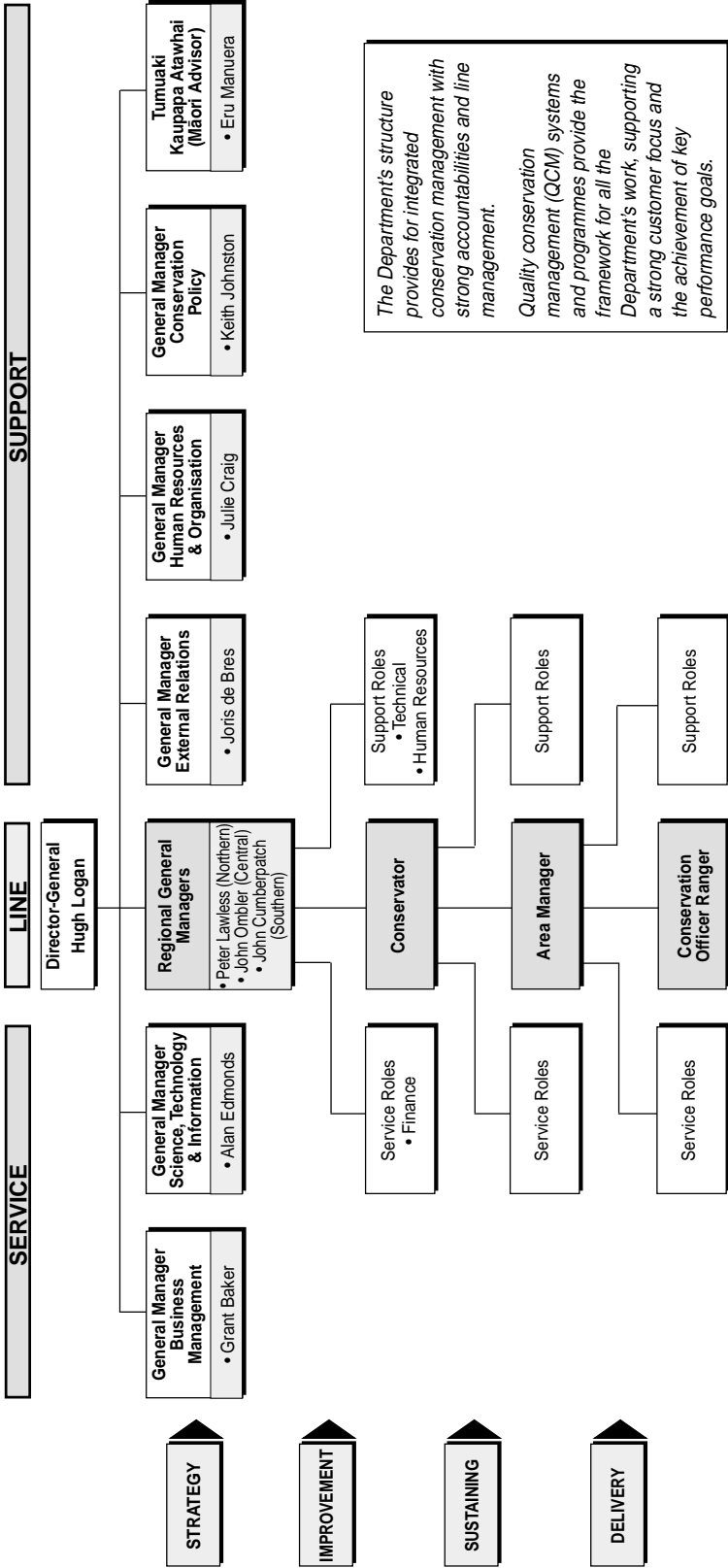
Leadership in the Department is supported by the leadership behaviours identified by the GMT and included as part of the Leadership Foundations Course, which all managers in the Department attend. The leadership style includes openness and integrity, responsibility and growth, communication vision, walk the talk and recognising contributions.

Internal Reviews

Reviews were carried out this year on the following areas:

- Concessions' Management
- Visitor Information
- Management for Performance
- Capability
- People Diversity
- Information Technology.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION – ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



The Department's structure provides for integrated conservation management with strong accountabilities and line management.

Quality conservation management (QCM) systems and programmes provide the framework for all the Department's work, supporting a strong customer focus and the achievement of key performance goals.

REPLACEMENT COST OF DEPARTMENTAL FIXED ASSETS

When the Department's Statement of Financial Position was constructed in 1989, a significant number of fixed assets, including visitor assets, were not accounted for on the Department's books. As a consequence, there has not been adequate cash generated (from depreciation) for the replacement of these assets, and maintenance has been deferred as a cost-saving measure.

In order to comply with the requirements of a new financial reporting standard issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants (FRS-3: *Accounting for Plant, Property, and Equipment*) the Department will need to account fully for its assets. FRS-3 comes into force for accounting periods ending on or after 31 March 2002.

It will require full disclosure of all of the Department's fixed assets at depreciated replacement cost.

The estimated replacement cost of unrecorded or undervalued assets is \$500 million, compared to the gross carrying value of \$91 million currently recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Unrecorded and undervalued assets other than visitor assets

An unrecorded asset in respect of Mount Cook Village infrastructure has an estimated replacement cost of \$10 million. Other assets not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position are estimated to have a replacement cost of \$3 million.

There is an additional estimated \$10–21 million difference between the gross carrying value and the replacement cost of assets that are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Visitor assets

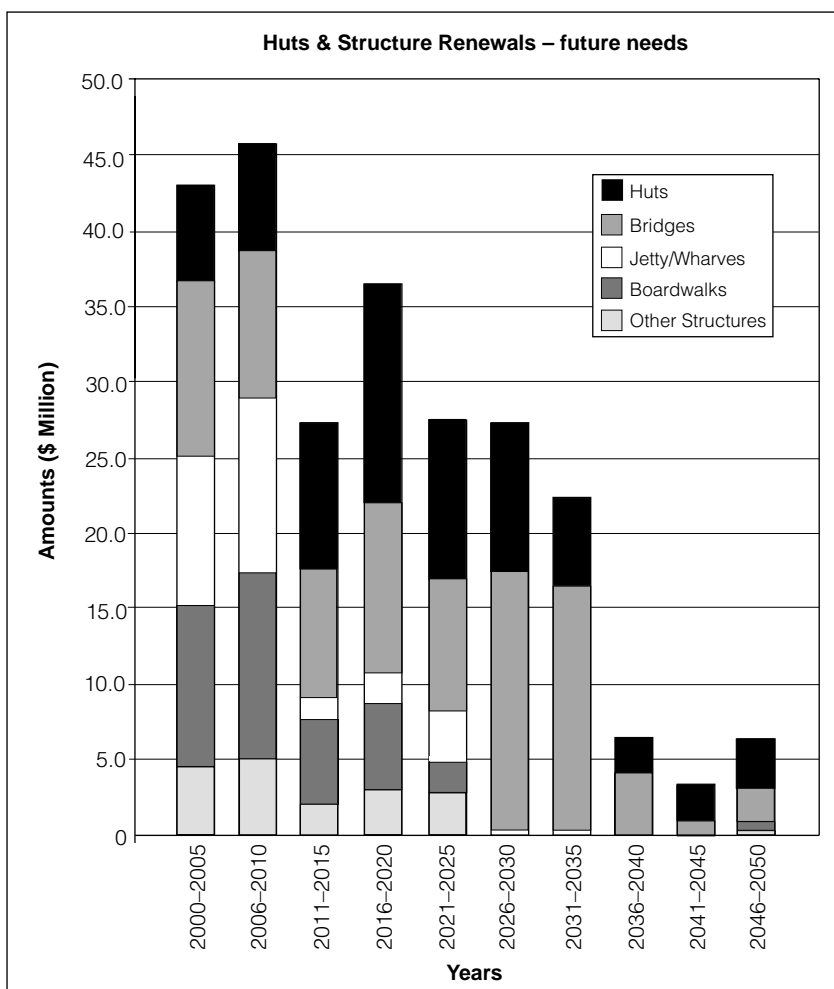
In 1996, the Department started a national programme of inspection and assessment to identify and quantify all the recreational assets for which it is responsible. This process has been completed for huts, tracks, structures and signs, and is partially completed for roads, campsites, and amenity areas. It will be an ongoing process for some years, as land from Timberlands on the West Coast, and the South Island High Country Tenure Review is added to the Department's estate. In these places the associated recreation assets (e.g. roads, tracks, musterers huts etc) will also have to be added to the Department's books. The conservative replacement cost of the known recreational facilities, based on the Department's survey work to date, is summarised below:

	\$ million
Structures	173
Huts	73
Tracks (some components only)	55
Roads	33

Carparks	15
Toilets (excluding hut toilets)	11
Miscellaneous visitor buildings	11
Booked accommodation	8
Signs	8
Amenity area assets (excluding toilets)	2
Total	389

This compares to a gross carrying value in the Statement of Financial Position of \$15 million.

The following chart shows the replacement schedule of structures and huts (first two items above) over the next 50 years.



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

During the year rental reviews carried out at Whangarei, Rotorua and Queenstown offices resulted in moderate rental increases. The new leased accommodation costs for the Science Centre and Central Regional Office, which included a fit-out, are less than the previous year's rental costs. The Department has no vacant owned or leased office accommodation.

Overall average gross rental costs continue to remain above the market average due to the head office (40% of total) lease being well above the market rate. The rental rate for head office is held by a ratchet clause condition in the lease document.

The statistics for the year are as follows:

Leased Accommodation

Total gross rental per annum	\$3,811,597
Total floor area leased	23,603 sq m
Number of car parks	161
Number of staff accommodated*	990
Average cost of lease space per sq m	\$161.49
Average space per person	23.84 sq m
Cost of space per person	\$3,850.10

Owned Accommodation

Area	1616 sq m
Car parks	36
Number of staff	47
Average space per person	34.38 sq m

* The remaining staff are primarily field staff who are not accommodated in Department offices.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

In terms of sections 35 and 37 of the Public Finance Act 1989, I am responsible, as Director-General of the Department of Conservation, for the preparation of the Department's financial statements and the judgements made in the process of producing those statements.

I have the responsibility for establishing and maintaining, and I have established and maintained a system of internal control procedures that provide reasonable assurances as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting.

In my opinion, these financial statements fairly reflect the financial position and operations of the Department of Conservation for the year ended 30 June 2001.



Hugh Logan

Director-General
of Conservation

Countersigned by



Grant Baker

General Manager
Business Management

**Audit New Zealand**

REPORT OF THE AUDIT OFFICE

TO THE READERS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

We have audited the financial statements on pages 63 to 158. The financial statements provide information about the past financial and service performance of the Department of Conservation and its financial position as at 30 June 2001. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 136 to 139.

Responsibilities of the Director-General

The Public Finance Act 1989 requires the Director-General to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice which fairly reflect the financial position of the Department of Conservation as at 30 June 2001, the results of its operations and cash flows and the service performance achievements for the year ended 30 June 2001.

Auditor's Responsibilities

Section 38(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989 requires the Audit Office to audit the financial statements presented by the Director-General. It is the responsibility of the Audit Office to express an independent opinion on the financial statements and report its opinion to you.

The Controller and Auditor-General has appointed E M Mason, of Audit New Zealand, to undertake the audit.

Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- the significant estimates and judgements made by the Director-General in the preparation of the financial statements; and
- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Department of Conservation's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, including the Auditing Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we

considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

We have carried out other assurance related assignments for the Department of Conservation.

Other than these assignments, and in our capacity as auditor acting on behalf of the Controller and Auditor-General, we have no relationship with or interests in the Department of Conservation.

Unqualified opinion

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion the financial statements of the Department of Conservation on pages 63 to 158:

- comply with generally accepted accounting practice; and
- fairly reflect:
 - the financial position as at 30 June 2001;
 - the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
 - the service performance achievements in relation to the performance targets and other measures set out in the forecast financial statements for the year ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 28 September 2001 and our unqualified opinion is expressed as at that date.



E M Mason
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Controller and Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

AND

SERVICE PERFORMANCE

A: VOTE CONSERVATION OUTPUT CLASSES

D1 – POLICY ADVICE AND MINISTERIAL SERVICING

Description

This class of outputs covers the provision of policy advice to the Minister of Conservation on specific reviews of legislation or specific Government policies affecting conservation, including legislative reviews or policy initiatives involving other government departments or agencies, and/or managed by Ministers other than the Minister of Conservation. It also covers major internal Departmental policy initiatives that contribute to a number of outputs or output classes.

This output class also covers the provision of policy advice relating to implementation of section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987, participation in negotiations of Treaty of Waitangi settlements, Waitangi Tribunal hearings and inter-departmental meetings, and management of operational relationships with tangata whenua. Implementation and monitoring of the Department's Kaupapa Atawhai Strategy, Kupenga Atawhai and achievement of related goals in the Department's Strategic Business Plan are also now included in this output class. Implementation of Treaty of Waitangi settlements is covered under Output Class 6.

It also covers the provision of a correspondence reply, coordinating and information service to the Minister of Conservation, and a coordination and editing service to the Department in relation to the production of its accountability documents.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" by:

- Providing high quality and appropriate advice on legislation and policy initiatives affecting conservation.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- participating in the negotiations of Treaty of Waitangi settlements and fostering relationships with Māori.

All other Government Key Goals and desired outcomes are also taken into consideration when developing policy initiatives and legislation and providing advice.

OUTPUT 1.01: POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

Overview

This output covers the provision of strategic policy, legislative review and advice to Ministers and the Director-General of Conservation about current or proposed Government policies or legislation that affect the Conservation portfolio.

Performance

Policy

Projected Performance

- By 31 December 2000, a review of the Department's Strategic Business Plan will be completed.
- By 30 June 2001, a draft review will be completed to align the Department's historic heritage, public awareness and kaupapa atawhai strategies with the revised Strategic Business Plan.
- By 30 June 2001, policies and associated tools will be developed to support managers to achieve greater integration and improved prioritisation of the Department's actions.

Performance Achieved

The Department reviewed the Strategic Business Plan. On 2 October 2000 strategic directions were released to guide business planning in the 2001/02 financial year. This work formed the basis of the Department's *Statement of Intent* 2001-2004, which replaced the Department's Strategic Business Plan, and was included in its forecast to Parliament for 2001.

The Department's Historic Heritage Strategy was developed to draft stage following internal consultation in May 2001. Strategy completion will be achieved after external consultation.

The Public Awareness Strategy, renamed the Conservation with Communities Strategy, is programmed for completion by 30 June 2002.

The Kaupapa Atawhai Strategy is programmed for review following consultation on the framework for cooperative conservation management and the waahi tapu policy guidelines.

Policies and tools to support greater integration and improved prioritisation of the Department's actions were developed to a first stage for the Statement of Intent 2001-2004. Work on the ecological management component of this project will be completed as a guide for the business planning round in late 2001.

Projected Performance

- Coordination mechanisms for implementing the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy will be established, and support will be provided to the Chief Executives' group and the Ad Hoc Ministerial group with responsibilities for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the strategy.
- Policy advice will be provided in support of the Ministerial Advisory Committee established to consider ways to sustain indigenous biodiversity affected by private land management, and to help implement Government decisions on the advisory committee's final recommendations.
- Policy advice will be provided to assist in the preparation of an Oceans Policy for New Zealand.
- By 30 June 2001, a cooperative conservation management framework to support and guide more effective engagement with Māori on conservation management issues will be developed.

Performance Achieved

Coordination mechanisms for implementing the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (NZBS) were established. Central government coordination of the NZBS-funded programmes was achieved through the Chief Executives and Ministerial groups. These groups were serviced by the Department and a Biodiversity Officials group.

A system for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on NZBS-funded programmes was established.

(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

Policy advice was provided in support of the Ministerial Advisory Committee established to consider ways to sustain indigenous biodiversity affected by private land management. The Government decisions on the advisory committee's final recommendations are now being implemented, with the Department working with the Ministry for the Environment on the development of a national policy statement on biodiversity, setting up funds for improving the condition of biodiversity, and enhancing capacity in local government.

(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

The Department has provided policy advice to assist in the preparation of an Oceans Policy, and has supported the establishment of the Ministerial Advisory Committee to advise policy development.

(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

Ngā Akiakitanga Nuka Kaupapa Māori a Te Papa Atawhai, a cooperative conservation management framework to support and guide more effective engagement with Māori on conservation management issues, has been developed to draft policy stage. Consultation on the draft framework will occur in the 2001/02 financial year.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A high level, indicative strategy for the long-term management of visitor assets will be developed with progress on this work reported to Cabinet by 30 September 2000. 	<p>The Minister has provided a progress report to Cabinet on options for the long-term management of visitor assets. The Department will report back to Cabinet in August 2001 on options and long-term costs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2001, a review of the coastal regime provisions under the Resource Management Act 1991 will commence. 	<p>A review of the coastal regime provisions under the Resource Management Act 1991 has been programmed for reassessment pending the outcome of the Oceans Policy for New Zealand.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2001, monitoring of some of the key policies in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement will be completed. 	<p>A framework to monitor some of the key policies in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement has been developed. This framework will be implemented with advice from an external peer review group.</p>

Legislation

Progress relating to legislative review is dependent upon ministerial direction, Cabinet's acceptance of bids for the legislative programme and allocation of priorities by Parliament. However, the following review areas have been identified:

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The powers, offences, penalties and miscellaneous provisions of a number of Acts administered by the Department including the Wildlife Act 1953 and the Conservation Act 1987 will be reviewed to make them more consistent. 	<p>Policy work reviewing the powers, offences, penalties and miscellaneous provisions of a number of Acts administered by the Department to make them more consistent was completed. Legal drafting is timetabled to commence after consultation and Cabinet consideration before the end of the 2001 calendar year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Marine Reserves Act 1971 will be reviewed and recommendations provided to the Minister of Conservation by 30 June 2001 on any necessary amendments to enable protection of marine areas. 	<p>Recommendations concerning the review of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 will be submitted to the Cabinet Finance, Infrastructure and Environment Committee early in the 2001/02 financial year. These recommendations follow the receipt of public submissions on the Marine Reserves Act review discussion document, released in September 2000.</p>

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Order in Council under section 2(3) of the Conservation Act 1987 will be prepared and promulgated making a declaration of which species are not freshwater fish for the purposes of the Conservation Act. 	<p>The declaration of which species are not freshwater fish for the purposes of the Conservation Act requires significant policy work, before an Order in Council under section 2(3) of the Conservation Act 1987 can be prepared. This work is expected to be resolved before the relevant provisions of the Fisheries Act 1996 take effect in October 2001, with guidance from a working group appointed by the Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Fisheries.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments to the aquatic life transfer provisions of the Conservation Act 1987 will be prepared to consolidate ministerial consenting procedures and to better manage the use of fish species. 	<p>Amendments to the aquatic life transfer provisions of the Conservation Act 1987 are to be progressed in tandem with the review of powers and offences outlined in the first item above.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be reviewed, in particular the provisions relating to fish passage, faunistic reserves, and status of species of aquatic life. 	<p>An internal project team and programme plan was developed to guide the review of the provisions of Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983. Discussion is underway with the Ministry of Fisheries to define a process and timeframe for the review.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tutae Ka Wetoweto Forest Bill will be developed. 	<p>The Tutae Ka Wetoweto Forest Bill was introduced on 5 October 2000 and referred to the Māori Affairs Select Committee. Following the receipt and hearing of public submissions, the Select Committee reported back to the House in April 2001.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Statutes Amendment Bill 1999 incorporating several minor technical amendments to the Conservation Act 1987 will be progressed. 	<p>The Statutes Amendment Bill 1999 received royal assent on 14 November 2000.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor technical amendments to several Acts administered by the Department will be developed for inclusion in a Statutes Amendment Bill 2000. 	<p>The Parliamentary Counsel Office received the Statutes Amendment Bill 2000 for drafting.</p>

OUTPUT 1.02: TREATY OF WAITANGI

Overview

This output covers provision of policy advice on implementation of section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987, giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. It includes participation in Treaty of Waitangi settlement negotiations, Waitangi Tribunal hearings and inter-departmental meetings.

