## Navigating our virtual hui

Would you like us to record our hui today so you can share with your whanau? We can pause/stop the recording at any point (just let us know)



Please mute yourself when not speaking



Chat feature – we will have a team member monitoring the chat if you want to raise any issues or questions



Hand's up feature – if you want to share your views or ask a question verbally, use this feature to let us know



If you want to share with us directly and not in this forum, please send us an email <a href="mailto:lawreform@doc.govt.nz">lawreform@doc.govt.nz</a>

## Cleaning up our Act

- Session 1: The review of the Wildlife Act 1953
- Session 2: Targeted amendments to conservation management planning and process legislation



New Zealand Government

## **Session 1: Review of the Wildlife Act 1953**

## Objectives:

- To introduce the review of the Wildlife Act 1953 and build relationships with people who want to participate in the review process.
- To understand the problems that you experience with the Wildlife Act and the outcomes you would like to see from a future system.

## Today's discussion

- > Introducing the Act
- > About the review process
- > Issues with the Act and the opportunities for a better system
  - What are the problems?
  - What could a better system do?



Harlequin Gecko, Tukutuku Rakiurae. Found only in the south of Rakiura/Stewert Island. Image by Sabine Bernert

## **Session 1: Review of the Wildlife Act 1953**



#### Wildlife Act 1953

Public Act 1953 No 31 Date of assent 31 October 1953 Commencement see section 1(2) "[The Wildlife Act] has no clear purpose and lacks coherence. It's outdated, does a poor job at protecting many species - especially when they are interacting with people, and it doesn't reflect Treaty principles or support customary use" – Minister Kiritapu Allan, 2021

What other existing resources should we look at?

Pātai:

Protection framework at a glance	
Absolutely protected	Wildlife may not be hunted, killed, harassed, or possessed without specific authorisation, and may not be sold. Crown owns all absolutely protected wildlife.
Partially protected (Species in schedules 1–4)	May be hunted or killed in certain circumstances. When taken lawfully, ownership transfers from the Crown to individual.
<i>Not protected</i> (Schedule 5)	Not owned by the Crown

#### Our indicative timeframes for the review

#### Our initial goal is to understand key issues and desired outcomes for the future system



## Are there any pātai about what you have heard so far?

## Next up:

- Exploring the opportunities for a new system
- Reflecting on your experiences with the Act

## What are the opportunities for the new system?

## **Opportunity 1: Support thriving and resilient species,** habitats and ecosystems

#### **Pātai:** Does this align with your aspirations for species management?

#### Associated issues...

- A. The Act lacks a clear purpose and does not effectively protect at risk or threatened species
- B. It is not aligned with modern ecological management, mātauranga Māori or recent scientific developments
- C. It manages species in isolation, rather than as part of the ecosystems they need to survive
- D. The Wildlife Act is not able to respond to the current and future impacts of climate change on species

**Opportunity 2: Consider relationships with species** in our communities, heritage, and economies **Pātai:** Does this align with your aspirations for species management?

#### Associated issues ...

- E. The Wildlife Act does not address the full range of ways people value and want to interact with species
- F. The Wildlife Act creates a lot of regulatory process which is not easy for people to navigate

**Opportunity 3: Reflect the relationship** whanau, hapū and iwi have with taonga species and te taiao

#### **Pātai:** Does this align with your aspirations for species management?

#### Associated issues...

G. The Wildlife Act does not allow for the exercise of kaitiakitanga and rangatiratanga in relation to indigenous and taonga species

Opportunity 4: Establish government and management structures appropriate for a modern system

#### **Pātai:** Does this align with your aspirations for species management?

#### Associated issues...

H. Much of the Wildlife Act was written 70 years ago and the governance and management structures reflect the priorities of the time.

# **Opportunity 5: Reflect our responsibilities to future generations**

#### **Pātai:** Does this align with your aspirations for species management?

#### Associated issues....

I. The Wildlife Act does not safeguard the full range of New Zealand's indigenous species biodiversity for future generations

### **Opportunity 6: Integrate well with other parts of a coherent conservation system**

#### **Pātai:** Does this align with your aspirations for species management?

#### Associated issues....

J. The multiple pieces of legislation that manage species, their habitats, and ecosystems do not work together coherently

## Six key opportunities

- Support thriving ecosystems and respond to current and future challenges
- Consider the relationship we have with species in our communities, in our heritage and in our economies
- Reflect the relationship whānau, hapū and iwi have with taonga species and te taiao
- Establish governance and management structures that are appropriate for a modern conservation system
- Reflect our responsibilities to future generations
- Integrate well with other parts of a coherent conservation system

**Pātai:** What other aspirations do you have that are not reflected here?

**Pātai:** How would you prioritise the opportunities?

## Issues: What we have heard

- A. The Act lacks a clear purpose and does not effectively protect at-risk or threatened species.
- B. The Act is not aligned with modern ecological management, mātauranga Māori or recent scientific developments.
- C. The Act manages species in isolation from the habitats they need to survive.
- D. The Act is not able to respond to the current and future impacts of climate change on species.
- E. The Act does not address the full range of ways people value and want to interact with species.
- F. The Act is highly process driven and not easy for people to understand.

- G. The Act does not allow for the exercise of kaitiakitanga and rangatiratanga in relation to indigenous and taonga species.
- H. Much of the Act was written 70 years ago and the governance and management structures reflect the priorities of the time.
- I. The multiple pieces of legislation that manage species, their habitats, and ecosystems do not work together coherently.
- J. The Act does not safeguard the full range of New Zealand's indigenous species biodiversity for future generations.

## Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou...



#### **Next steps**

- We will send you a copy of any notes we have taken to give you the opportunity to check we have accurately reflected your whakaaro
- If you would like to receive further updates and invitations for engagement on this kaupapa please ensure you have shared your contact details with the team
- If there are specific issues or opportunities you would like to engage with us on further please let us know
- If you have any further questions or thoughts, please reach out to the team at <u>lawreform@doc.govt.nz</u>