

Appendix 1: Other Legislation and Policy Documents

Statement of National Priorities for Protecting Rare and Threatened Biodiversity on Private Land 2007

This statement, which was issued by the Minister of Conservation and the Minister for the Environment contains four national priorities:

1. To protect native vegetation associated with land environments, (defined by Land Environments of New Zealand at level IV), that 20 per cent or less remaining in native cover.
2. To protect native vegetation associated with sand dunes and wetlands, ecosystem types that have become uncommon due to human activity.
3. To protect native vegetation associated with 'originally rare' terrestrial ecosystem types not already covered by priorities 1 and 2.
4. To protect habitat of acutely and chronically threatened native species.

Conservation Act 1987

The Conservation Act 1987 created the existence of the Department of Conservation (DOC) and promotes the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic resources. DOC is the principal central government agency involved in the conservation of biodiversity. Its role is broad and multifaceted operating under a number of different statutes, including the Conservation Act 1987, the National Parks Act 1980, the Wildlife Act 1953 and the Reserves Act 1977. DOC is responsible for managing the public conservation estate, which includes national parks, marine reserves and other conservation areas. DOC is also responsible for protecting native plants and animals. All native animals are Crown property and the department has considerable experience and expertise in wildlife management, including threatened species recovery. DOC has a strong advocacy role, promoting conservation and administering funding grants.

National Parks Act 1980

The National Parks Act 1980 aims to preserve our national parks in perpetuity for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit use and enjoyment of the public.

Wildlife Act 1953

The Wildlife Act deals with the protection and control of wild animals and birds and the management of game. Permits are necessary to deal with certain wildlife.

Forests Act 1949

The harvesting, milling and exporting of indigenous timber is managed under the Forests Act 1949, administered by the Ministry of Primary Industries. Under the Act, native timber can only be taken from forests in a way that maintains forest cover and ecological balance.

Biosecurity Act 1993

The Biosecurity Act provides the legal framework for the Ministry for Primary Industries and others to help keep harmful organisms out of New Zealand.