The output does not include the implementation of treaty settlements (see Output 6.04), staff training and development of iwi relationships/treaty issues, or specific consultation provided for under other outputs.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of advice will be provided to the Minister and the Office of Treaty Settlements on Treaty settlements and the Department will participate as a member of the Crown's negotiating teams for up to 15 Treaty of Waitangi claims. 	<p>A range of advice was provided to the Minister and the Office of Treaty Settlements on Treaty settlements. The Department participated as a member of the Crown's negotiating teams for 13 Treaty of Waitangi claims.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quantity, nature, timing and quality of advice will be to the satisfaction of the Minister and the Office of Treaty Settlements as measured by annual surveys. 	<p>Satisfaction with the Department's policy advice and participation in Treaty of Waitangi negotiations was sustained through regular contact with both the Minister of Conservation and the Office of Treaty Settlements.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department will continue to play a joint lead role with Te Puni Kokiri and the Ministry of Economic Development in the development of the Crown's involvement in Wai 262. 	<p>The Department continued to play a joint lead role with Te Puni Kokiri and the Ministry of Economic Development in the development of the Crown's involvement in Wai 262.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 31 December 2000 the Department will report to the Minister of Conservation on the implementation and monitoring of agreed recommendations from the 1998 Te Puni Kokiri review of the Department. 	<p>This measure was incorrectly put into the Departmental Forecast Report. The report to the Minister of Conservation on the implementation and monitoring of agreed recommendations from the 1998 Te Puni Kokiri review of the Department was provided by 31 December 1999.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress will be made on the negotiation of cooperative conservation management arrangements with tangata whenua. 	<p>The Department made progress on the negotiation of cooperative conservation management arrangements with tangata whenua. A conservation partnerships toolbox was prepared for consultation with iwi.</p>

Projected Performance

- The Department's Kaupapa Atawhai managers will facilitate ongoing relationship management and consultation with Māori iwi and hapu on key operational issues.
- A Māori language strategy will be developed and implemented.

Performance Achieved

The Department's Kaupapa Atawhai managers facilitated ongoing relationship management and consultation with Māori iwi and hapu on key operational issues. The Department prepared a package of Māori strategic policy initiatives for iwi consultation.

The Māori language strategy was deferred until the 2001/02 financial year because the Department focused effort on Pukenga Atawhai training¹. The strategy will incorporate Te Pukenga Atawhai material.

OUTPUT 1.03: MINISTERIAL SERVICING**Overview**

This output covers the provision of a correspondence reply, coordinating and information service to the Minister of Conservation and the Department as well as a proof-reading, production and distribution service in relation to the Department's accountability documents.

Performance**Ministerial Servicing****Projected Performance**

- A range of policy advice papers, submissions to Cabinet, briefing papers, ministerial correspondence and parliamentary questions numbering between 2,500 to 3,000 is anticipated. These are expected to include the following:

Performance Achieved

Policy advice papers, submissions to Cabinet, briefing papers, ministerial correspondence and parliamentary questions were provided. These included the following:

	2000/01		1999/00	1998/99
	Target	Actual	Actual	Actual
Responses to ministerial correspondence	2,000	1,625	1,314	2,049
Ministerial requests for information	200	516	238	175
Parliamentary questions	400	326	209	142
Official information requests	60	64	32	64

¹ Pukenga Atawhai is the cultural sensitivities training provided to enable staff to build and maintain effective working relationships with tangata whenua.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of draft replies to ministerial correspondence will be provided within 20 working days. 	<p>75% of draft replies to ministerial correspondence were provided within 20 working days.</p> <p>(1999/00: 75%; 1998/99: 78%)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of draft replies to parliamentary questions will be provided within the timeframes set by the Minister. 	<p>100% of draft replies to parliamentary questions were provided within the timeframes set by the Minister.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of first drafts of replies to ministerial correspondence will be accepted by the Minister. 	<p>99% of first drafts of replies to ministerial correspondence were accepted by the Minister.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All accountability documents provided will be to the required standard and meet ministerial, departmental and statutory deadlines. 	<p>All accountability documents were produced to the required standard, with improved timeliness and quality.</p>

General

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice to the Minister of Conservation will be delivered in accordance with the following quality standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reports will clearly state their purpose. – Assumptions behind the advice will be explicit. – An adequate range of options will be presented and assessed. – Evidence will exist of adequate consultation with interested parties. – Problems of implementation, technical feasibility, timing and consistency with other policies will be considered. – Material presented will be effectively summarised, concise, in plain English and free of spelling and grammatical errors. 	<p>Satisfaction with the Department's policy advice to the Minister of Conservation was sustained through regular contact.</p>

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2000
	Actual	Main	Supplementary	Actual
	\$000	Estimates	Estimates	\$000
		\$000	\$000	
Revenue				
– Crown	2,774	2,319	2,774	2,019
– Other	–	1	1	–
Total Revenue	2,774	2,320	2,775	2,019
Total Expenditure	2,598	2,320	2,775	1,892
Net Surplus	176	–	–	127

D2 – IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL PROTECTION

Description

This class of outputs covers the survey, investigation and implementation of formal protection of land, freshwater and marine areas, including education. Protection may be achieved by conservation covenant, gift, purchase, lease, management agreement, setting apart, or public access easement, using statutes administered by the Department. It also includes changes to the existing status and classification of land, freshwater and marine areas under the administration of the Department.

This output class also covers the survey, investigation and implementation of formal protection of marine reserves and other marine areas using statutes administered by the Department. The key statutes are the Marine Reserves Act 1971 and other marine protected area statutes specific to a given location within the territorial sea.

It also covers participation by the Department in the review of Crown pastoral leases and occupation licences under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" by:

- formally protecting land, freshwater and marine areas to create a network of protected natural areas that represent the full range of New Zealand's natural heritage.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- formally protecting conservation areas of cultural and historic heritage value.

OUTPUT 2.01: LEGAL PROTECTION AND STATUS CHANGES

Overview

This output covers the survey, investigation and implementation of formal protection of land, freshwater and marine areas, including education. Protection may be achieved by conservation covenant, gift, purchase, lease, management agreement, setting apart or public access easement, using statutes administered by the Department. It also includes changes to the existing status and classification of land, freshwater and marine areas under the administration of the Department.

Performance

Legal Protection and Status Changes

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven Protected Natural Area Programme surveys by ecological district will be progressed, with four surveys completed and their reports published. 	<p>Nine Protected Natural Area Programme surveys by ecological district were progressed, and eight reports were published.</p> <p>(1999/00: 17 surveys progressed and 3 reports published; 1998/99: 24 surveys progressed and 6 reports published)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreements for protective management of 24 Recommended Areas for Protection (RAPs) will be progressed. 	<p>20 agreements for protective management of Recommended Areas for Protection (RAPs) were completed.</p> <p>(1999/00: 16; 1998/99: 38)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 site negotiations for protection will be progressed. 	<p>101 site negotiations for protection were progressed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 funding applications will be lodged with the Nature Heritage Fund, Nga Whenua Rahui, or Land Acquisition Fund. 	<p>37 funding applications were lodged with the Nature Heritage Fund, Nga Whenua Rahui, and Land Acquisition Fund.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation will be completed of 50 legal protection agreements, covering 3,000 ha. 	<p>This target was amended through the Purchase Agreement signed by the Minister to 31 agreements covering 2,600 ha, after detailed work planning allowed a more accurate prediction of likely performance.</p> <p>The Department completed 32 agreements covering 4,412 ha.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 20 new reserves, additions or covenants are expected to be established. 	<p>The Department established a total of 44 reserves and covenants affecting 1,721 ha.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 other classifications under the Conservation Act 1987 and the Reserves Act 1977 will be processed and completed. 	<p>The Department completed 36 other classifications under the Conservation Act 1987 and the Reserves Act 1977.</p> <p>(1999/00: 65; 1998/99: 36)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two national park investigations (section 8) will be progressed relating to the establishment of a Kauri National Park and the Rakiura National Park (Stewart Island). 	<p>The establishment of the Rakiura National Park (Stewart Island) was progressed significantly. It received Cabinet approval and legalisation work is now underway.</p> <p>The Kauri National Park proposal awaited Treaty of Waitangi settlement resolution.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The investigation into the extension of Abel Tasman National Park to include the foreshore will be completed. 	<p>The investigation into the extension of Abel Tasman National Park to include the foreshore was delayed, pending completion of an advisory group report.</p>

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two applications will be progressed for areas to be designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention in respect of Lake Wairarapa and Awarua (Southland). The Awarua application is expected to be finalised and formally lodged by 30 June 2001. | <p>The potential designations of Lake Wairarapa and Awarua (Southland) as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention were progressed. Neither was completed. The Awarua application was progressed to final draft. Public and iwi opinion on the Lake Wairarapa proposal confirmed that this case will take longer than anticipated.</p> |
|---|--|

OUTPUT 2.02: IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL PROTECTION OF MARINE AREAS

Overview

This output covers the survey, investigation and implementation of formal protection of marine reserves and other marine areas, using statutes administered by the Department. The key statutes are the Marine Reserves Act 1971 and other marine protected area statutes specific to a given location within the territorial sea.

Performance

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six studies or investigations into possible marine reserve sites will be undertaken. (2 of these will be undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding). One Department marine reserve proposal will be progressed prior to lodging with the Director-General and one new Department marine reserve application will be lodged with the Director-General. | <p>The Department undertook 8 studies or investigations into possible marine reserve sites in Hokianga Harbour and adjacent coast (Northland), Tiritiri Matangi Island (Auckland), Slipper Island (Coromandel), Eastern Bay of Plenty, Nga Motu (Taranaki), Wairarapa/Palliser, West Coast South Island and Fiords (Southland).</p> <p>(Five of these were undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).
(1999/00: 2; 1998/99: 4)</p> <p>A marine reserve proposal for Great Barrier Island (east coast) was progressed by the Department prior to lodging with the Director-General.</p> <p>The Department did not lodge a marine reserve application with the Director-General. The Volkner Rocks – Te Paepae Aotea (Bay of Plenty) proposal awaited a decision on the nature of the application, and completion of a technical report of the area.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p> |
|--|---|

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two new marine reserve applications are expected from external applicants. 	<p>In October 2000 one new application was lodged by the Wellington South Coast Coalition for the Taputeranga Marine Reserve.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One new marine reserve application is expected to be made jointly by the Director-General and an external party. 	<p>No new marine reserve applications were made jointly by the Director-General and an external party.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2001, a public awareness strategy for marine reserves will be developed that will include identification of current levels of public and key stakeholder support, and techniques and key messages to improve support including iwi. 	<p>A public awareness strategy containing key actions for improving public, stakeholder and iwi support for marine protection (covering marine reserves) was developed to draft stage, with delays due to alignment with the Marine Reserves Act review and the Oceans Policy development. Completion is forecast for early in the 2001/02 financial year.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p>

OUTPUT 2.03: TENURE REVIEW

Overview

This output covers Department of Conservation participation in the review of Crown pastoral leases and occupation licences under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 conservation resource reports will be provided to the Commissioner of Crown Lands and 90% will be provided within the Commissioner's project plan timeframe. 	<p>The Department provided 1 conservation resource report to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, but not within the required timeframe.</p> <p>The year's activity has focused on the fieldwork necessary to bring a further 17 reports to completion.</p> <p>(1999/00: 28)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department expects to be consulted on substantive proposals for 30 Crown pastoral lease reviews and to consider any associated consents. 	<p>The Department was consulted on 1 draft substantive proposal for Crown pastoral lease review, and 2 associated consents were considered.</p>

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
- Crown	3,893	3,134	3,893	2,938
- Other	19	72	72	2
Total Revenue	3,912	3,206	3,965	2,940
Total Expenditure	3,832	3,206	3,965	2,796
Net Surplus	80	-	-	144

D3 – STATUTORY PLANNING AND COASTAL RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

Description

This output class covers advocacy for the protection, or at least sustainable management, of natural and historic resources in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments mostly outside protected areas. This involves working with local authorities, local communities and landowners through both non-statutory and statutory processes predominantly under the Resource Management Act 1991. It also involves the provision of advice to councils and landowners about natural and historic resources and, from time to time, input into sustainable forest management plans and permits under the Forest Act 1949. Also included is advice to the Maritime Safety Authority and regional councils on oil spills and oil spill contingency planning, advice on implementing the National Ballast Water Strategy, marine fishery advocacy, and, when requested, comments on Fisheries Act 1996 matters.

This output class also covers formal Resource Management Act 1991 responsibilities relating to the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, regional coastal plans and other plans that cover the coastal marine area, restricted coastal activities, vesting of reclaimed land and coastal tendering. It also includes advocacy in relation to coastal permit applications, the administration of the Foreshore and Seabed Endowment Revesting Act 1991, and residual lease and licence responsibilities under the Marine Farming Act 1971.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" by:

- promoting effective lasting solutions for protection of indigenous biodiversity through statutory and non-statutory planning and consent processes, primarily under the Resource Management Act 1991, including working with and providing advice to local communities, local government and landowners
- managing the coastal environment in partnership with local government in a sustainable way.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- working with and providing advice to local communities and local government in statutory and non-statutory planning and consent processes in relation to protection of historic and cultural resources as well as indigenous biosecurity.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Grow an Inclusive, Innovative Economy for the Benefit of All" by:

- providing appropriate environmental and conservation input into statutory planning activities to ensure sustainable growth.

OUTPUT 3.01: TERRESTRIAL, FRESHWATER, MARINE AND HISTORIC ADVOCACY

Overview

This output covers the protection of natural and historic resources in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments mostly outside of protected areas. It involves working with local communities and key stakeholders using both statutory and non-statutory processes. Securing support for existing protected areas is also part of this task.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department expects to be involved in¹ advocacy activities of the order of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 130 regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans at the consultation or pre-submission stage 	<p>The Department was involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 23 regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans at the consultation or pre-submission stage. There was less pre-submission consultation on policy statements and plans than forecast, with councils proceeding with fewer documents than anticipated. <p>(1999/00: 131; 1998/99: 69)</p>

¹ "Involved in" means all but cursory actions associated with the policy statement, plan or consent from pre-statutory up to and including the hearing or section 94 approval stage. Depending on the stage in the process, this may involve the making of submissions and further submissions, attending pre-hearing meetings, presenting evidence at council hearings, lodging Environment Court references, attending pre-hearing negotiations over references, and presenting evidence at Environment Court hearings.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<p>– 2,000 to 2,300 resource consent applications, of which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 800 to 1,000 will be section 94 applications, to be considered on a “without notice” basis as a potentially affected party; and • 400 to 600 will be section 96 notified applications, to be assessed for adverse effects on natural and historic resources, <p>with the remainder representing involvement/consultation at the pre-application stage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 170 submissions are likely to be lodged on policy statements, plans and notified resource consent applications to protect natural and historic resources. • 28 appeals or references are expected to be lodged with the Environment Court on policies, plans and notified consent applications, of which 75% are expected to be resolved by consent order endorsed by the Environment Court. 	<p>– 3,338 resource consent applications (1999/00: 2,285; 1998/99: 2,339), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,378 section 94 applications considered on a “without notice” basis as a potentially affected party; • 520 notified applications assessed for their adverse effects on natural and historic resources; and • 1,440 cases of involvement or consultation at the pre-application stage. <p>The Department lodged 163 submissions on policy statements, plans and notified resource consent applications to protect natural and historic resources. (1999/00: 149; 1998/99: 291)</p> <p>The Department lodged 25 appeals and references with the Environment Court on policies, plans and notified consent applications. The Environment Court endorsed 20 consent orders from appeals lodged by the Department in previous years.</p> <p>The processing of appeals through the Environment Court may take several years. It is therefore not possible to calculate the percentage resolved by consent order for the 2000/01 financial year at this stage. (1999/00: 28; 1998/99: 31)</p>

OUTPUT 3.02: COASTAL RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 AND OTHER LEGISLATION

Overview

This output covers formal RMA responsibilities relating to the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS), regional coastal plans and other plans that cover the coastal marine area (CMA), restricted coastal activities, vesting of reclaimed land and coastal tendering.

