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## Our submissions

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We regularly make submissions on government policy and legislative proposals. Submissions are an opportunity to help shape government proposals that impact on the Chatham Islands and on the Council.

### View submissions by category:

## Biodiversity

We made a submission on the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.

In particular, we pointed out that some species that are found on the Chatham Islands weren't included.

### Download submission

[National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity](#)

[Download PDF \(135 KB\)](#)

## Freshwater

### Freshwater farm plan regulations discussion document

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We made a submission on the Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2020: Proposed changes to the low slope map.

When the original low slope land map was released along with the regulations in 2020, no low slope land was identified on the Chatham Islands.

This effectively meant that the parts of the regulations applying to low slope land did not apply to the Islands. The proposed new map now includes an area that covers nearly all of Chatham Island and a proportion of Pitt Island.

### **Managing our wetlands discussion document**

We made a submission to the Ministry for the Environment on the Managing our wetlands discussion document.

Our comments largely agreed with the changes proposed in the discussion document.

### **Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2020**

We made a submission to the Ministry for the Environment on the Freshwater farm plan regulations discussion document.

Our comments supported the phased approach to transition and implementation, but we asked that the specifics of the phased approach be considered further. We highlighted concerns around farmers on the Islands having no experience in developing farm plans, a lack of catchment data, and the need to develop engagement protocols with tangata whenua prior to the preparation of catchment information.

## **Download submissions**

### [Resource Management \(Stock Exclusion\) Regulations 2020](#)

[Download PDF \(387 KB\)](#)

### [Managing our wetlands discussion document](#)

[Download PDF \(290 KB\)](#)

### [Freshwater farm plan regulations discussion document](#)

[Download PDF \(293 KB\)](#)

## **Climate change**

We made a submission on the draft National Adaptation Plan and options for managed retreat.

To date, there has been little information on the likely impacts of climate change on the Chatham Islands. Recent studies that have been carried out for New Zealand have not covered the Islands. The Chatham Islands are particularly vulnerable to the potential impacts of climate change, as outlined in our submission, and it is vital that we have good information so we can prepare for those impacts.

### **Download submission**

#### [National Adaptation Plan \(NAP\) and options for managed retreat](#)

[Download PDF \(299 KB\)](#)

## **Resource management**

We made a submission on the draft of the Natural and Built Environment Bill.

Our comments centered around a number of key themes including issues particular to the Chatham Islands, the role of local democracy, recognising te Tiriti o Waitangi, a focus on the natural environment, lack of clear priorities and timing and transitional arrangements.

### **Download submission**

#### [Exposure Draft of the Natural and Built Environment Bill](#)

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