

Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Amendment Notice 2020

Pursuant to section 22 of the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978, the Minister of Conservation, with the consent of the Minister of Energy and Resources, the Minister of Fisheries, and the Minister of Transport, gives the following notice.

Contents

		Page
1	Title	1
2	Commencement	1
3	Principal notice	1
4	Clause 3 amended (Interpretation)	1
5	Clause 5 replaced (Restrictions on seismic surveying)	3
	5 Restrictions on seismic surveying	3
	6 Restriction on seabed mining	4

Notice

- 1 Title**
This notice is the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Amendment Notice 2020.
- 2 Commencement**
This notice comes into force on 5 November 2020.
- 3 Principal notice**
This notice amends the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Notice 2008 (the **principal notice**).
- 4 Clause 3 amended (Interpretation)**
 - (1) In clause 3(1), revoke the definitions of **acoustic seismic survey, acoustic source, activate, cetacean, during poor visibility, explosion, internal waters, low-water line, mitigating acoustic device, passive acoustic moni-**

toring, qualified observer, soft start, source of acoustic pressure waves, source vessel, source vessel observer, and territorial sea.

- (2) In clause 3(1), insert in their appropriate alphabetical order:

existing permit—

- (a) means a mining permit, an exploration permit, or a prospecting permit that has been granted and has not expired or been surrendered or revoked on the date on which the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Amendment Notice 2020 comes into force; and
- (b) includes—
 - (i) an extension of land granted to the area of an existing permit, an existing privilege, or a subsequent permit under the applicable mining legislation after the date on which the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Amendment Notice 2020 comes into force; and
 - (ii) an authorisation granted under applicable mining legislation that allows seismic surveying outside the area of an existing permit, an existing privilege, or a subsequent permit after the date on which the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Amendment Notice 2020 comes into force

existing privilege has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991

exploration permit has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991

hazard assessment means—

- (a) an assessment of faults following a major seismic event; or
- (b) an assessment of the likelihood of, or for the purpose of mitigating the potential effects of, an anticipated natural hazard or a maritime accident, incident, or mishap

mining has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991

mining permit has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991

petroleum has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991

prospecting permit has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991

seabed mining—

- (a) means mining in the seabed; but
- (b) excludes mining for petroleum

subsequent permit—

- (a) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991; and
- (b) includes subsequent permits granted after the date on which the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Amendment Notice 2020 comes into force

5 Clause 5 replaced (Restrictions on seismic surveying)

Replace clause 5 with:

5 Restrictions on seismic surveying

- (1) A person must not carry out a seismic survey from a vessel in the sanctuary created by clause 4(1) unless the seismic survey is undertaken in accordance with one of the following exemptions:
 - (a) under an existing permit, an existing privilege, or a subsequent permit:
 - (b) for decommissioning of mining infrastructure even where there is no existing permit, existing privilege, or subsequent permit in force:
 - (c) for an urgent hazard assessment:
 - (d) for Level 3 surveys as defined in the *2013 Code of Conduct for Minimising Acoustic Disturbance to Marine Mammals from Seismic Survey Operations*:
 - (e) pursuant to an approval by the Minister of Conservation and the Minister of Energy and Resources for an activity—
 - (i) that is nationally significant; and
 - (ii) that has a purpose that cannot be achieved if the activity is conducted outside the sanctuary area.
- (2) A seismic survey authorised by a permit under the Crown Minerals Act 1991 that does not qualify for an exemption under subclause (1)(a) is not eligible for an approval by the Ministers under subclause (1)(e).
- (3) A seismic survey that is exempt from the prohibition must comply with the *2013 Code of Conduct for Minimising Acoustic Disturbance to Marine Mammals from Seismic Survey Operations* when undertaking seismic surveying within the sanctuary.
- (4) Surveyors undertaking a Level 3 survey under subclause (1)(d) must provide the Director-General of Conservation with the following information within 30 days of completing the survey:
 - (a) the date and time of the survey commencement and of its completion:
 - (b) the type of sound source used:
 - (c) the geographic area surveyed.

Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary)
Amendment Notice 2020

Explanatory note

6 Restriction on seabed mining

A person must not carry out seabed mining in the sanctuary created by clause 4(1) unless the seabed mining is undertaken under an existing permit, an existing privilege, or a subsequent permit.

Gisborne
Dated at Wellington this 26th day of September 2020.

G M Sage Minister of Conservation.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This notice, which comes into force on 5 November 2020,—

- replaces clause 5 of the Marine Mammals Protection (Catlins Coast Sanctuary) Notice 2008 (the **principal notice**) with *new clauses 5 and 6*, containing changed restrictions on seismic surveying and introducing restrictions on seabed mining; and
- revokes and inserts definitions in clause 3(1) of the principal notice that correspond to amendments made by this notice.

The intention to vary the sanctuary was notified in the *Gazette* on 23 June 2020. This variation is made with the consent of the Minister of Energy and Resources, the Minister of Fisheries, and the Minister of Transport.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2012.

Date of notification in *Gazette*:

This notice is administered by the Department of Conservation.