It also covers coastal permit application advocacy, the administration of the Foreshore and Seabed Endowment Revesting Act, and residual lease and licence responsibilities under the Marine Farming Act 1971.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department expects to be involved in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 11 proposed regional coastal plans (including the coastal component of unitary authority combined plans) – 48 restricted coastal activity applications under section 117 and condition variations under section 119A. – 500 coastal permit applications (non-restricted coastal activity). • Advice is expected to be provided to the Minister on the approval of five proposed regional coastal plans. • 22 restricted coastal activity application recommendations and/or reports are expected to be received, with 100% processed and forwarded to the Minister to allow the Minister to make a decision within the statutory deadline. • 10 reclamation revesting applications are expected to be processed. 	<p>The Department was involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 13 proposed regional coastal plans (including the coastal component of unitary authority combined plans); (1999/00: 14; 1998/99: 14) – 61 restricted coastal activity applications; (1999/00: 59) and – 592 coastal permit applications other than restricted coastal activities. (1999/00: 974) <p>The Department provided advice to the Minister on 3 proposed regional coastal plans forwarded by regional councils for approval. (1999/00: 1; 1998/99: 1)</p> <p>The Department received 23 restricted coastal activity applications. All reports were submitted to the Minister within the required timeframe. (1999/00: 17 received and all submitted within deadline; 1998/99: 25 received and 96% submitted within deadline)</p> <p>The Department processed 5 applications, with claims before the Māori Land Court for Māori customary title to the foreshore and seabed restricting the number of applications received.</p>

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
– Crown	3,528	3,108	3,528	3,123
– Other	25	99	99	35
Total Revenue	<u>3,553</u>	<u>3,207</u>	<u>3,627</u>	3,158
Total Expenditure	<u>3,595</u>	<u>3,207</u>	<u>3,627</u>	3,173
Net (Deficit)	<u>(42)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	(15)

D4 – MANAGEMENT SERVICES: CONSERVATION ESTATE

Description

This class of outputs covers the management of land administered by the Department, and in particular activities associated with:

- maintenance of an effective fire control management capacity and extinguishing fires when they arise
- eradication or control of possums, goats, and other animal pests to prevent canopy collapse (forest vegetation), adverse habitat changes, and species loss, and to prevent the establishment of populations in new areas, and all statutory obligations associated with animal pest management
- eradication, containment and management of invasive weeds that are, or are capable of, significantly affecting important natural areas, threatened species, or ecological processes
- conservation of historic heritage on lands managed by the Department
- inventory of natural values, and the monitoring of trends in the condition of natural areas administered by the Department
- ecosystem restoration programmes at sites other than those designated as “Mainland Islands” (See Output Class 5).

It also covers the management of marine reserves and other marine protected areas after their formal establishment in accordance with the Marine Reserves Act 1971 and other marine protected area statutes specific to a given location.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government’s Key Goal to “Protect and Enhance the Environment” by:

- preventing and controlling fires, and eradicating and controlling animal and plant pests
- effectively managing marine protected areas, including monitoring condition and trends, and promoting compliance and intervening where necessary.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government’s Key Goal to “Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi” by:

- conserving historic heritage, and developing partnership and devolution arrangements relating to the conservation of historic heritage.

OUTPUT 4.01: FIRE CONTROL

Overview

This output covers activities directly associated with the maintenance of an effective fire management capability and extinguishing fires when they arise.

Performance

Projected Performance

- In order to suppress fires on or threatening land administered by the Department, the Department will maintain a fire control management capability that complies with the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977, the National Rural Fire Authority's Rural Fire Management Code of Practice, and the Department's Fire Control Standing Operational Procedures. Compliance will be measured by regular audits.
- Fire equipment will be maintained to standards required in the Rural Fire Management Code of Practice.
- The Department will have available for fire fighting duties the following staff and volunteers, all trained to Rural Fire Management Code of Practice standards:

Performance Achieved

The Department maintained a fire control management capability to suppress fires on or threatening land administered by the Department that complies with the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977, the National Rural Fire Authority's Rural Fire Management Code of Practice, and the Department's Fire Control Standing Operational Procedures. The Department is part of the five-yearly cycle under the National Rural Fire Authority (NRFA) audit programme. In the interim years the Department undertakes self audits using the same process to that of the NRFA. This year 6 conservancies were audited by the NZFA and the remaining 7 undertook self audits. Compliance was reported in all conservancies.

The Department maintained fire equipment to the Rural Fire Management Code of Practice standards.

Departmental staff and volunteers were trained to Rural Fire Management Code of Practice standards and were available for fire fighting duties, as per the following table:

	2000/01 ¹		1999/00	1998/99
	Target	Actual	Actual	Actual
Fire support staff	300	354	304	373
Fire-fighters	1,000	985	981	1,115
Crew bosses	350	379	368	409
Officers in Charge of fire	150	134	151	162

¹ Both the target and actual numbers of trained staff and volunteers for the 2000/01 year exceeded the minimum requirement of the Rural Fire Management Code of Practice. All conservancies had sufficient personnel to meet the requirements for the conservancy against the Rural Fire Management Code of Practice benchmark.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each conservancy will complete an assessment of State areas (as defined in section 2 of the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977) to consider whether fire safety margins are to be retained or removed. 	<p>12 of the 13 conservancies commenced an assessment of State areas (as defined in section 2 of the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977) to consider whether fire safety margins are to be retained or removed. This process will take several years to complete and will involve substantial public consultation and eventual gazettal.</p>

OUTPUTS 4.02, 4.03, AND 4.04: POSSUMS, GOATS, AND OTHER ANIMAL PEST CONTROL

Overview

This cluster of outputs encompasses activities associated with the control or eradication of animal pests and the prevention of populations establishing in new areas. Also covered are all statutory administrative obligations associated with animal pest management.

Work under these outputs includes:

- Eradication and control activity in respect of possums, goats, deer, thar, chamois, pigs, rabbits, horses, hares, wallabies, pest fish and wasps on the North and South Islands, Waiheke, Great Barrier, D'Urville, Stewart and main Chatham Islands. (Control programmes within the management units known as "mainland islands" and programmes on New Zealand's offshore islands fall under Output Class 5.)
- Eradication and control activity in respect of rodents, cats and mustelids on the New Zealand mainland but not animal pest control where the predominant purpose is part of specific species recovery programmes (Output Class 5).
- Planning, coordination, administration and liaison relating to animal pest control operations.
- Research and review, monitoring (result and outcome) and reporting.
- Fencing (both animal exclusion and boundary fencing).
- Public relations, training, and development of standard operating procedures.
- Statutory functions under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, including the regulation, permitting and inspection of deer farms and the management of recreational hunting.
- Processing and approval under the Conservation Act 1987 of applications for the transfer of live aquatic life and noxious fish, in liaison with the Ministry of Fisheries and the NZ Fish and Game Council which have interfacing statutory responsibilities.

Performance

	2000/01		1999/00	1998/99
	Target	Actual	Actual	Actual
Possums				
Area (ha) treated	225,000	211,287	227,937	293,334
Total area (ha) under sustained management ¹	616,153	761,074	668,887	Not measured
Total benefit area (ha) ²	745,470	742,239	799,089	Not measured
Goats				
Area (ha) treated	1,200,000	1,258,046	1,119,742	1,185,670
Total area (ha) under sustained management	1,571,375	1,714,424	1,574,200	Not measured
Total benefit area (ha)	2,063,895	2,357,861	1,939,269	Not measured
Thar				
Area (ha) treated	271,725	309,690	339,225	206,800
Total area (ha) under sustained management	697,600	489,400	614,600	Not measured
Total benefit area (ha)	1,027,200	765,100	746,200	Not measured
Deer				
Area (ha) treated	160,000	159,050	161,678	134,800
Total area (ha) under sustained management	148,643	159,000	148,643	Not measured
Total benefit area (ha)	527,500	526,800	538,800	Not measured
Other Animal Pests				
Number of work plans undertaken	17	24	25	31

¹ "Area under sustained management" means the total area within which control of the animal pest will be carried out and sustained over time.

² "Total benefit area" means the total area deriving a conservation benefit from sustained control. If the animal pest would spread if not controlled, this includes the area that would be invaded within 10 years in the absence of the control. In the case of control when the species would not otherwise spread, it is the area where conservation benefits can be measured as a result of the control.

The additional NZBS funding will allow the following:

Projected Performance

- An increase in the area to be treated and the associated area under sustained management and total benefit area.
- Increased technical support for animal pest issues and development of a pest management system to be completed in 2002/2003.

Performance Achieved

Additional NZBS funding allowed an increase in the area to be treated under sustained management and total benefit areas as set out in the following table.

Work on improving pest management technical issues was progressed by a number of projects. These included the Pestlink database, information management, further research into pesticides, and greater networking.

	Target	Actual
Possums		
Area (ha) to be treated in 2000/01	34,565	16,661
Total area (ha) under sustained management	39,275	11,409
Total benefit area (ha)	47,275	11,609
Delays in gaining external consents, bad weather, opposition to the use of 1080 and the deferral of one operation due to the potential effect on a research project nearing completion in the area contributed to the lesser than targeted total area treated, area under sustained management and benefit area.		
Goats		
Area (ha) to be treated in 2000/01	36,259	38,133
Total area (ha) under sustained management	36,571	36,571
Total benefit area (ha)	77,634	86,084
Thar		
Area (ha) to be treated in 2000/01	255,000	255,000
Total area (ha) under sustained management	255,000	255,000
Total benefit area (ha)	820,000	820,000
Other Animal Pests (terrestrial and freshwater pest control, and technical support)		
Number of work plans undertaken	22	21

- A national inventory of freshwater fish pests will be undertaken for incorporation into the national pest information system.

The national inventory of freshwater fish pests has been reprogrammed to the 2001/02 financial year.

(This work was to be undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a complementary method of control, it is expected that approximately 65 kilometres of new fencing will be erected and 345 kilometres of existing fencing repaired. 	<p>This target was amended through the Purchase Agreement signed by the Minister to 34 km of new fencing, with repairs to another 280 km of existing fencing, after detailed work planning allowed a more accurate prediction of likely performance.</p> <p>The Department built 44.5 km of new fencing and 256 km of existing fencing was repaired.</p> <p>(1999/00: 87 km new fencing and 170 km repairs; 1998/99: 69 km new fencing and 91 km repairs)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development will commence of a national fencing management system for boundary fencing as a prelude to field inspection and inventory development in subsequent years. 	<p>Work on developing the draft user requirements for a national fencing management system commenced. This draft is scheduled for completion early in the 2001/02 financial year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All work will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant national control plan for the species of pest, and the objectives and performance measures specified in the operational work plans. 	<p>All animal pest control work was undertaken in accordance with the relevant national control plan, and the objectives and performance measures specified in the operational work plans.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work not able to be finalised in 1999/2000 because of climatic problems will be completed. 	<p>All animal pest control work not finalised in 1999/00 because of climatic problems was completed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the first year of full implementation of the Department's integrated stoat control research programme, a comprehensive suite of research projects (both in-house and under contract) will be established aimed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making current "best practice" stoat control more cost-effective developing innovative techniques to allow control to be undertaken in more and larger areas. 	<p>The Department established an integrated stoat control research programme and a comprehensive suite of research projects. Thirty research projects were funded and underway during the year with 9 completed at year end.</p>

OUTPUT 4.05: INVASIVE WEED CONTROL

Overview

This output covers activities associated with the eradication, containment and management of invasive weeds which are, or are capable of, significantly affecting important natural areas, threatened species, or ecological processes.

Performance

Projected Performance

- 40 weed-led¹ work plans will be completed. (16 of these will be undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).
- Site-led² weed control work

Performance Achieved

The Department completed 44 weed-led work plans. (19 of these plans were completed with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

	2000/01		1999/00
	Target	Actual	Actual
Total area (ha) treated including buffer and/or seed source areas			
Standard	155,200	188,213	162,841
New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy	18,600	6,601	–
Total	173,800	194,814	–
Total area (ha) under sustained management including buffer and/or seed source areas			
Standard	321,860	414,036	306,356
New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy	38,640	6,601	–
Total	360,500	420,637	–
Total benefit area (ha)			
Standard	796,200	1,123,724	813,900
New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy	95,550	30,294	–
Total	891,750	1,154,018	–

- 13 weed surveillance plans will be implemented.

13 weed surveillance plans were completed and implemented.

(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

¹ "Weed-led" work plans aim to minimise future risks by managing those new species that have the potential to be significant new environmental weeds, or established weeds that still have a very limited distribution.

² "Site-led" control work manages critical weed threats in specific land, wetland and freshwater sites that are important to New Zealand's natural heritage.

OUTPUT 4.06: HISTORIC HERITAGE

Overview

This output covers the conservation of historic heritage on lands managed by the Department.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<p>By 30 June 2001, in relation to the 831 historic assets actively managed by the Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remedial work specifications will be completed for 68 high priority historic assets. • Remedial work will be completed to specifications at nine high priority historic assets. • Maintenance work specifications will be completed for 118 high priority historic assets. • Maintenance will be on track to specifications at 460 historic assets. 	<p>Remedial work specifications were completed for 146 high priority historic assets. One reason for the higher number is the redefinition of the assets¹ during the year.</p> <p>Remedial work was completed to specifications at 30 high priority historic assets. One reason for the higher number is the redefinition of the assets during the year.</p> <p>Maintenance work specifications were completed for 238 high priority historic assets. One reason for the higher number is the redefinition of the assets during the year.</p> <p>The Department maintained 350 historic assets to specification. A reason for the lower number was because of the extra work on visitor assets.</p>

¹ "Redefinition of assets" involves individually itemising assets previously identified as a group.

OUTPUT 4.07 GENERALIST INVENTORY AND MONITORING

Overview

This output covers all activities associated with the inventory of natural values, the monitoring and reporting of trends in the condition of natural areas administered by the Department, and development of improved systems for measurement of conservation achievement.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2001, a national inventory and monitoring strategy will be completed that will provide recommendations for the establishment of a monitoring framework at key sites, consistent with the specified outcomes in the strategy. 	<p>The Department completed a national inventory and monitoring strategy to draft stage.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term monitoring programmes will be designed and developed to monitor change in condition in Ramsar-designated and other key wetland sites administered by the Department. 	<p>Site specific monitoring guidance on condition was sought from Ramsar, and a Department representative participated in this process. Some wetland monitoring work was undertaken, and development of a framework and relevant measures of condition is taking place in conjunction with the Ministry for the Environment.</p>

OUTPUT 4.08: MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Overview

This output covers management of marine reserves and other marine protected areas after their formal establishment. The key statutes are the Marine Reserves Act 1971 and other marine protected area statutes specific to a given location, such as the Sugar Loaf Islands Marine Protected Area Act 1991 and the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological monitoring programmes will be approved and implemented for nine key marine protected areas. 	<p>Biological monitoring programmes were approved and implemented for 10 key marine protected areas.</p>

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- Draft compliance and law enforcement plans for new marine reserves will be completed within one year of the gazettal of that reserve and final plans will be completed within two years.

No marine reserves were gazetted in the 2000/01 financial year.

A final compliance and law enforcement plan was completed for Te Tapuwae o Rongokako (East Coast/Hawke's Bay, gazetted October 1999). A draft plan was completed for Pohatu (Canterbury, gazetted May 1999).

Additional law enforcement patrols were undertaken over weekends and holiday periods in reserves subject to high visitor use and/or where illegal activities were a problem. (This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

- All final approved compliance and law enforcement plans will be reviewed and updated annually.

Final approved compliance and law enforcement plans were reviewed and updated in 6 of the 9 conservancies.

- Six scientific permit applications for research in marine reserves are expected to be received.

Five scientific permit applications for research in marine reserves were received.

(1999/00: 7; 1998/99: 6)

- All scientific permit applications will be processed within 60 working days of receipt.

Three of the 5 scientific permit applications were processed within 60 working days of receipt. The remaining applications required extensive consultation with third parties.

- By 30 June 2001, a draft marine reserves monitoring strategy will be developed.

The Department commenced development of a draft marine reserves monitoring strategy. Biological monitoring programmes were carried out at 6 marine protected areas. The draft monitoring strategy is programmed for completion in the 2001/02 financial year.

(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).

OUTPUT 4.09: RESTORATION

Overview

This output covers all activities associated with ecosystem management and restoration programmes at sites other than those designated as “mainland islands” (Output 5.02).

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An ecological restoration and management strategy will be completed. 	The ecological restoration and management strategy was superceded by the Ecological Management Framework that is now being developed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions will be initiated with tangata whenua as to the feasibility of developing customary materials plantations associated with marae, including using existing programmes such as the Tikanga Atawhai fund and Motutapu Island restoration plan. 	The Department initiated discussions with tangata whenua in Golden Bay, South Marlborough, Motueka, Canterbury, Waikato and the West Coast.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
– Crown	46,888	47,805	46,888	41,492
– Other	3,667	5,057	5,057	3,640
Total Revenue	50,555	52,862	51,945	45,132
Total Expenditure	49,435	52,862	51,945	44,895
Net Surplus	1,120	–	–	237

D5 – MANAGEMENT SERVICES: PROTECTED SPECIES AND ISLAND HABITATS

Description

This class of outputs covers all species conservation programmes including: distribution and habitat surveys, species recovery programmes, captive breeding programmes, transfers and introduction of species, control of predators and competitors, manipulation of habitats, habitat enhancement programmes, population monitoring, and associated permitting and all related research.

It covers:

- the restoration and maintenance of the six approved “mainland island” sites:
 - Trounson Kauri Park (Northland)
 - Northern Te Urewera Ecosystem Restoration (East Coast/Hawke’s Bay)
 - Boundary Stream Reserve (East Coast/Hawke’s Bay)
 - Paengaroa Mainland Island (Wanganui)
 - Hurunui Beech Forest Habitat (Canterbury)
 - Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project (Nelson/Marlborough).
- Activities associated with the management and restoration of all islands except for the North, South, Waiheke, D’Urville, Stewart, Main Chatham and Great Barrier Islands.

This output class covers work associated with the protection, conservation and management of marine mammals (whales, dolphins and seals) in New Zealand waters under the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.

It also includes all work associated with undertaking and enforcing obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Trade in Endangered Species (TIES) Act 1989.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government’s Key Goal to “Protect and Enhance the Environment” by:

- maintaining and enhancing population numbers and distribution of threatened indigenous species and subspecies where recovery action will be effective
- restoring degraded protected areas and establishing offshore and “mainland” islands where invasive threats are minimised

- protecting marine mammals and their habitats, including the protection of migratory cetacean species
- reducing trade in endangered species through the undertaking and enforcement of international and statutory obligations.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- consulting with and working in partnership with iwi and other interested parties on the recovery of threatened indigenous species and on the restoration of degraded areas both on the mainland and on offshore islands
- working with tangata whenua to protect marine mammals and their habitats, and to allocate dead marine mammal specimens and distribute whale bone in accordance with agreed protocols and procedures.

