

DOC Ref: CP34

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Tēnā koe Ms Hemara

Proposed Waitomo District Plan

The Director-General of Conservation (DOC) has advised that her representatives will not attend the hearing for tranche 1, commencing 16 July 2024, nor has DOC adduced any expert evidence for the tranche 1 hearing. However, two issues are addressed here to assist the Panel.

Indigenous Biodiversity in the Coastal Environment

DOC notes a policy in the Coastal Environment Chapter, namely Policy CE-P3, which addresses protection of indigenous biodiversity in the coastal environment overlay has, in effect, been reproduced with the same application, in the Ecosystems & Indigenous Biodiversity Chapter by way of ECO-P11. DOC has submission points on both policies¹ and wishes to signal they will be addressed by DOC together in expert evidence at the subsequent indigenous biodiversity hearing(s).

Helicopter Noise

DOC wishes to record its support for the amendments to the rule that addresses emission of noise from helipads, farm helipads and helicopter landing areas (NOISE – R8), including the proposed exemptions to that rule, recommended in the section 42A Report by Ms Cathy O’Callaghan on the noise topic, dated 27 March 2024, and set out in Appendix 2 to Ms O’Callaghan’s rebuttal evidence, dated 1 July 2024.

DOC lodged a submission opposing NOISE-R8 as drafted in the proposed plan², and numerous further submissions in support of submitters seeking relief to that effect. The amendments recommended in the section 42A report and Ms O’Callaghan’s rebuttal evidence address my submissions on this rule.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to get in touch with Jesse Gooding in the first instance (jgooding@doc.govt.nz; or 027 224 8714).

Nāku noa, nā



Graham Kimber
Operations Manager (Maniapoto)
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

¹ Submission no. 53.57 on Policy CE-P3 and Submission no. 53.42 on ECO-P11

² Submission no. 53.68 on NOISE-R8.

