



Submission Guide

Schedule 4 stock-take discussion document

The Government is proposing to remove protection of national parks and other public conservation land to make way for mining. Schedule 4 of the Crown Minerals Act lists the core areas protected from mining. The Government proposes to remove a number of these areas from the list immediately. The Government also plans to survey other Schedule 4 conservation land with a view to mining in the future.

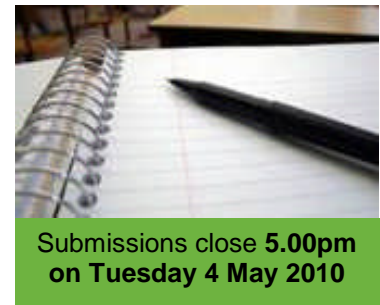
Federated Mountain Clubs utterly opposes this radical removal of protection from what New Zealand thought was protected for future generations. Please make your voice heard by making a submission.

Making a submission is one of the best ways you can help give nature a voice and protect our national parks and other core public conservation land from mining.

How to make a submission

It's easy. You can:

1. Forest & Bird have a quick submission form on their website which FMC members can use
Go to www.forestandbird.org.nz/mining
2. Email your thoughts to the Government:
Send your comments by email, preferably in an attachment, to schedule4@med.govt.nz
3. Answer the Government's questions online:
Go to www.med.govt.nz/Schedule4
4. Best of all, post a thoughtful written submission to the Government:
*Schedule 4 stock-take
Ministry of Economic Development
PO Box 1473
Wellington 6140*



Key tips in making your submission

- You **MUST** give you name and address (postal and/or email)
- Try to personalise your submission - explain what the consequences of the proposal mean to you and how it will affect you personally.
- Ensure you are clear and try to stay on the subject of the proposal details.

Federated Mountain Clubs suggested key submission points

Key messages

- Our protected areas must remain protected – they are simply too precious to mine.
- All of the areas proposed for mining have outstanding conservation and recreation values, which is why they were originally protected – let's keep them that way.
- Schedule 4 was put in place by a National Government to protect and safeguard the future of our core public conservation and recreation areas – it is grossly irresponsible to attempt to reverse this protection now.

Proposed removals from Schedule 4

- I **oppose** the Government's proposals to remove areas from Schedule 4 mining protection.
- I therefore oppose the Government's proposals to remove the following areas from Schedule 4:
 - The Inangahua sector of Paparoa National Park
 - Otahu Ecological Area and Parakawai Geological Area in the Coromandel
 - The other seven areas in the Coromandel Peninsula totalling 2,574 hectares
 - Te Ahumata Plateau on Great Barrier Island

Proposed additions to Schedule 4

- I **support** the addition of core protected areas to Schedule 4, as was intended by Parliament.
- I **recommend** that all places that match the types listed in Schedule 4 should be automatically added to Schedule 4 when gazetted to ensure protection from mining. This includes all new marine reserves, national parks, nature reserves, scientific reserves, wilderness areas, wildlife sanctuaries, internationally significant wetlands and any additions to these areas.
- I also **recommend** that the following high-value conservation area types are added to Schedule 4: national reserves such as Lewis Pass; all of our World Heritage areas (Te Wahipounamu, Tongariro and the Sub-Antarctic islands), and all ecological areas.

Areas for further mineral investigation

I **oppose** the Government's proposal to subsidise the minerals industry by spending \$4 million to investigate the mineral potential in any of our core public conservation areas. Public conservation land, especially Schedule 4 areas such as Rakiura National Park, belongs to the people of Aotearoa and for recreation and tourism, not mining. It must remain protected now and for future generations.

Joint Ministerial approval for mining permits

I **oppose** the proposal for joint Ministerial approval for access to public conservation land. I **agree** with the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment that public conservation land is held in trust by the Minister of Conservation on behalf of the New Zealand public. It is for the Minister of Conservation to decide who should or should not have access to it.

Conservation fund from mining royalties

I support the proper funding of the Department of Conservation to carry out its central role in protecting and maintaining our public conservation land and its precious plants and animals. The department's \$53 million budget cut should be restored. Conservation should not rely on mining royalties. Providing a conservation fund from mining royalties falls well short of protecting our precious natural heritage. I do support a genuine community conservation fund, but not as a reason to allow mining. We shouldn't destroy conservation land to protect it.

Additional recommendations

- I ask for the opportunity to be notified of applications for access to mining on any public conservation land. Mining is the only activity that is exempt from public processes and this privileged position should be immediately corrected.
- I ask for a law change to prohibit all open-cast mining and tailings dams on public conservation land.

New Zealand's public conservation land is far too precious to mine.

For further information:

www.fmc.org.nz and www.2precious2mine.org.nz