OUTPUT 5.01: SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

Overview

This output includes all activities associated with indigenous species conservation programmes.

It does not include marine mammal conservation programmes (Output 5.04), or permitting and other work relating to the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Output 5.05).

The Molloy and Davis 1994 ranking system lays the framework for prioritising work on New Zealand's threatened species. This 1994 review of priority records:

- 98 Category A species – highest priority for conservation action
- 214 Category B species – second priority for conservation action
- 91 Category C species – third priority for conservation action.

The Department carries out active recovery work in respect of high priority threatened species of indigenous flora and fauna, with priority given to Category A and B species.

Performance

Projected Performance

- The Department will carry out active recovery work in respect of high priority threatened species of indigenous flora and fauna as follows, with priority given to Category A and B species:

Performance Achieved

The Department carried out active recovery work in respect of high priority threatened species of indigenous flora and fauna as follows, with priority given to Category A and B species.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 74 Category A (highest priority) threatened species 	<p><i>Category A species</i></p> <p>Work for 59 Category A species progressed as planned. Work for a further 15 species was progressed but ended up slightly behind schedule.</p> <p>(1999/00: work for 58 Category A species progressed as planned)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 125 Category B (second priority) threatened species 	<p><i>Category B species</i></p> <p>Work for 97 Category B species progressed as planned. Work for a further 35 species was progressed but ended up slightly behind schedule.</p> <p>1999/00: work for 88 Category B species progressed as planned)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30 Category C (third priority) threatened species. 	<p><i>Category C species</i></p> <p>Work for 21 Category C species progressed as planned. Work for a further 12 species was progressed but ended up slightly behind schedule.</p> <p>(1999/00: work for 24 Category C species progressed as planned)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The additional funding will allow increased planned recovery actions in respect of high priority species and subspecies. 	<p>Additional New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding allowed increased planned recovery actions in respect of the following high priority species and subspecies:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11 Category A (highest priority) threatened species 	<p><i>Category A species</i></p> <p>Work for 7 Category A species progressed as planned. Work for a further 4 species was progressed but ended up slightly behind schedule.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 Category B (second priority) threatened species 	<p><i>Category B species</i></p> <p>Work for 5 Category B species progressed as planned. Work for a further 9 species was progressed but ended up slightly behind schedule.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 Category C (third priority) threatened species 	<p><i>Category C species</i></p> <p>Work for 3 Category C species was progressed but ended up slightly behind schedule.</p>

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight new species recovery plans relating to high priority threatened species will be published. 	<p>The Department completed 4 recovery plans for high priority threatened species. A further 12 recovery plans were written, with completion depending on final publication, sign-off, or consultation¹.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three existing approved recovery plans relating to high priority threatened species will be reviewed and new plans published. 	<p>The Department completed 1 recovery plan review for a high priority threatened species. A further 3 recovery plan reviews were written, with completion depending on final publication, sign-off, or consultation.²</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafts of three new recovery plans will be completed and initial consultation undertaken. 	<p>Three new recovery plan drafts were completed and initial consultation undertaken.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The kiwi recovery programme will be enhanced by intensively managing kiwi at five sanctuaries. 	<p>The kiwi recovery programme was enhanced by intensively managing³ kiwi at five sanctuaries (Northland, Coromandel, Tongariro, Okarito, Haast). Site specific performance was substantially achieved in 3 sanctuaries (Northland, Tongariro and Okarito), but below prediction in the remaining 2 sanctuaries.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All species recovery programmes will be carried out in accordance with species recovery plans, be guided by the advice of recovery groups and will be carried out to meet work plan objectives 	<p>All species recovery programmes were carried out in accordance with species recovery plans, with guidance from recovery groups and consistent with work plan objectives.</p>

¹ The impact of unpublished plans is minimal in terms of the Department's recovery work. This work is guided by the draft plans and advice from recovery groups.

² The impact of unpublished plans is minimal in terms of the Department's recovery work. This work is guided by the draft plans and advice from recovery groups.

³ Intensively managing includes a range of activities to increase the productivity and survivorship of kiwi in sanctuaries e.g., intensive predator control and Operation Nest Egg (ONE) management.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard operating procedures will be developed to ensure tangata whenua have clearly defined access to traditional materials from accidental kills or approved management procedures. 	<p>A related draft framework for all customary use (Nga Akiakitanga nuka kaupapa Māori a te papa atawhai) was established. Standard operating procedures concerning tangata whenua access to traditional materials from accidental kills or approved management procedures are programmed for completion in the first third of the 2001/02 financial year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generic assessment criteria will be developed to facilitate greater involvement of iwi in the consideration and negotiation of requests for specimens for research, education and/or display. 	<p>Work on generic assessment criteria to facilitate greater involvement of iwi in the consideration and negotiation of requests for specimens for research, education and/or display was linked to development of the Permissions Standard Operating Procedure. The completion date for this larger project was extended past the original timeframe.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines will be developed in conjunction with Ngai Tahu Te Runanga and Papatipu Runanga for the storage and distribution of cultural materials received by the Department. 	<p>National priority work disrupted the original work programme for the cultural materials storage and distribution guidelines, to be developed in conjunction with Ngai Tahu Te Runanga and Papatipu Runanga. These guidelines were re-programmed for completion early in the 2001/02 financial year.</p>

OUTPUT 5.02: MAINLAND ISLAND SITES

Overview

This output covers the restoration and maintenance of the following six approved mainland island sites:

- Trounson Kauri Park (Northland)
- Northern Te Urewera Ecosystem Restoration (East Coast/Hawke's Bay)
- Boundary Stream Reserve (East Coast/Hawkes Bay)
- Paengaroa Mainland Island (Wanganui)
- Hurunui River Beech Forest Habitat (South Branch) (Canterbury)
- Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project (Nelson/Marlborough).

Some animal control work associated with mainland island sites is funded in Output Class D4.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All work at mainland island sites will meet the targets and objectives in the annual work plan for that site and will be consistent with the strategic and/or operational plan for that site. 	<p>All 6 mainland island sites met or bettered targets and objectives in annual work plans, and were consistent with the relevant strategic and/or operational plans for the particular site. High rat and stoat numbers at South Island sites increased pressure on pest control regimes and indigenous species.</p>

OUTPUT 5.03: ISLAND MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION

Overview

This output includes activities associated with the management and restoration of all islands except for the North, South, Waiheke, D'Urville, Stewart, Main Chatham and Great Barrier Islands.

It does not cover fire suppression (Output 4.01); invasive weed control undertaken under Output 4.05; major species recovery or monitoring programmes or habitat manipulation undertaken as part of specific species recovery programmes under Output 5.01; or recreational or interpretative facilities (Output Classes D7 and D8).

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 island management and restoration programmes will be progressed. 	<p>Work for 48 island management and restoration programmes progressed as planned. Work for a further 4 programmes was substantially progressed.</p> <p>(1999/00: 47 programmes progressed as planned)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All necessary consents for the eradication of rats on Little Barrier Island will be completed by July 2001 to allow the aerial bait drop to be completed by September 2001. Achievement of this timescale is dependent upon the resolution of issues with Ngati Wai and their concurrence. This concurrence must be obtained no later than April 2001 if the September 2001 deadline is to be met. 	<p>The consents for the eradication of rats on Little Barrier Island are programmed for completion in the 2001/02 financial year. Achievement of this revised timescale remains dependent on the resolution of issues with Ngati Wai and their concurrence with the Department's proposals.</p>

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The eradication of rodents and cats from Tuhua (Mayor) Island, as a precursor to eradication on Raoul Island, will be progressed, with the aerial bait drop completed by October 2000 and the cat eradication trial report published by June 2001. The goal is to confirm rodent eradication by June 2002. Achievement of this timescale is dependent upon all necessary consents being gained by 30 June 2000. 	<p>The eradication of rodents and cats from Tuhua (Mayor) Island, as a precursor to eradication on Raoul Island, was completed. Monitoring found no evidence of pests remaining. A cat bait trial report could not be completed due to the low sample size of cats.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for and implementation of the eradication of rats and cats on Raoul Island (and Macauley Island) will continue with the objective of gaining all necessary consents by June 2002 and the aerial bait drop being completed by September 2002. The goal is to confirm rodent and cat eradication by June 2004. 	<p>Planning for and implementation of the eradication of rats and cats on Raoul Island (and Macauley Island) continued. The Island Eradication Advisory Group reviewed a completed draft operational plan. Work is programmed to continue with a view to obtaining consents prior to the due date.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for the eradication of rats from Campbell Island will be progressed with the objective of gaining all necessary consents by 30 June 2001 and the aerial bait drop being completed by October 2001. The goal is to confirm rodent eradication by June 2004. 	<p>All consents were obtained for the eradication of rats from Campbell Island. The operation commenced on 27 June 2001 and was completed in July 2001.</p> <p>(This work was undertaken with New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy funding).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Island management and restoration programmes will be carried out in accordance with island restoration strategies, conservation management strategies and translocation guidelines, and to meet the specific work plan objectives. 	<p>All island management and restoration programmes were carried out in accordance with island restoration strategies, conservation management strategies and translocation guidelines, and met specific work plan objectives.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tangata whenua will be involved through early consultation on pest eradication on islands and restoration of island ecosystems, and opportunities for their involvement in programmes as these arise. 	<p>The Department involved tangata whenua in island management through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – early consultation on pest eradication on islands and restoration of island ecosystems; and – opportunities for tangata whenua involvement in programmes.

OUTPUT 5.04: MARINE MAMMALS

Overview

This output covers work associated with the protection, conservation and management of marine mammals (whales, dolphins and seals) in New Zealand waters under the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 350 whale, dolphin or seal rescue operations or callouts, involving 400–650 animals, are expected to be undertaken. 	<p>The Department undertook 438 whale, dolphin and seal rescue operations or callouts involving 541 animals.</p> <p>(1999/00: 478 operations or callouts involving 653 animals)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60% of live whales and dolphins involved in mass strandings are expected to be rehabilitated. 	<p>The Department rehabilitated 63% of the live whales and dolphins involved in mass strandings.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All rescue operations, rehabilitations and associated activities (including data and sample collection and cultural material allocation) will be carried out in accordance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the standards set in the applicable Marine Mammal Stranding Contingency Plan – applicable protocols and procedures developed with tangata whenua, the Museum of New Zealand and Massey University. 	<p>All rescue operations, rehabilitations and associated activities were carried out in accordance with relevant Marine Mammal Stranding Contingency Plan and other applicable protocols.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70 scientific research, import or export, bone allocation or marine mammal tourism permits are expected to be issued. 	<p>A total of 39 scientific research, import and export, bone allocation and marine mammal tourism permits were issued. This number is just over half that projected, and is mainly due to the small number of marine mammal tourism permits issued.</p> <p>(1999/00: 57; 1998/99: 37)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All permit applications will be processed in accordance with the statutory processes in the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978 or Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992 as appropriate. 	<p>All permit applications were processed in accordance with the statutory processes in the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978 and the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992 as appropriate.</p>

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All departmental area offices will have a marine mammal stranding contingency plan in place to the Department's national standards. 	<p>34 of the 37 coastal area offices had a marine mammal stranding contingency plan in place to the Department's national standards. The remaining 3 offices had prepared draft plans.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tangata whenua protocols and procedures will be contained in all stranding contingency plans. 	<p>All stranding contingency plans contained tangata whenua protocols and procedures.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2001, a draft national marine mammal action plan will be completed. 	<p>The draft national marine mammal action plan is now programmed for completion in the 2001/02 financial year due to contractor delays.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection will be provided for the seasonal nursery/breeding congregation of southern right whales in the sub-Antarctic islands. 	<p>A key research contract underpinning protection for seasonal nursery/breeding congregation of southern right whales in the sub-Antarctic islands was completed. Consultation is programmed for early in the 2001/02 financial year.</p>

OUTPUT 5.05: CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES (CITES)

Overview

This output covers all work associated with undertaking and enforcing obligations under the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the Trade in Endangered Species (TIES) Act 1989

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28,000 specimens or items are expected to be surrendered or seized at the border. 	<p>A total of 21,355 specimens were surrendered or seized at the border.</p> <p>The drop in collected specimens may be due to the ongoing programme of increased publicity within the Auckland region.</p> <p>(1999/00: 23,321; 1998/99: 28,104)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A target response time of two weeks to collect specimens or items and process the associated documents will be met on 95% of occasions. 	<p>The target response time of two weeks to collect specimens or items and process the associated documents was met on 99% of occasions.</p>

Projected Performance

- 600 trade applications for CITES permits or certificates and 1,000 other related trade applications are expected to be received.
- Trade-related CITES applications will be processed within 20 working days and non-commercial applications will be processed within 10 working days.
- Illegal commercial activities will be investigated through the activities of an interdepartmental Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Department of Conservation (DOC) and Customs taskforce.

Performance Achieved

This target was amended through the Purchase Agreement signed by the Minister to 400 trade applications after detailed work planning allowed a more accurate prediction of likely demand.

A total of 372 CITES permits and certificates and 1,524 other applications were processed.

(1999/00: 381 CITES permits and certificates and 1,276 other applications)

All trade-related and non-commercial CITES applications were processed within target timeframes.

Enforcement of the Trade in Endangered Species Act 1989 was coordinated by the Wildlife Enforcement Group (DOC, MAF and Customs). Monitoring and enforcement of the Act's trade documentation was contracted to MAF and Customs. Efforts continued to focus on investigation and prevention of deliberate illegal trade activity. One prosecution was made under the TIES Act, and assistance was provided for a CITES prosecution in London.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2000
	Actual	Main	Supplementary	Actual
		Estimates	Estimates	
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Revenue				
– Crown	35,158	34,561	35,158	29,658
– Other	1,162	1,741	1,741	1,275
Total Revenue	36,320	36,302	36,899	30,933
Total Expenditure	35,091	36,302	36,899	30,224
Net Surplus	1,229	–	–	709

D6 – MANAGEMENT OF STATUTORY ACTIONS, LEASES, LICENCES AND OTHER CONCESSIONS

Description

This class of outputs covers the following:

- Management, monitoring and enforcement of concessions and other consents for commercial and other activities on land that is administered by the Department, including the processing of applications for concessions and other consents.
- The processing of applications from administering bodies holding an appointment to control and manage reserves where the Department has a consenting or approval role.
- The Department's responsibilities under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998 for advising the Commissioner of Crown Lands on the protection of inherent conservation values of pastoral leases and licences in the South Island high country, including the issue of recreation permits and discretionary consents under the Act.
- The recording and statutory management of land administered by the Department, including the disposal of land, consents and approvals to statutory land transactions (including the processing of applications by local authorities) and the appointment of, and vesting in, administering bodies of reserves and managers of marginal strips.
- Advice on statutory land management issues to administering bodies and other agencies, and certain statutory consents to land transactions under other Acts not administered by the Department.
- The Department's responsibilities in relation to the implementation of Treaty of Waitangi settlements such as the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 and the Ngati Turangitukua Claims Settlement Act 1999.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment by:

- managing the commercial and other use of conservation land in a manner that enables enterprise, tourism and recreational activities while protecting natural, historic and recreational resources and cultural values.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- implementing the conservation-related aspects of Treaty of Waitangi settlements.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Grow an Inclusive, Innovative Economy for the Benefit of All" by:

- managing the commercial and other use of conservation land in a consistent and business-like manner that is cost-effective, maximises revenue and enables enterprise and tourism and recreational activities while protecting conservation values.

OUTPUT 6.01: CONCESSION MANAGEMENT

Overview

This output covers the management, monitoring and enforcement of concessions and other consents for activities on land that is administered by the Department. This includes the processing of applications from external parties. It also covers the Department's responsibilities for processing applications for concessions from administering bodies holding an appointment to control and manage reserves where the Department has a consenting or approval role.

Performance

Concession Management¹

Projected Performance

- The Department expects to manage approximately 1,220 recreation or tourism concessions and 2,340 other concessions or consents during the year.
- About 620 new applications for recreation or tourism concessions are expected to be received and processed.

Performance Achieved

As at June 2001 the Department managed 1,134 recreation and tourism concessions and 2,417 concessions or consents for other resource use.
(1999/00: 886 recreation and tourism concessions and 2,539 other; 1998/99: 689 recreation and tourism concessions and 2,637 other)

The Department received 767 new applications for recreation and tourism concessions. A combined total of 1,940 recreation and tourism concessions and other concessions or consents were processed.

¹ Note: Recreation/tourism concessions include short-term permits. Other concessions or consents include Crown Minerals Act 1991 consents, cultural resource consents and telecommunications site concessions.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 450 new applications for other concessions or consents are expected to be received and processed. 	<p>The Department received 1,335 new applications for other concessions or consents. A combined total of 1,940 recreation and tourism concessions and other concessions or consents were processed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions on 80% of these applications will be taken within the cost estimates advised to applicants. 	<p>Decisions on 86% of applications were taken within the cost estimates advised to applicants.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions on 70% of these applications will be taken within the time estimates advised to applicants. 	<p>Decisions on 92% of concession applications were processed within timeframes advised to applicants.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All concession and consent applications will be processed in accordance with the Department's standard operating procedures for "Concession Application Processing". 	<p>All concession and consent applications were processed in accordance with the Department's standard operating procedures for "Concession Application Processing". This result was established through qualitative sampling.</p>

OUTPUT 6.02: PASTORAL LEASES

Overview

This output covers the exercise of the Department's responsibilities under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998 for advising the Commissioner of Crown Lands on the protection of inherent conservation values of pastoral leases and occupation licences in the South Island high country. It includes the issue of recreation permits and discretionary consents under the Act. It also includes the Department's involvement with Molesworth Station.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department expects to provide 240 reports on consent (including burning permit) applications under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998 for discretionary consents and 30 reports on surrenders and applications for recreational permits under the Act to Knight Frank Limited (on behalf of the Commissioner of Crown Lands). 	<p>The Department provided 198 reports on consent (including burning permit) applications under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998 for discretionary consents and 31 reports on surrenders and applications for recreational permits under the Act.</p> <p>(1999/00: 354 reports for discretionary consents and 37 for surrenders and applications for recreational permits; 1998/99: 260 reports for discretionary consents and 33 for surrenders and applications for recreational permits).</p>

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of requests for reports from the Commissioner of Crown Lands will be actioned within 20 working days. 	95% of requests for reports from the Commissioner of Crown Lands were actioned within 20 working days.

OUTPUT 6.03: STATUTORY LAND MANAGEMENT

Overview

This output covers the management of the land asset for which the Department is responsible. This includes statutory consents and approvals required to various land dealings under Acts administered by the Department, and certain other Acts, and the recording of information about land administered by the Department or in which the Department has an interest. It also includes the appointment of administering bodies of reserves and managers of marginal strips, and technical assistance to reserve administering bodies on the administration of reserves.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department expects to complete 240 statutory consents and approvals relating to reserves under the control of administering bodies. 	<p>This target was amended through the Purchase Agreement signed by the Minister to 215 statutory consents and approvals, after detailed work planning allowed a more accurate prediction of likely performance.</p> <p>The Department completed 217 statutory consents and approvals. (1999/00: 258; 1998/99: 261)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 conservation areas managed by the Department covering 700 ha will be investigated for disposal. 	<p>29 conservation areas covering 570 ha were investigated for disposal. (1999/00: 26 areas investigated; 1998/99: 23 areas investigated)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 Crown-owned reserves (DOC reserves and local authority managed reserves where the title reverts to the Crown) covering 300 ha will be investigated for revocation and disposal. 	<p>A total of 29 Crown-owned reserves covering 95 ha were investigated for revocation and disposal. This result is fewer than predicted because some local authorities did not proceed with or advance revocation proposals, and the Department did not pursue some proposals because of a policy decision by the Minister in July 2000. (1999/00: 59 reserves investigated; 1998/99: 54 reserves investigated)</p>

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- 60 esplanade consent applications under section 405A of the Resource Management Act 1991 will be investigated, with 90% completed and the decision conveyed to the applicant within three months or less of receipt of the application.

A total of 49 esplanade consent applications were processed to a decision, with 43 (87%) completed within three months. The drop in applications reflects the combined effect of fewer subdivisions with esplanade requirements and an increase in the number of operative district plans, to which the transitional esplanade provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 do not apply.

(1999/00: 61; 1998/99: 89)

OUTPUT 6.04: TREATY OF WAITANGI SETTLEMENT IMPLEMENTATION

Overview

This output covers the implementation of the Department’s obligations under Treaty of Waitangi settlements.

Performance

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- The Department will meet all deadlines set by Ministers, the Ngai Tahu Deed of Settlement, and the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 relating to implementation of the settlement.
- The joint development with Ngai Tahu and Te Tau Ihu of Customary Freshwater Fisheries Regulations for the South Island will be completed by October 2000.
- The Department will meet all deadlines set by Ministers, the Ngati Turangitukua Deed of Settlement, and the Ngati Turangitukua Claims Settlement Act 1999 relating to implementation of the settlement.

The Department met all deadlines for the 2000/01 financial year, set by Ministers, the Ngai Tahu Deed of Settlement, and the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 relating to implementation of the settlement. This work is ongoing.

The development with Ngai Tahu and Te Tau Ihu of Customary Freshwater Fisheries Regulations for the South Island was delayed, awaiting definition of “representative of tangata whenua” within the Ngai Tahu rohe.

The Department met all deadlines for the 2000/01 financial year, set by Ministers, the Ngati Turangitukua Deed of Settlement, and the Ngati Turangitukua Claims Settlement Act 1999 relating to implementation of the settlement. This work is ongoing.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2000
	Actual	Main	Supplementary	Actual
	\$000	Estimates	Estimates	\$000
Revenue				
– Crown	7,866	6,313	7,866	6,685
– Other	1,241	1,385	1,385	1,178
Total Revenue	9,107	7,698	9,251	7,863
Total Expenditure	8,418	7,698	9,251	7,139
Net Surplus	689	–	–	724

D7 – PROVISION OF RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES: ACCESS, FACILITIES, AND SERVICES

Description

This class of outputs covers the management of visitor services and facilities within a national asset management programme applicable to approximately 3,800 visitor sites. These facilities include:

- Huts, serviced campgrounds, camp sites and other booked accommodation.
- Roads and tracks to scenic attractions, New Zealand walkways and associated structures and assets, including bridges, toilets, and backcountry shelters.
- Amenity areas where the primary use is recreation, formed roads, parking areas for motorised visitor activities, wharves and other structures.

The national asset management programme includes:

- Baseline inspections undertaken on each asset type (huts, tracks, structures etc) to determine the work required to bring each asset to the standard required for the visitors using the site. This is a once only exercise for each asset carried out over several years.
- A regular (annual, biannual, biennial etc) programme of inspections (pre and post baseline) to determine asset condition and need for maintenance.
- A construction/maintenance programme of remedial, upgrade or replacement work as identified by the baseline and condition inspections.
- The development and maintenance of a national visitor asset database that records the condition and work completed on huts, tracks, walkways, structures, roads, signs, amenity areas, sewerage systems and toilets.

This output class also covers the provision of safety services and hazard management programmes, visitor monitoring and recreation planning. It also includes the management, maintenance and enhancement of sports fish within the Taupo Fishing District.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goals to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" and "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- managing assets, visitor services and facilities on the public conservation estate in a manner that enables visitors to appreciate and enjoy the natural and historic values in ways that are safe and sustainable.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Grow an Inclusive, Innovative Economy for the Benefit of All" by:

- contributing to tourism through the provision of access by domestic and international visitors to the conservation estate and facilities, services and information.

OUTPUT 7.01: VISITOR ACCOMMODATION

Overview

This output covers the inspection, construction/removal, maintenance, and management of visitor accommodation and the collection of fees for huts, serviced campgrounds, camp sites and other booked accommodation.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department will administer 1,060 backcountry huts. 	As at 30 June 2001 the Department administered 1,013 backcountry huts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 60% of huts will be maintained, all to the Department's service standards for backcountry accommodation.¹ 	Maintenance ² was carried out on 54% of huts, although the Department's service standards for backcountry accommodation were not met due to limited funds. New funding is forecast to bring most huts up to the service standards by 2004.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline inspections of a further 20% of huts will be completed. 	Baseline inspections ³ of a further 206 huts (20% of total huts) were completed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 50% of huts will receive an ongoing condition inspection. 	62% of huts received an ongoing condition inspection.

¹ The Department's service standards for back country accommodation are defined as the level of service that different categories of visitors expect and need when using the Department's facilities e.g., heating, cooking, cleaning and sewage disposal.

² Hut maintenance is defined as any programmed or emergency work (<\$5000) undertaken to ensure that the hut remains serviceable and useable by the primary visitor group.

³ A 'baseline inspection' is an assessment of condition undertaken by a suitably qualified individual for the Department of Conservation and where the data has been entered into the Visitor Asset Management System (VAMS) database.

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- All huts identified in the 1999/2000 baseline inspections as potentially serious risks to visitors will be closed and either brought up to standard, replaced or removed. Huts will only be removed when a review has concluded it is a low priority, no club or organisation is willing and able to bring it up to standard and maintain it, and there has been active consultation with the interested public.
- All new huts and hut replacements, upgrading and maintenance work will be completed to the Department's hut service standards, or to the standards of the Department's draft "Backcountry Accommodation Means of Compliance with the New Zealand Building Code".
- Campsites will be maintained and serviced to the Department's standards for the relevant campsite type.

Three huts were identified in the baseline inspections as potentially serious risks to visitors. Of these huts, 2 were closed pending further decisions, and 1 was brought up to standard.

All new huts (Stewart Island (5 huts), Waikato Conservancy (1)) and hut upgrades (Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy (6 huts)) were completed to the Department's standards.

92% of campsites were maintained and serviced to the Department's standards for the relevant campsite type.

OUTPUT 7.02: TRACKS AND WALKWAYS

Overview

This output covers the inspection, construction, maintenance and management of all tracks and New Zealand walkways managed by the Department, and associated structures. These facilities include tracks to scenic attractions, and all visitor assets associated with the track or walkway (e.g. bridges, toilets, and backcountry shelters) and visitor monitoring equipment (e.g. counters).

Performance

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- Tracks and walkways will be maintained to the appropriate service standard for the primary user group using the track or walkway¹.

As at 30 June 2001 the Department maintained 6,791 km (54%) of the 2,737 (12,569 km) tracks and walkways it administers. The Department has developed a process to measure track condition, with 93% now assessed, although final results await further analysis.

¹ The Department's service standards for tracks and walkways are defined as the level of service that different categories of visitors expect and need when using the Department's facilities e.g., track surface, grade and width.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 31 October 2000, all baseline inspections¹ of tracks and walkways, including those carried over from 1999/2000, will be completed. 	<p>By 31 October 2000, 84% of the 2,737 tracks and walkways administered by the Department had received baseline inspections, with 93% receiving inspections by 30 June 2001. Equipment failure prevented all baseline inspections being completed to schedule.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 50% of tracks and walkways will receive an ongoing condition inspection. 	<p>The Department completed ongoing condition inspections for 52% (1,413) of the tracks and walkways it manages.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 30 June 2001, all baseline inspections of visitor structures associated with tracks and walkways, including those carried over from 1999/2000, will be completed. 	<p>As at 30 June 2001 the Department was managing 11,622 structures on tracks. The Department completed 2,535 baseline inspections (including those carried over from 1999/2000).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 50% of structures will receive an ongoing condition inspection. 	<p>The projected performance was not met because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – more structures were added to the programme as they were built; – some structures required an additional engineering inspection following inspection by departmental staff; and – previously unidentified structures were added to the inspection programme. <p>Approximately 28% (3,234) of the 11,622 structures managed by the Department received an ongoing condition inspection. This programme is spread over two years, and the remaining structures are programmed for inspection in the 2001/02 financial year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the baseline inspections of structures identify potentially serious risks to visitors, these structures will be closed, upgraded, replaced or removed. 	<p>Inspections identified 131 structures that posed a potentially serious risk to visitors. Risk mitigation was completed for 74 structures, where 16 were removed and 58 upgraded. The remaining 57 structures included 45 reassessed as safe but still requiring work, 3 opened with restricted access, and 9 remained closed. Work on these structures is programmed for immediate completion. The “restricted access” category was established for those situations where a structure remains in use with a restricted load capacity. These structures are signposted and visitors are warned not to exceed the recommended capacity.</p>

¹ A ‘baseline inspection’ is an assessment of condition undertaken by a suitably qualified individual for the Department of Conservation and where the data has been entered into the Visitor Asset Management System (VAMS) database.

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- Where the ongoing condition inspection identifies the need for maintenance, this work will be programmed for completion within the current or next financial year. Where there is a high risk to visitor safety, this work will be undertaken immediately.

All work on structures posing a high risk to visitors was either completed or programmed for immediate completion.

All work on structures posing a low risk to visitors was either completed or programmed for completion as part of normal maintenance visits.

OUTPUT 7.03: AMENITY AREAS, ROADS, CAR PARKS, WHARVES AND OTHER STRUCTURES

Overview

This output covers the inspection, construction, maintenance and management of amenity areas, where the primary use is recreation, formed roads, parking areas for motorised visitor activities and other structures.

Performance

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- Amenity areas (including car parks) will receive regular inspections and will be maintained and serviced to meet the needs of the primary visitor group using the site.
- Approximately 50% of roads will receive regular inspections and will be maintained to the appropriate standard for the primary visitor group using the road.
- By 30 June 2001, baseline inspections will be completed on all visitor structures associated with amenity areas that have not already been inspected.

As at 30 June 2001 the 777 amenity areas (including car parks) managed by the Department received regular inspections and were maintained and serviced to meet the needs of the primary visitor group using the site.

33% (702 km) of roads were inspected and only required maintenance was completed.

As at 30 June 2001 the Department was managing 2,055 structures on amenity areas. The Department completed baseline inspections¹ for 69% (502) of those structures programmed for completion.

The projected performance was not met because:

¹ A 'baseline inspection' is an assessment of condition undertaken by a suitably qualified individual for the Department of Conservation and where the data has been entered into the Visitor Asset Management System (VAMS) database.

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 50% of structures will receive an ongoing condition inspection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More structures were added to the programme as they were built; Some structures required an additional engineering inspection following inspection by departmental staff; and Previously unidentified structures were added to the inspection programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the baseline inspections of structures identify potentially serious risks to visitors, these structures will be closed, upgraded, replaced or removed. 	<p>Approximately 31% (632) of the 2,055 visitor structures on amenity areas managed by the Department received an ongoing condition inspection. This programme is spread over two years, and the remaining structures are programmed for inspection in the 2001/02 financial year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the ongoing condition inspection identifies the need for maintenance, this work will be programmed for completion within the current or next financial year. Where there is a high risk to visitor safety, this work will be undertaken immediately. 	<p>Inspections identified 30 structures that posed a potentially serious risk to visitors. Risk mitigation was completed for 20 structures, where 4 were removed and 16 upgraded. The remaining 10 structures included 2 reassessed as safe but still requiring work, 2 opened with restricted access, and 6 remained closed. Work on these structures is programmed for immediate completion. The "restricted access" category was established for those situations where a structure remains in use with a restricted load capacity. These structures are signposted and visitors are warned not to exceed the recommended capacity.</p> <p>All work on structures posing a high risk to visitors was either completed or programmed for immediate completion. All work on structures posing a low risk to visitors was either completed or is programmed for completion as part of normal maintenance visits.</p>

OUTPUT 7.04: VISITOR SERVICES

Overview

This output covers the provision of safety services, hazard management programmes, visitor impact surveys and monitoring programmes, strategic recreation planning and management, research, development and maintenance of standard operating procedures (SOP), guidelines and databases for all visitor assets and services.

Performance

Projected Performance

- The national visitor-monitoring programme will be phased in with an estimated 10% of visitor sites monitored by 30 June 2001.

- The identification of sites with a high priority for monitoring under the "Natural Quiet" programme will be completed.

- The national visitor asset management database (VAMS) will be maintained and where required, further development undertaken to include other asset types.

Performance Achieved

The national visitor-monitoring programme is designed to provide local, regional and national indicators of visitor use and satisfaction with the recreation opportunities provided by the Department.

The Department counted the number of visitors at approximately 7% of its 3,900 visitor sites and intends to expand this to 10%. A new counter system was completed. This system is programmed for implementation in the 2001/02 financial year.

The Department also completed the development and trial of a standard satisfaction survey that it plans to also implement in 2001/02.

The Natural Quiet programme will map the degree of noise intrusion (the impact) on the recreation experience of visitors. Where noise is found to adversely affect the recreation experience, methods to mitigate the impact may be implemented. An impact monitoring programme will then be used to track changes in the noise levels within the different natural quiet zones.

A process for mapping natural quiet zones was developed and tested, but the programme was not implemented nationally due to other higher priority work.

The VAMS database was upgraded to provide:

- lifecycle models for most visitor assets;
- a strategic planning tool to analyse the long- term financial needs in providing recreation facilities;
- an improved work programming system for operational planning and monitoring; and
- an improved asset condition monitoring system.

The Department maintained and, where necessary, updated asset data as part of the ongoing condition inspection process.

Projected Performance

- A programme for the management of visitor-related hazards will be implemented, with visitor hazards assessed at approximately 25% of sites by 30 June 2001.

Performance Achieved

The Department developed a draft standard operating procedure for the identification and management of all visitor hazards. When this procedure is finalised, it will be implemented as part of the ongoing inspection of tracks, structures, huts and other visitor facilities. In the interim, the Department will continue to record visitor-related hazards when observed as part of its ongoing inspection programme, and receive reports about hazards from visitors through the 0800 "Safetywatch" phone service.

OUTPUT 7.05: TAUPO SPORTS FISHERY**Overview**

This output covers the management, maintenance and enhancement of sports fish within the Taupo Fishing District.

Performance**Projected Performance**

- Approximately 67,000 fishing licences are expected to be sold.
- Angler satisfaction monitoring scores will achieve not less than 3.3 for success and not less than 4.5 for enjoyment out of a maximum score of 5.
- Licensing non-compliance will not exceed 2% of anglers sampled.
- Expenditure (except for capital purchases) will not exceed revenue from licence sales.
- Relationships with Ngati Tuwharetoa and their role in licence fee setting will be strengthened.

Performance Achieved

A total of 69,962 fishing licences were sold, with the increase due to a higher than expected public demand.

(1999/00: 67,747)

This measure was incorrectly put into the Departmental Forecast Report. Angler satisfaction monitoring figures are unavailable as this financial year was committed to the five-yearly harvest survey. Creel surveys (which include satisfaction measures) are not done in a harvest survey year.

Licensing non-compliance averaged 0.47% of the anglers sampled.

Expenditure exceeded revenue from licence sales by \$24,983, caused by an accounting timing issue relating to the financial year-end cut-off. This shortfall will be rectified in the July banking of the 2001/02 financial year.

Licence fees were negotiated and agreed with the Tuwharetoa Māori Trust Board for the 2001/02 season.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
- Crown	29,001	29,575	29,001	29,651
- Other	8,351	8,949	8,949	8,294
Total Revenue	37,352	38,524	37,950	37,945
Total Expenditure	37,885	38,524	37,950	38,544
Net (Deficit)	(533)	-	-	(599)

D8 – MANAGEMENT OF VISITOR AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES

Description

This class of outputs covers:

- the maintenance and management by the Department of visitor and information centres
- the provision of information and interpretation to the public about the natural, cultural and historic heritage of New Zealand including publications, displays and interpretative media
- community relations work, including public awareness, relationship management at all levels including international, and community participation or involvement programmes.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goals to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" and "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- providing visitor and information centres, information and interpretation to the public about New Zealand's natural, cultural and historic heritage
- promoting public awareness, community participation and involvement programmes, and managing relationships including international relationships.

Under this output class, the Department also contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Grow an Inclusive, Innovative Economy for the Benefit of All" by:

- contributing to tourism through the provision of access by domestic and international visitors to the conservation estate and facilities, services and information.

OUTPUT 8.01: VISITOR CENTRES

Overview

This output covers the maintenance and management of visitor and information centres.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information services will be provided to about 2.0 million visitors at 29 visitor centres managed and staffed by the Department. 	<p>Information services were provided to about 2.2 million visitors at 32 visitor centres managed and staffed by the Department.</p> <p>(1999/00: 2.1 million; 1998/00: 2.1 million)</p>

OUTPUT 8.02: PUBLIC INFORMATION

Overview

This output covers the provision of information and interpretation to the public about the natural, cultural and historic heritage of New Zealand, including publications, displays, and interpretative media.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department will provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 60 new interpretation displays at visitor centres or on site – 40 visitor programmes to 11,300 participants. 70% of participants in visitor programmes who are surveyed will be satisfied or very satisfied. The Department's Internet website will contain up-to-date information on the Department's recreation and conservation services, and documents issued by the Department for consultation. The website will be monitored for frequency of access and the nature of inquiries. 	<p>The Department provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 57 new and revised interpretation displays at visitor centres or on site (1999/00: 88; 1998/99: 99); and – 409 visitor activities to 12,215 participants. (1999/00: 12,422 participants; 1998/99: 12,813 participants). <p>A total of 1,432 visitor programme participants were surveyed. Of these, 97% said they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their experience.</p> <p>The Department's Internet website was maintained daily, and contained up-to-date information on the Department's recreation and conservation services, and documents issued by the Department for consultation.</p> <p>Monitoring of website users identified 524,664 user sessions for the 2000/01 financial year. The website's sections on recreation, species information, what's new, biodiversity, and pests were the most popular points of interest.</p>

OUTPUT 8.03: COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Overview

This output covers community relations work, including public awareness, relationship management and community participation and involvement programmes.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6,000 volunteers are expected to provide 18,000 volunteer workdays. 	<p>A total of 10,271 volunteers provided 23,242 volunteer workdays.</p> <p>(1999/00: 7,488 volunteers provided 20,051 volunteer workdays; 1998/99: 9,593 volunteers provided 24,714 volunteer workdays)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65 New Zealand Conservation Corps schemes will be sponsored or supported. 	<p>The Department sponsored or supported 108 Conservation Corps schemes.</p> <p>(1999/00: 97; 1998/99: 87)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 activities will be run as part of the annual conservation events programme that includes World Wetlands Day, Sea Week, Arbor Day, Conservation Week and Clean up New Zealand Day. 	<p>The Department ran 260 activities as part of the annual conservation events programme.</p> <p>The Department also contributed to activities run by other parties.</p> <p>(1999/00: 201)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department will provide 100 public awareness programmes. 	<p>The Department provided 338 public awareness programmes.</p> <p>(1999/00: 144)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one special promotion will be undertaken relating to each conservancy showcase project. 	<p>The Department undertook 26 special promotions relating to showcase projects with at least one in every conservancy.</p> <p>(1999/00: 29)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship management plans for the Department's "Target Twenty" associates will be completed and implemented at national, conservancy and area office levels. 	<p>Relationship management plans for the Department's "Target Twenty" associates were completed and implementation at national level is continuing. These plans were completed and in action in 10 conservancies, and are under development in the 3 remaining conservancies.</p>

Projected Performance

- The Department will meet its reporting and other obligations under international conservation conventions, and contribute to key international fora. These include the Australian New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC), the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the International Whaling Commission (IWC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- The current rates of favourable opinion about the Department and its role, as ascertained through independent surveys, will be maintained or increased. The current rates are 70% of the general public (surveyed monthly) and 80% of key stakeholders (surveyed annually).

Performance Achieved

The Department met its reporting and other obligations under international conservation conventions, and contributed to key international fora. These included ANZECC, SPREP, CCAMLR, IWC, and CBD.

The Department's average favourability rating from the general public for the 2000/01 financial year was 74.5%. (1999/00: 72.8%)

This year's annual survey of key stakeholders was delayed. Full results of the survey for the 1999/00 financial year are now available. These showed that the Department's performance in managing relations with associates was steady, and that associates had an improved view of the Department's performance in specific areas.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2001	30/6/2000
	Actual	Main	Supplementary	Actual
		Estimates	Estimates	
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Revenue				
- Crown	15,600	14,127	15,600	13,486
- Other	4,062	4,177	4,177	3,862
Total Revenue	19,662	18,304	19,777	17,348
Total Expenditure	19,711	18,304	19,777	17,557
Net (Deficit)	(49)	-	-	(209)

D9 – CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND SERVICING OF STATUTORY BODIES

Description

This output class covers all work involved with management planning for natural and historic resources, by means of:

- conservation management strategies (CMSs) under Part III A of the Conservation Act 1987, which establish general policies and objectives for the integrated management of natural and historic resources managed by the Department and for recreation, tourism and other conservation purposes within a regional area
- national park management plans (NPMPs) under Part V of the National Parks Act 1980
- conservation management plans (CMPs) under Part III A of the Conservation Act 1987, which implement the conservation management strategy and establish detailed objectives for the management of resources within a specified area.

This work includes extensive public consultation with individuals, tangata whenua, conservation, recreation and farming groups, community groups, and local government, prior to the submission of these strategies and plans to the New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) for approval (CMSs and NPMPs) or the appropriate conservation board (CMPs).

It also covers the provision of administrative support and advice to conservation-related statutory bodies to enable them to fulfil their statutory roles. These bodies include the New Zealand Conservation Authority, the 14 conservation boards, and the Nga Whenua Rahui and Nature Heritage Fund committees. It also includes the management of the processes leading to the appointment by the Minister of Conservation of members of conservation boards and other conservation bodies.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goals to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" and "Strengthen National Identity and Uphold the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi" by:

- developing conservation management strategies and plans, and national park plans in consultation with the public and interest groups
- providing administrative support and advice to conservation-related statutory bodies such as the New Zealand Conservation Authority, regional conservation boards, Nga Whenua Rahui, and the Nature Heritage Fund.

OUTPUT 9.01: CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES, NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLANS, AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLANS

Overview

This output covers all work involved with management planning for natural and historic resources, by means of:

- conservation management strategies (CMSs) under Part IIIA of the Conservation Act 1987, which establish objectives for the integrated management of natural and historic resources managed by the Department and for recreation, tourism and other conservation purposes
- national park management plans (NPMPs) under Part V of the National Parks Act 1980
- conservation management plans (CMPs) under Part IIIA of the Conservation Act 1987, which implement the conservation management strategy and establish detailed objectives for the management of resources within a specified area.

Performance

Conservation Management Strategies, National Park Management Plans, and Conservation Management Plans

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 30 June 2001 all conservation management strategies will have been approved by the NZCA, with the possible exception of the Tongariro/Taupo conservation management strategy, which has been the subject of a Treaty of Waitangi claim. • Eight national park management plans will be reviewed, including Te Urewera, Tongariro, Egmont, Whanganui, Abel Tasman, Westland, Aoraki/ Mt Cook, and Fiordland. • The New Zealand Conservation Authority will approve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the Kahurangi National Park management plan unless approved prior to 2000/2001 – the revised Egmont management plan, if possible before the park centennial on 20 October 2000. 	<p>13 of the 15 conservation management strategies (CMSs) were approved by the NZCA. Of the remaining 2, the Tongariro/Taupo CMS was presented to the NZCA and the West Coast CMS was referred to the Minister of Conservation by the NZCA.</p> <p>Nine national park management plan reviews were initiated or progressed with 3 forwarded to the NZCA for approval.</p> <p>The NZCA approved the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan on 13 June 2001.</p> <p>The revised Egmont National Park Management Plan was not referred to the NZCA by 20 October 2000 due to issues requiring further consultation. However, it was forwarded within the term of the centennial year, which finishes in October 2001.</p>

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two new conservation management plans will be initiated and approved in respect of North Head and Moutohora (Whale Island). 	This measure was incorrectly put into the Departmental Forecast Report. The North Head and Moutohora conservation management plans were approved in 1999.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kaimanawa Forest Park conservation management plan will be reviewed and the revised plan approved. 	The Kaimanawa Forest Park Conservation Management Plan review did not proceed due to the focus on the Taupo/Tongariro Conservation Management Strategy.

OUTPUT 9.02: SERVICING OF STATUTORY BODIES

Overview

This output covers the provision of administrative support and advice to conservation-related statutory bodies to enable them to fulfil their statutory roles. It also includes the management of the processes leading to the appointment by the Minister of members of conservation boards and of other conservation bodies

It does not cover advice and support to the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, Lake Taupo Fisheries Advisory Committee, local authority reserves boards, or the New Zealand Fish and Game Council.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative support services will be provided to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six NZCA meetings an average of six meetings per conservation board Four Nature Heritage Fund meetings Four Nga Whenua Rahui meetings. The annual report for the NZCA for the 1999/2000 financial year will be produced by 15 December 2000. 	<p>The Department provided administrative support to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six meetings of the NZCA; an average of 5 meetings per conservation board; Four meetings of the Nature Heritage Fund; and Five meetings of Nga Whenua Rahui. <p>The annual report for the NZCA for the 1999/00 financial year was presented to the Minister of Conservation on 17 November 2000.</p>

Projected Performance

- Surveys of the NZCA, conservation boards, Nature Heritage Fund and Nga Whenua Rahui committees to assess their satisfaction with the level of administrative support will achieve an average rating of satisfied or very satisfied.
- Annual appointments to conservation boards will be processed in accordance with the Conservation Act 1987 and the Department's contributions to this process will be completed within the timeframe agreed with the Minister.

Performance Achieved

Statutory bodies were surveyed to assess their satisfaction with the level of administrative support from the Department.

On average, the New Zealand Conservation Authority (2000/01) and the conservation boards (2000/01) were satisfied or very satisfied with the level of administrative support from the Department. The Nature Heritage Fund Committee (2000/01) was very satisfied.

The Nga Whenua Rahui Committee advised they would provide their feedback directly to the Minister of Conservation.

Annual appointments to conservation boards for the year 2000 were processed in accordance with the Conservation Act 1987. The appointments were gazetted on 24 August 2000, within the timeframe agreed with the Minister.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
– Crown	3,072	2,650	3,072	2,691
– Other	150	39	39	5
Total Revenue	<u>3,222</u>	<u>2,689</u>	<u>3,111</u>	<u>2,696</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>2,972</u>	<u>2,689</u>	<u>3,111</u>	<u>2,682</u>
Net Surplus	<u>250</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>14</u>

VOTE BIOSECURITY - CONSERVATION OUTPUT CLASSES

D7 – POLICY ADVICE

Description

This output class includes the purchase of a range of policy advice and decision support for the Minister for Biosecurity and the Government. The scope of the class covers:

- advice on biosecurity legislation and organisation of the Biosecurity portfolio
- advice to Ministers and others in relation to the introduction of unwanted organisms and the effects on native fauna and flora
- the development of departmental policy and pest management strategies
- risk analysis and risk management in relation to protected/threatened native species and ecosystems
- the establishment, where needed, of systems for monitoring, surveillance and the early detection of new pests in indigenous forests and other natural ecosystems.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" through the provision of high quality and appropriate advice on legislation and biosecurity policy initiatives affecting conservation.

Performance

Projected Performance

- The quantity, nature and timing of advice are agreed with the Minister. Policy advice will be delivered in accordance with the following criteria:
 - Reports will clearly state their purpose and address any questions raised by the Minister.
 - Assumptions behind the advice are explicit, the argument logical and supported by facts.
 - All material facts will be included.
 - An adequate range of options will be presented and assessed for benefits, costs and consequences to biosecurity management.

Performance Achieved

Satisfaction with the Department's policy advice to the Minister for Biosecurity was sustained through regular contact.

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence will exist of adequate consultation with interested parties where applicable and possible objections to the proposals will be identified. - Problems with implementation, technical feasibility, compliance costs, enforcement implications, timing and consistency with other policies will be considered. - Material presented will meet Cabinet Office requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minister's views on quality of advice will be sought through appropriate means on a six-monthly basis. | <p>Satisfaction with the Department's policy advice to the Minister for Biosecurity was sustained through regular contact. The annual Ministerial survey rated the Department's quality of advice as good.</p> |
|--|--|--|

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
- Crown	201	105	201	80
- Other	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	201	105	201	80
Total Expenditure	193	105	201	80
Net Surplus	8	-	-	-

D8 – CROWN PEST/WEED EXACERBATOR COSTS

Description

This class of outputs includes “Crown as exacerbator” contributions to the administration of Regional Pest Management Strategies (RPMSs) developed and implemented by regional councils under the Biosecurity Act 1993. These strategies can impose costs and obligations on land occupiers, including the Crown (for example, the Department of Conservation in respect of lands that it administers). It also covers funding for weed and pest work to be undertaken by the Department of Conservation to meet agreed Crown as exacerbator obligations under these Regional Pest Management Strategies.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government’s Key Goal to “Protect and Enhance the Environment” by contributing to the costs of administration of Regional Pest Management Strategies developed and implemented by regional councils under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Conservation will ensure the funding meets the requirements of regional pest management strategies to the extent agreed by Cabinet. 	<p>Regional pest management strategy funding requirements have been met by the Department of Conservation, to the extent agreed to by Cabinet.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The contributions to RPMS administration negotiated with individual regional councils will be made in accordance with, and subject to, the maximum amount specified in the relevant Orders in Council. 	<p>Funding contributions to RPMS administration have been made in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Order in Council.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crown contributions to RPMS administration will be made as soon as the regional council has demonstrated that forecasted activities have been carried out in accordance with the RPMS. 	<p>Crown contributions have been made for RPMS administration where regional councils have demonstrated completion of agreed RPMS operations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the Department of Conservation carries out pest control on Crown land in accordance with a RPMS, pests will be controlled to the levels specified in the RPMS, as provided for in the relevant Order in Council. 	<p>The Department has controlled pests on Crown land to levels specified in the relevant RPMSs.</p>

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- By 28 July 2000, the Department of Conservation will provide annual reports to regional councils on work carried out in meeting its obligations under RPMSs.

Annual reports on the Department's fulfilment of RMPS obligations were presented to relevant regional councils by 28 July 2000.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
- Crown	2,190	2,373	2,190	2,200
- Other	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	<u>2,190</u>	<u>2,373</u>	<u>2,190</u>	<u>2,200</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>1,699</u>	<u>2,373</u>	<u>2,190</u>	<u>2,063</u>
Net Surplus	<u>491</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>137</u>

D9 – INDIGENOUS FOREST BIOSECURITY PROTECTION

Description

This class of outputs involves monitoring the health of indigenous forests in order to detect unwanted organisms that may affect indigenous forests. This includes aerial survey of at risk indigenous forests, ground examination of a representative range of indigenous tree species at hazard sites, and examination of indigenous tree species within five kilometres of specified ports for new introduced insects and diseases. It also covers the provision of forest health diagnostic and advisory services and field evaluations.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" by monitoring the health of indigenous forests to detect unwanted organisms.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The indigenous forest biosecurity surveillance programme subcontracted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry will be delivered in accordance with the specifications and standards agreed between the Department and the Ministry.¹ 	<p>Indigenous forest biosecurity surveillance was delivered as agreed, including completion of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aerial survey of the 4 nominated sites; – six of the 7 planned ground examinations, with the seventh site monitored aerially; – monitoring of 22 selected port locations; and – Development and delivery of a training syllabus on tree health awareness for Department of Conservation staff. <p>No incursions were identified.</p>

¹ The Memorandum of Understanding is between the Department of Conservation and the New Zealand Forest Research Institute Limited.

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
- Crown	42	33	42	33
- Other	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	<u>42</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>33</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>42</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>33</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

D10 – SPECIFIC PEST AND DISEASE RESPONSES

Description

This output class involves the delivery of services associated with responses to exotic disease or pest incursions, including the costs of a programme of eradication and control of *Undaria* seaweed in southern New Zealand.

Relationship to Government Outcomes

This output class contributes to the Government's Key Goal to "Protect and Enhance the Environment" by responding to exotic disease or pest incursions such as the eradication and control of *Undaria* seaweed.

Performance

Projected Performance	Performance Achieved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eradication and control of <i>Undaria</i> seaweed in Bluff Harbour and Big Glory Bay, Stewart Island, will be carried out to the agreed technical standards set out in the operational plan. 	<p>The eradication and control of <i>Undaria</i> seaweed in Bluff Harbour and Big Glory Bay, Stewart Island, has been undertaken to the agreed technical standards set out in the operational plan.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A vessel monitoring programme will be undertaken in Southland, Otago and South Canterbury to determine the extent of hull infestation by <i>Undaria</i>. 	<p>The Department undertook the vessel monitoring programme in Southland, Otago and South Canterbury to determine the extent of hull infestation by <i>Undaria</i>. Hull fouling within the surveillance area affected 22% of the 925 vessels monitored.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems will be implemented to monitor and reduce the risk of re-invasion through vessel hull infestation, including the undertaking of a public awareness programme that includes the production of interpretation panels. 	<p>Systems have been implemented to monitor and reduce the risk of re-invasion through vessel hull infestation, although the proposed interpretation panels were postponed while priority was given to controlling a founding population of <i>Undaria</i> in Halfmoon Bay, Stewart Island.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The success of the eradication programme will be assessed by a panel of Department and external scientific experts against performance standards agreed by the panel. 	<p>The success of the eradication programme has been assessed by a panel of Department and external scientific experts against performance standards agreed by the panel. Infestations of <i>Undaria</i> in Big Glory Bay (Stewart Island) and Bluff Harbour have been contained, and eradication is considered realistic in Big Glory Bay if additional management approaches are applied. New founding populations in other locations are considered to be a continuing threat.</p>

Projected Performance

Performance Achieved

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An annual report will be provided to the Ministers of Conservation, Fisheries, Biosecurity and Finance and to the Treasurer on the progress and results of the programme against the above performance standards. | <p>The annual report on the progress and results of the programme was received by the Ministers of Conservation, Fisheries, Biosecurity and Finance, and Treasurer on 26 March 2001.</p> |
|---|--|

OUTPUT CLASS OPERATING STATEMENT

	30/06/2001 Actual \$000	30/6/2001 Main Estimates \$000	30/6/2001 Supplementary Estimates \$000	30/6/2000 Actual \$000
Revenue				
- Crown	601	576	601	721
- Other	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	601	576	601	721
Total Expenditure	599	576	601	679
Net Surplus	2	-	-	42

FINANCIAL

STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

REPORTING ENTITY

The Department of Conservation is a Government department as defined by section 2 of the Public Finance Act 1989. These are the financial statements of the Department of Conservation prepared pursuant to section 35 of the Public Finance Act 1989.

In addition, the Department has reported the trust monies which it administers.

MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

The general accounting systems recognised as appropriate for the measurement and reporting of results and financial position on a historical cost basis, modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, have been followed.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following particular accounting policies which materially affect the measurement of financial results and financial position have been applied.

Budget figures

The Budget figures are those presented in the Budget Night Estimates (Main Estimates) as amended by the Supplementary Estimates and any transfer made by Order in Council under section 5 of the Public Finance Act 1989 (Supplementary Estimates).

Revenue

The Department derives revenue through the provision of outputs to the Crown, for services to third parties, donations and interest on its deposits with the New Zealand Debt Management Office (NZDMO). Such revenue is recognised when earned and is reported in the financial period to which it relates.

Cost allocation

The Department has determined the cost of outputs using a cost allocation system which is outlined below.

Cost allocation policy

Direct costs are charged directly to significant activities. Indirect costs are charged to significant activities based on cost drivers and related activity/usage information.

Criteria for direct and indirect costs

"Direct Costs" are those costs directly attributed to an output. "Indirect Costs" are those costs that cannot be identified, in an economically feasible manner, with a specific output.

Direct costs assigned to outputs

Direct costs are charged directly to outputs. Depreciation and capital charges are charged on the basis of asset utilisation. Personnel costs are charged on the basis of actual time incurred. Property and other premises costs, such as maintenance, are charged on the basis of floor area occupied for the production of each output.

For the year ended 30 June 2001, direct costs accounted for 53% of the Department's costs (2000: 52%).

Basis of assigning indirect and corporate costs to outputs

Indirect costs are assigned to business units based on the proportion of direct staff hours for each output.

For the year ended 30 June 2001, indirect costs accounted for 47% of the Department's costs (2000: 48%).

Receivables and advances

Receivables and advances are recorded at estimated realisable value, after providing for doubtful debts.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value on a first-in-first out basis. Standard costs that include production overheads are used for valuing nursery stocks.

Leases

The Department leases vehicles, office premises and office equipment. As all the risks and benefits of ownership are retained by the lessor, these leases are classified as operating leases and are expensed in the period in which the costs are incurred.

Fixed Assets

- (i) Freehold land and administrative buildings are valued by Valuersnet (registered valuers) for accounting purposes on a cyclical basis, every three years. The latest valuation was done as at 31 December 2000.
- (ii) Huts are valued at standard values based on depreciated replacement cost. They are revalued every three years.
- (ii) Other assets are valued at modified historical cost, modified only to the extent that a permanent impairment or improvement has occurred.

Any increase on revaluation of land or buildings is transferred directly to revaluation reserves unless it offsets a previous decrease in value recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance. The amount that offsets previously recognised decreases is reflected in the Statement of Financial Performance. A decrease in value is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance where it exceeds the amount of the revaluation reserve for that particular class of assets.

Any item costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

Depreciation

Depreciation of fixed assets, other than freehold land and work in progress is provided on a straight line basis so as to allocate the cost (or valuation) of assets to their estimated residual value over their useful lives.

The useful lives of assets have been estimated as follows:

Asset	Estimated Life
Buildings	20-40 years
Furniture, computers, other office equipment and software	5 years
Plant and field equipment	10 years
Vessels	6 years and 8 months-20 years
Motor vehicles	6 years and 8 months

Community assets

The nation's land and historic buildings managed by the Department are the nation's natural and historic heritage. As these community assets belong to the Crown, their valuation is not reflected in these financial statements. Typically this land includes the National and Forest Parks as well as Crown Reserve land, and is recorded in the Consolidated Crown Accounts.

Statement of cash flows

Cash means cash balances on hand, held in bank accounts and in short term deposits.

Operating activities include cash received from all income sources of the Department and record the cash payments made for the supply of goods and services.

Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition and disposal of non-current assets.

Financing activities comprise capital injections by, or repayment of capital to, the Crown.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Statement of Unappropriated Expenditure and the Statements of Departmental and Non-Departmental Expenditure and Appropriations are inclusive of GST. The Statement of Financial Position is GST exclusive except for payables, provisions and receivables. All other statements are GST exclusive.

The net amount of GST payable to the Inland Revenue Department at balance date, being the difference between Output GST and Input GST is shown as a current asset or current liability as appropriate in the Statement of Financial Position.

Taxation

Government departments are exempt from the payment of income tax in terms of the Income Tax Act 1994. Accordingly, no charge for income tax has been provided for.

Donation receipts

The Department receives unsolicited donations, gifts and grants from individuals, groups and companies. The treatment of these receipts is dependent on their nature:

- (i) donations which are received without a specific purpose are recognised as revenue in the period of receipt.
- (ii) donations received for specific purposes where a written agreement specifies the purpose for which the funds must be used are matched against related expenditure when it has been incurred. Where the expenditure has not been incurred the unspent balance is treated as revenue in advance.
- (iii) donations received for specified purposes under section 33 of the Conservation Act 1987, section 18 of the Walkways Act 1990 or section 78(3) of the Reserves Act 1977 are held in trust accounts established by section 67 of the Public Finance Act 1989. If the Department incurs expenditure in relation to achieving these specific purposes, the funds are transferred to the Department as revenue when the expenditure is incurred.

Taxpayers' Funds

This is the Crown's net investment in the Department.

Employee entitlements

Provision is made in respect of the Department's liability for annual, long service and retirement leave and time off in lieu. Annual leave and time off in lieu are recognised as they accrue to the employee while the retirement and long service leave have been calculated on an actuarial basis based on the present value of expected future entitlements.

Financial instruments

The Department is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations. These financial instruments include bank accounts, accounts payable and receivables, and short-term deposits.

All revenues and expenses in relation to financial instruments are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

All financial instruments are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position at their estimated fair value.

Commitments

Future expenses and liabilities to be incurred on contracts that have been entered into at balance date are disclosed as commitments at the point a contractual obligation exists, to the extent that they are equally unperformed obligations.

Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are disclosed at the point at which the contingency is evident.

Comparatives

Certain comparative information has been reclassified in order to conform with the current year's presentation.

CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

There have been no changes in accounting policies including cost allocation policies, since the date of the last audited financial statements. All policies have been applied on a basis consistent with the previous year.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE for the year ended 30 June 2001

		30/06/01 Actual	30/06/01 Main Estimates	30/06/01 Supp. Estimates	30/06/00 Actual
	Note	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Revenue					
Crown	2	150,814	146,679	150,814	134,777
Other	3	18,678	21,520	21,520	18,291
Interest	4	–	–	–	22
Total Revenue		169,492	168,199	172,334	153,090
Expenses					
Personnel	5	79,846	78,961	77,406	76,591
Operating	6	74,546	78,355	82,610	64,289
Depreciation	7	5,903	5,027	6,647	4,987
Capital charge	8	5,591	5,856	5,671	5,857
Loss on sale of fixed assets		184	–	–	33
Total Expenses		166,070	168,199	172,334	151,757
Net surplus		3,422	–	–	1,333

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN TAXPAYERS' FUNDS for the year ended 30 June 2001

		30/06/01 Actual	30/06/01 Main Estimates	30/06/01 Supp. Estimates	30/06/00 Actual
	Note	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Total taxpayers' funds at beginning of year		56,033	58,564	56,033	58,564
Net surplus		3,422	–	–	1,333
Increase in revaluation reserve	9	1,250	–	–	286
Total recognised revenues and expenses for the year		4,672	–	–	1,619
Provision for repayment of surplus to the Crown		(3,422)	–	–	(1,333)
Capital contributions	10	6,160	808	6,160	–
Revaluation reserve realised on disposal		–	–	–	405
Asset transfers	11	77	–	–	(3,222)
Total taxpayers' funds at end of year		63,520	59,372	62,193	56,033

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2001

	Note	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/01 Main Estimates \$000	30/06/01 Supp. Estimates \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Current assets					
Cash and bank balances	12	24,936	8,837	17,548	19,574
Prepayments		620	199	151	151
Inventories	13	936	1,062	1,037	1,037
GST receivable		488	675	(148)	(148)
Receivables	14	3,842	1,566	2,818	2,818
Total current assets		30,822	12,339	21,406	23,432
Non-current assets					
Fixed assets	15	68,848	77,178	70,005	63,152
Total non current assets		68,848	77,178	70,005	63,152
Total assets		99,670	89,517	91,411	86,584
Current liabilities					
Payables and provisions	16	15,748	15,581	13,888	14,144
Provision for repayment of surplus to the Crown		3,422	–	–	1,333
Provision for employee entitlements	17	7,844	6,075	7,160	7,160
Other liabilities	18	647	1,138	1,009	753
Total current liabilities		27,661	22,794	22,057	23,390
Non current liabilities					
Loan	19	49	65	65	65
Provision for employee entitlements	20	8,440	7,286	7,096	7,096
Total non current liabilities		8,489	7,351	7,161	7,161
Total liabilities		36,150	30,145	29,218	30,551
Taxpayers' funds					
General funds		44,148	41,099	44,626	37,973
Revaluation reserve	21	19,372	18,273	17,567	18,060
Total taxpayers' funds		63,520	59,372	62,193	56,033
Total liabilities and taxpayers' funds		99,670	89,517	91,411	86,584

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS for the year ended 30 June 2001

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/01 Main Estimates \$000	30/06/01 Supp. Estimates \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Cash flows – Operating activities				
Supply of outputs to Crown	150,814	146,679	150,814	134,777
Supply of outputs to Customers	17,483	24,633	21,520	20,416
Interest	–	–	–	56
	<u>168,297</u>	<u>171,312</u>	<u>172,334</u>	<u>155,249</u>
Cash disbursed to:				
Produce outputs				
– personnel	78,036	79,232	77,406	77,031
– operating	72,550	80,115	82,610	72,980
– net GST (received)/paid	894	–	–	(522)
– capital charge	5,591	5,856	5,671	5,857
	<u>157,071</u>	<u>165,203</u>	<u>165,687</u>	<u>155,346</u>
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities	<u>11,226</u>	<u>6,109</u>	<u>6,647</u>	<u>(97)</u>
Cash flows – Investing activities				
Cash provided from:				
Sale of fixed assets	961	2,087	2,087	2,013
Cash disbursed to:				
Purchase of fixed assets	11,636	11,947	15,587	8,850
	<u>(10,675)</u>	<u>(9,860)</u>	<u>(13,500)</u>	<u>(6,837)</u>
Net cash inflow from investing activities	<u>(10,675)</u>	<u>(9,860)</u>	<u>(13,500)</u>	<u>(6,837)</u>
Cash flows – Financing activities				
Cash provided from:				
Capital contributions	6,160	808	6,160	–
Cash disbursed to:				
Repayment of surplus to Crown	1,333	5,629	1,333	184
Repayment of loan	16	–	–	16
	<u>1,349</u>	<u>5,629</u>	<u>1,333</u>	<u>200</u>
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financing activities	<u>4,811</u>	<u>(4,821)</u>	<u>4,827</u>	<u>(200)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	<u>5,362</u>	<u>(8,572)</u>	<u>(2,026)</u>	<u>(7,134)</u>
Add opening cash balance	19,574	17,409	19,574	26,708
Closing cash and deposits	<u>24,936</u>	<u>8,837</u>	<u>17,548</u>	<u>19,574</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

RECONCILIATION OF NET SURPLUS AND NET CASHFLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES for the year ended 30 June 2001

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/01 Main Estimates \$000	30/06/01 Supp. Estimates \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Net surplus	3,422	–	–	1,333
Add / (Less) non-cash items:				
Depreciation	5,903	5,027	6,647	4,987
Bad debts & Provision for doubtful debts	337	–	–	39
Provision for employee entitlements	1,912	(271)	–	195
Total non-cash items	8,152	4,756	6,647	5,221
Movements in working Capital				
Inventories decrease	101	170	–	195
Receivables and advances (increase)/decrease	(1,361)	3,553	–	1,089
GST receivable (increase)	(636)	(301)	–	–
Prepayment (increase)/decrease	(469)	1,020	–	1,034
Crown creditor (decrease)	–	–	–	(6,413)
Payables and provisions increase/(decrease)	1,767	(3,298)	–	(2,413)
Other liabilities increase/(decrease)	66	209	–	(176)
Net movement in working capital	(532)	1,353	–	(6,684)
Add/(less) investing activity items				
Net loss on sale of fixed assets	184	–	–	33
Total investing activities	184	–	–	33
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities	11,226	6,109	6,647	(97)

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS

as at 30 June 2001

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Capital commitments		
Other plant and equipment	–	45
Total capital commitments	–	45
Operating commitments:		
Non-cancellable accommodation leases		
less than one year	3,788	3,835
one to two years	3,501	4,070
two to five years	7,363	9,176
later than five years	2,858	5,331
Other non-cancellable leases		
less than one year	285	256
one to two years	190	145
two to five years	151	50
later than five years	6	7
Other commitments		
less than one year	2,928	562
one to two years	907	326
two to five years	644	561
later than five years	–	516
Total operating commitments	22,621	24,835
Total commitments	22,621	24,880

In addition to the above, the Department has on going science contracts with universities, research institutions and individuals. These contracts are cancellable and extend up to 5 years. The sum involved for science contracts as at 30 June 2001 is \$3.7m (2000: \$3.2m).

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CONTINGENT LIABILITIES as at 30 June 2001

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Public liability claims	15,266	15,267
Designations	855	855
Total contingent liabilities	16,121	16,122

These relate to claims against the Department and are disclosed without prejudice. The Department's contingent liabilities are broken down as follows:

- 31 Court and Tribunal proceedings, 12 of which are Treaty-related claims for ownership of land, rivers, seabed or foreshore. Treaty-related claims are in fact claims against the Crown and are not currently quantifiable. The combined contingent liability of the quantifiable claims is \$4m approximately. Three claims account for \$3.5m of that total. The largest claim (\$2.3m) involves a land exchange dispute.
- 52 potential claims, 30 of which are not quantifiable at present. The combined contingent liability for the quantifiable potential claims is \$11.1m approximately. One potential claim has a maximum exposure of \$8m and therefore makes up nearly 75% of the contingent liability for potential claims.
- 8 designations, all of which are quantified. The total contingent liability for these is \$0.9m. One designation is \$0.5m and therefore accounts for 60% of the value of the designations. A designation is a notice to protect the status quo on land for a future public work. The contingent liability is that if the designation proceeds the Department will have to pay for the land.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATIONS for the year ended 30 June 2001

(GST inclusive)	30/06/01	30/06/01	30/06/01	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Supp. Approved	Expense Transfer	Under	Actual
	\$000	Estimates by Cabinet	Approved	Expenditure	\$000
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
OUTPUT CLASSES					
Vote: Biosecurity					
D7 Policy advice	218	226	–	8	90
D8 Crown pest/weeds					
exacerbator costs	1,973	2,464	45	446	2,338
D9 Indigenous forest biosecurity protection	47	47	–	–	37
D10 Specific pest and disease response	674	676	–	2	769
Sub-total Biosecurity	2,912	3,413	45	456	3,234
Vote: Conservation					
D1 Policy advice	2,945	3,122	177	–	2,144
D2 Legal protection	4,321	4,461	137	3	3,164
D3 Statutory planning	4,039	4,081	–	42	3,568
D4 Conservation estate management	55,691	58,439	2,748	–	50,537
D5 Protected species management	39,631	41,511	1,880	–	34,091
D6 Licences and Regulations management	9,556	10,407	851	–	8,122
D7 Recreation services	42,554	42,693	139	–	43,287
D8 Education and information services	22,169	22,249	80	–	19,726
D9 Servicing Crown agencies ...	3,375	3,500	–	125	3,019
Sub-total Conservation	184,281	190,463	6,012	170	167,658
Total output appropriations	187,193	193,876	6,057	626	170,892

In April 2001 Cabinet approved in principle the transfer of expenditure from 2000/01 to 2001/02.

These carry forwards are calculated after the year end to be the lesser of the approved amount or the actual under expenditure. These carry forwards are in respect of operations which in 2000/01 were delayed due to various reasons such as:

- Number of court cases pending in respect of Iwi claims for ownership of the Marlborough foreshore & seabed;
- Delays in establishing Marine Reserves as a result of complex consultations and negotiation processes;
- Adverse weather conditions and/or resource consent delays and available contractor capacity;
- Difficulties with contract negotiations and plans for major upgrade of radio communications;
- Delays in Ngai Tahu Settlement Implementation.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF NON-DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATIONS

for the year ended 30 June 2001

(GST inclusive)	30/06/01	30/06/01	30/06/01	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Supp. Estimates	Expense Transfer Approved by Cabinet	Under Expenditure	Actual
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Vote: Conservation					
Appropriation for non-departmental output classes					
O1 Identification and implementation of protection for natural and historic resources	4,109	15,612	6,330	5,173	14,648
O2 Management services for natural and historic places	791	866	–	75	948
Sub-total output classes	4,900	16,478	6,330	5,248	15,596
Appropriation for other expenses to be incurred by the Crown					
Esplanade Reserve					
Compensation	15	30	–	15	16
Lake Taupo access fee	750	860	–	110	778
Matauranga Maori Fund	39	40	–	1	–
Payment of interest to Waitutu Incorporation	–	–	–	–	49
Subscriptions to International Organisations	248	280	–	32	207
To Reserves Trust	221	3,100	–	2,879	1,356
Waikaremoana lakebed lease	139	140	–	1	139
Sub-total other expenses	1,412	4,450	–	3,038	2,545
Capital Contributions to the Department					
Capital Investment	6,160	6,160	–	–	–
Sub-total capital contributions	6,160	6,160	–	–	–
Appropriation for purchase or development of capital assets by the Crown					
Purchase of Land for Kiwi Sanctuaries	254	495	–	241	–
Vested coastal marine areas	–	30	–	30	5
Sub-total capital assets	254	525	–	271	5
Total payments	12,726	27,613	6,330	8,557	18,146

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF UNAPPROPRIATED EXPENDITURE for the year ended 30 June 2001

There are no items of unappropriated expenditure (2000: \$nil).

STATEMENT OF TRUST MONIES for the year ended 30 June 2001

	As at 30/06/00 \$000	Contri- butions \$000	Distri- butions \$000	Revenue \$000	As at 30/06/01 \$000
Conservation Project					
Trust	391	397	(184)	20	624
Reserve Trust	3,488	71	(485)	36	3,110
NZ Walkway Trust	5	–	–	1	6
National Park Trust	135	55	(51)	3	142
Bonds/Deposits Trusts	794	38	(242)	64	654
Total	4,813	561	(962)	124	4,536

The Department has delegated authority to operate these trust accounts under sections 66 and 67 of the Public Finance Act 1989.

There are three sources of receipts:

- (i) Donations, grants and gifts received for specific purposes under s.33 of the Conservation Act 1987, s.18 of the Walkways Act 1990 or s.78(3) of the Reserves Act 1977, and specific trust money under the National Parks Act 1980.
- (ii) Bonds and deposits from operators working on the Conservation Estate including those contracted by the Department. These are repaid when the operators have been cleared of all obligations.
- (iii) Monies received from the sales of reserves are deposited to the Reserves Trust. The funds are applied for the purpose set out under s.82 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of, and should be read in conjunction with, these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2001

Note 1: Major Budget Variations

Statement of Financial Performance

- (i) **Revenue other:** Movement in revenue is mainly due to a decrease in employment scheme recoveries.
- (ii) **Departmental revenue:** Movement in departmental revenue is mainly due to a decrease in administration recoveries.
- (iii) **Personnel expenses:** Increase in personnel expenses is mainly due to increase in temporary workers as opposed to contractors.
- (iv) **Operating expenses:** Decrease in operating expenses is mainly due to transfer of expenses from 2000/01 to 2001/02 as approved by the Cabinet.

Statement of Financial Position

Cash received in respect of operating activities was approximately \$4.0 million less than the Supplementary Estimates and cash applied to operating activities was approximately \$8.6 million less than the Supplementary Estimates. The net purchase of fixed assets (purchases less disposal) was approximately \$2.8 million less than Supplementary Estimates. These resulted in an increased closing cash position of approximately \$7.4 million.

Note 2: Crown Revenue

This is revenue earned for the supply of outputs to the Crown.

Note 3: Other revenue

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Recreational charges	6,909	6,390
Leases and rents	707	734
Retail sales	3,007	2,746
Resource sales	2,619	2,698
Donations - sponsorships	1,175	1,640
Other	4,261	4,083
Total other revenue	18,678	18,291

There have been no significant changes to existing user charges during the year.

Note 4: Interest

Interest received is from call and short-term deposits with the New Zealand Debt Management Office. Interest is earned at variable rates.

Note 5: Personnel expenses

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Salaries and wages	74,277	71,633
Long service leave	1,912	195
Superannuation subsidies	919	901
Recruitment	483	263
Uniforms	527	317
ACC levies	644	1,076
Other	1,084	2,206
Total personnel expenses	79,846	76,591

Training expenses for the current year are included under operating expenses. The increase in personnel expenses is mainly due to Biodiversity Strategy and Conservation Awareness programmes.

Note 6: Operating expenses

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Professional fees & contractors	25,899	19,031
Audit fees to the auditors for audit of the financial statements	122	119
Fees to auditors for other services provided	42	10
Grants	512	354
Bad Debts write-off	341	12
Assets write off	283	-
Movement in provision for bad debts	(4)	39
Communications and computer expenses	6,984	8,837
Travel	3,901	3,334
Motor vehicle & boat expenses	3,204	2,680
Accommodation	2,336	2,811
Office supplies	4,191	1,599
Field supplies	11,639	11,528
Lease expense	8,242	8,102
Printing	1,900	1,362
Other	4,954	4,471
Total operating expenses	74,546	64,289

Increase in operating expenses is mainly due to Biodiversity Strategy funding and new initiative funding for Conservation Awareness.

Note 7: Depreciation

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Administrative buildings	1,321	1,345
Visitor facilities	710	630
Plant & field equipment	590	559
Furniture, computers, other office equipment and software ..	1,707	864
Motor vehicles	1,384	1,413
Vessels	191	176
Total depreciation	5,903	4,987

The increase in depreciation on furniture, computers, other office equipment and software is mainly due to DOC Net Connect 2000 (nationwide network system).

Note 8: Capital charge

The Department pays a capital charge to the Crown twice yearly on the opening balance of taxpayers' funds including revaluation reserve.

The capital charge rate for the year ended 30 June 2001 was 10% (2000: 10%).

Note 9: Increase in revaluation reserve

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Land	141	855
Buildings	1,109	(569)
Total increase in revaluation reserve	1,250	286

Note 10: Capital contribution

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Transfer of Timberlands West Coast Limited roading infrastructure	5,000	-
Officers mess at Fort Takapuna	23	-
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity information system ..	808	-
Software applications to manage information about threatened pest and common species	329	-
Total Capital Contribution	6,160	-

Note: 11 Assets transfers

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Assets transferred from other departments to Department of Conservation	77	–
Assets transferred from Department to Crown	–	(3,222)
Total Assets transfers	77	(3,222)

Note 12. Cash and bank balances

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Cash at bank	24,855	19,493
Petty cash floats	81	81
Total cash and bank balances	24,936	19,574

The Department's bankers are WestpacTrust under an arrangement between WestpacTrust and the Crown.

Note 13: Inventories

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Retail	677	700
Nursery	83	79
Fire control supplies	21	23
Wild animal control supplies	155	235
Total inventories	936	1,037

Note 14: Receivables

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Accounts receivable	1,559	2,135
Less: provision for doubtful debts	(118)	(122)
Net accounts receivable	1,441	2,013
Other receivables	2,401	805
Total receivables	3,842	2,818

Note 15: Fixed assets

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Freehold land		
At valuation	3,619	3,521
Land – net current value	3,619	3,521
Administrative buildings		
At valuation	33,569	30,388
Accumulated depreciation	(1,167)	(2,996)
Buildings – net current value	32,402	27,392
Visitor facilities		
At valuation	14,637	14,187
Accumulated depreciation	(4,900)	(4,216)
Buildings – net current value	9,737	9,971
Other assets		
Plant and field equipment		
At cost	7,103	6,630
Accumulated depreciation	(3,857)	(3,493)
Plant and field equipment – net book value	3,246	3,137
Furniture, computers, other office equipment and software		
At cost	10,951	10,027
Accumulated depreciation	(4,874)	(4,510)
Furniture, computers, other office equipment and software – net book value	6,077	5,517
Motor vehicles		
At cost	15,150	14,722
Accumulated depreciation	(5,639)	(5,266)
Vehicles – net book value	9,511	9,456
Vessels		
At cost	3,095	3,072
Accumulated depreciation	(2,071)	(1,942)
Vessels – net book value	1,024	1,130
Work in progress – net carrying value	3,232	3,028
Total fixed assets		
At cost and valuation	91,356	85,575
Accumulated depreciation	(22,508)	(22,423)
Total net carrying value of fixed assets	68,848	63,152

Note 16: Payables and provisions

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Trade creditors	8,899	6,882
Other	6,849	7,262
Total payables and provisions	15,748	14,144

Note 17: Employee entitlements (current)

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Accrued salaries and wages	2,422	1,895
Current portion of retiring & long service leave (as per note 20)	568	-
Accrued annual leave and time off in lieu	4,854	5,265
Total employee entitlements (current)	7,844	7,160

Note 18: Other liabilities

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Revenue in advance – other	647	753
Total other liabilities	647	753

Funds received for specific purposes are recorded as 'Revenue in advance - other' until such time as the output for which the funds have been received has been produced.

Note 19: Loan

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Opening balance as at 1 July	65	81
Less: Repayments	(16)	(16)
Total loan as at 30 June	49	65

The above loan is from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority for the purpose of reducing energy expenditure at Great Barrier Island. It is given for installation and use of equipment at stations on Great Barrier Island. This loan is interest free and is repayable over 20 quarterly instalments commencing 15 August 1999.

Note 20: Employee entitlements (non current)

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Retiring leave	7,025	5,922
Long service leave	1,983	1,174
	9,008	7,096
Less: Current portion of retiring and long service leave	568	–
Total employee entitlements (non current)	8,440	7,096

Note 21: Revaluation reserve

	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual	Actual
	\$000	\$000
Freehold land		
Balance brought forward	2,320	2,770
Unrealised gains	141	855
Revaluation (loss) realised on disposal	(37)	(1,305)
Closing balance	2,424	2,320
Administrative buildings		
Balance brought forward	12,967	13,877
Unrealised gains/(losses)	1,109	(559)
Revaluation gain/(loss) realised on disposal	66	(351)
Closing balance	14,142	12,967
Visitor facilities		
Balance brought forward	2,749	2,588
Unrealised (losses)	–	(5)
Revaluation gain realised on disposal	33	166
Closing balance	2,782	2,749
Other assets		
Balance brought forward	24	24
Closing balance	24	24
Total revaluation reserve	19,372	18,060

Gains and losses on revaluation realised reflect the amount transferred from the revaluation reserve to taxpayers' funds upon sale or disposal of an asset.

Note 22: Financial instruments

The Department is party to financial instrument arrangements as part of its everyday operations. These include instruments such as bank balances, accounts receivable, short-term deposits and foreign currency forward contracts.

Credit risk

In the normal course of its business, the Department incurs credit risk from trade debtors, transactions with WestpacTrust and the New Zealand Debt Management Office (NZDMO). The Department does not require any collateral or security to support financial instruments with financial institutions that the Department deals with, or with NZDMO, as these entities have high credit ratings. For its other financial instruments, the Department does not have significant concentrations of risk.

Fair value

The fair value of the Department's financial assets and liabilities is equivalent to the carrying value shown on the Statement of Financial Position.

Currency and interest rate risk

The Department has no exposure to currency or interest rate risks as all investments are with the New Zealand Debt Management Office of the Treasury.

All interest earned on short-term deposits with the New Zealand Debt Management Office are returned to the Crown as part of the surplus repayable to the Crown.

Note 23: Visitor assets

When the Department's opening balance sheet was prepared in 1989, the original asset identification did not separately identify all visitor assets as part of the departmental balance sheet. Visitor assets not separately identified included tracks and structures on the Conservation estate.

The expenses associated with the maintenance of these assets were reflected in the Department's Statement of Financial Performance.

The Department has recognised that in order to comply with the requirements of the new Financial Reporting Standard 3 (FRS-3) issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand, it will need to account fully for its assets. FRS-3 comes into force for accounting periods ending on or after 31 March 2002.

The Department has been carrying out a national programme of inspection and assessment to identify and quantify all the visitor assets for which it is responsible. Although significant progress has been made, as at 30 June 2001 the programme has not yet been completed. The Department will have information available in time for the 30 June 2002 financial statements, to enable it to meet the requirements of FRS-3.

Until the inventory of visitor assets has been completed and valued. It is not possible to reliably measure any additional assets or estimate any effect on the financial statements. The value of unrecorded assets is however expected to be significant.

Note: 24 Related party information

The Department is a wholly owned entity of the Crown. The Government significantly influences the roles of the Department as well as being its major source of revenue.

The Department enters into numerous transactions with other government departments, Crown agencies and state-owned enterprises on an arm's length basis. These transactions are not considered to be related party transactions.

Apart from those transactions described above, the Department has not entered into any related party transactions.

ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION

SUMMARY OF OUTPUT CLASS EXPENDITURE BY OUTPUT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001 (EXCLUDING GST)

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
Vote: Biosecurity		
D7 Policy advice	193	80
D8 Crown pest/weeds exacerbator costs	1,699	2,063
D9 Indigenous forest biosecurity protection	42	33
D10 Specific pest and disease responses	599	679
Total Biosecurity	2,533	2,855
Vote: Conservation		
D1 Policy Advice and Ministerial Servicing		
Policy and Legislative Review	1,483	805
Treaty of Waitangi	685	618
Ministerial Servicing	430	470
Total Policy Advice and Ministerial Servicing	2,598	1,893
D2 Implementation of Legal Protection		
Legal Protection and Status Changes	1,928	1,603
Legal Protection of Marine Areas	594	202
Tenure Review	1,310	991
Total Implementation of Legal Protection	3,832	2,796
D3 Statutory Planning and Coastal Responsibilities under Resource Management Act		
Terrestrial, Freshwater, Marine and Historic Advocacy	2,556	2,204
Coastal Responsibilities	1,039	969
Total Statutory Planning and Coastal Responsibilities under Resource Management Act	3,595	3,173
D4 Management Services: Conservation Estate		
Fire Control	7,257	5,696
Possum Control	11,775	12,452
Goat Control	6,459	5,888
Other Animal Pest Control	7,518	5,548
Invasive Weed Control	8,255	8,593
Historic Heritage	4,304	3,750
Generalist Inventory and Monitoring	1,801	1,583
Marine Protected Areas Management	1,507	1,385
Restoration	559	-
Total Management Services: Conservation Estate	49,435	44,895

	30/06/01 Actual \$000	30/06/00 Actual \$000
D5 Management Services: Protected Species and Island Habitats		
Species Conservation Programmes	23,872	21,021
Mainland Island Sites	2,539	2,855
Island Management and Restoration	4,306	2,734
Marine Mammals	1,474	1,268
CITES	1,001	874
Conservation Service Levy	1,899	1,472
Total Management Services: Protected Species and Island Habitats	35,091	30,224
D6 Management of Statutory Actions, Leases, Licences and Other Concessions		
Concession Management	5,552	4,369
Pastoral Leases	275	299
Statutory Land Management	1,979	1,906
Treaty of Waitangi Settlement Implementation	612	564
Total Management of Statutory Actions, Leases, Licences and Other Concessions	8,418	7,138
D7 Provision of Recreational Opportunities: Access, Facilities and Services		
Visitor Accommodation	8,710	10,203
Tracks and Walkways	14,978	14,786
Amenity Areas, Roads, Carparks, Wharves and Other Structures	6,976	6,897
Visitor Services	4,865	4,232
Taupo Sports Fishery	2,355	2,427
Total Provision of Recreational Opportunities: Access, Facilities and Services	37,884	38,545
D8 Management of Visitor and Public Information Services		
Visitor Centres	9,141	9,024
Public Information	2,322	2,440
Community Relations	5,918	6,092
Conservation Awareness	2,330	-
Total Management of Visitor and Public Information Services	19,711	17,556
D9 Conservation Management Strategies and Servicing of Statutory Bodies		
Conservation Management Strategies and Conservation Management Plans	848	715
Servicing of Statutory Bodies	2,125	1,967
Total Conservation Management Strategies and Servicing of Statutory Bodies	2,973	2,682
Total Conservation	163,537	148,902
Total Output Appropriations	166,070	151,757

EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001 BY CONSERVANCY

Conservancies, Regional Offices and Head Office	30/06/01	30/06/00
	Actual \$000	Actual \$000
Northland Conservancy	11,861	11,030
Auckland Conservancy	10,929	10,654
Waikato Conservancy	10,672	10,342
Bay of Plenty Conservancy	6,982	6,632
Tongariro / Taupo Conservancy	9,679	8,748
Wanganui Conservancy	9,906	8,500
Hawke's Bay / East Coast Conservancy	9,969	9,946
Wellington Conservancy	8,937	8,149
Nelson / Marlborough Conservancy	13,839	13,179
West Coast Conservancy	14,198	12,875
Canterbury Conservancy	13,549	12,358
Otago Conservancy	10,062	8,736
Southland Conservancy	14,384	13,104
Northern Regional Office	687	559
Central Regional Office	2,697	1,422
Southern Regional Office	470	237
Head Office	17,249	15,286
Total Expenses as per Statement of Financial Performance	166,070	151,757

PERMANENT FULL TIME STAFF EQUIVALENT NUMBERS FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS

Year ended 30 June 1998	1,400
Year ended 30 June 1999	1,438
Year ended 30 June 2000	1,373
Year ended 30 June 2001	1,434

PERFORMANCE OF RESERVE BOARDS as at 30 June 2000

Reserve Board	Type	Revenue	Expenditure	Net Assets
Awakapanga	Hall	2,865	7,246	186,986
Bruce Bay	Hall	1,940	3,660	52,191
Charleston*	Hall	1600	1850	90,000
Glorit*	Hall	1,300	800	55,000
Haast	Hall	1,248	3,415	70,380
Homewood	Hall	671	2,915	90,696
Kokatahi	Hall	9,838	11,956	407,322
Millerton	Hall	9,934	9,701	22,407
Papanui	Hall	805	1,026	26,000*
Ruakaka Central	Hall	11,400	5,090	100,000
Ruawhata	Hall	283	403	27,148
Taurikura	Hall	850	650	66,350
Tiriraukawa	Hall	824	327	38,164
Waitaha	Hall	153	327	32,705
Granity	Recreation	5,320	4,779	46,564
Horowhenua	Recreation	1,034	939	35,207
Kaiteriteri	Recreation	2,145,378	1,943,197	2,027,960
Matata	Recreation	26,335	28,027	33,664
Nelson Creek	Recreation	3,194	3,512	23,894
Ngunguru	Recreation	6,490	10,660	183,180
Oakura	Recreation	2,010	2,760	200,000
Poukiore	Recreation	1,403	1,059	58,143
Ruakaka	Recreation	187,185	156,890	353,825
Tamaeterau*	Recreation	1,300	1,100	195,000
Waikeikei	Recreation	5,020	5,260	115,200
Waipu Cove	Recreation	310,750	279,370	1,024,650
Whatitiri*	Recreation	10,000	4,000	120,000
Whitireia Park	Recreation	21,828	32,470	162,502
Coates Memorial				
Church	Local purpose	413	241	100,000
Lake Rotoiti	Scenic	4,161	2,958	10,324

Notes

* An estimate based on figures for earlier years.

The details above are dated to 30 June 2000 because they are based on audited reports which are often not available until after the deadline for the preparation of the annual report.

In last year's annual report the Department stated there were 33 known reserve boards. That figure has since been reduced to 31 because the Rotherham Recreation Reserve has been vested in the Hurunui District Council, and the Omihiri Recreation Reserve has been administered by that council since 1993. The formal vesting of the Omihiri reserve in the council will be dealt with in the current year.

Some figures show significant changes from last year, which can be explained as follows:

- The previous net assets figure for the Taurikura Hall Board was before audit. The current figure is believed to be a more accurate figure.
- The previous net asset value for the Oakura Recreation Reserve Board included the land value.
- The previous net asset value for the Waipu Cove Recreation Reserve Board should have been \$993,200, which is in line with the figure shown above.