

HANDS OFF CONSERVATION LAND



TOOLKIT

BACKGROUND

The Government's proposed Conservation Amendment Bill is the biggest attack on conservation land in New Zealand's history. **But what's at risk?**

Luxon's Government wants to make it easier to commercially exploit and even sell off public conservation land across New Zealand. Their bill puts five million hectares, or 60% of the conservation estate at risk of being sold off. Even if the Government does actually take land sales off the table, the Bill would still make it easier for mines, hotels, private resorts, monorails, shops and other commercial exploitation to be approved on public conservation land.

We've protected conservation land before. We can do it again.

The Luxon Government thinks they can slip the Bill through with minimal fuss. With your help, we're going to bin the bill!

Once New Zealand's wild places are sold off, dug up, and mined, we can't get them back.

HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT

The tactics outlined below are ways you can help keep drawing the conservation issue into the public eye, while keeping the pressure on the politicians to bin this bill. So, start with one that you are comfortable with and just go for it. Then you can choose to move onto the next one.

Of course, please let us know how you go with them. And thank you for taking action. Together, we can win!

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TOOLKIT

WRITING LETTERS TO MPS

WHAT: a briefly written (300 word max) letter to MPs or Ministers

WHERE: emails or handwritten posted letters

WHEN: from now until the election

WHO: anyone with an opinion about protecting conservation land

Writing or emailing your local MP and relevant Ministers is one of the ways you can make your opposition visible.

TIPS FOR LETTER WRITING

- The letter/email should be no more than one page, or less than 300 words.
- A heading is vital to make the purpose of your letter clear.
- Make your most important point in the very first sentence.
- Then use the next two or three paragraphs to say why you want to stop the Conservation Amendment Bill.
- Including a relevant fact or two is great.
- Also include why this issue is important to you (in a personal way).
- Ask them to respond to you.
- If you are writing a letter to your MP, remember you don't need a stamp to post it to: [MP name], Freepost Parliament, Private Bag 18 888, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160
- MP email addresses all use the same formula:
firstname.lastname@parliament.govt.nz

Contact details for current local MPs here: <https://greenpeace.nz/yourMP>

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TOOLKIT

WRITING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHAT: a briefly written (250 words max.) letter to the editor

WHERE: in the newspaper

WHEN: from now until the election

WHO: anyone with an opinion about protecting conservation land

Letters to the editor are among the most read sections in a newspaper. This is an effective way to get a message across to a broad audience.

BEFORE YOU START WRITING:

- Look into submission requirements (word length, how to submit).
- Read other letters in that newspaper to get a sense of the criteria they use.
- Reference other writings on the subject, including the things we've published here:
<https://www.greenpeace.org/aotea/roa/explore/defend-conservation-land/>

WHEN YOU START WRITING:

- Make sure you know the message and what you want to say about the issue.
- Use clear and simple language that others will understand.
- Keep the most important point(s) at the top.
- If you have a strong personal story, include it (a compelling human story goes a long way to hook readers in).
- Proofread your letter or have someone else edit it before you submit it.

Example letters are linked [here](#).

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TOOLKIT

CALLING TALK-BACK RADIO

WHAT: making a phone call to a live radio talk show

WHERE: on the phone

WHEN: from now until the election

WHO: anyone with an opinion about protecting conservation land

Radio talk shows broadcast live on local stations or online streams to discuss news, politics, and lifestyle topics. As a listener you can call in to share your thoughts or personal story.

TIPS FOR GETTING ON AIR:

- Call the studio phone number for your specific station while the show is airing.
- Have your point ready and stay on the line to be screened by a producer.
- Turn down your radio's volume while on the phone. This prevents a bad echo.
- Be brief. Producers screen callers so get straight to your main point.
- Be polite but passionate. A strong opinion gets you on air faster!

BEFORE CALLING IN:

- Make sure you know what you want to say, about the issue.
- Use clear and simple language.
- If you have a strong personal story, say that. Your story will be remembered more than your opinion. And people typically can't argue with your story where they could with your opinion.

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR POPULAR TALK RADIO STATIONS

- NEWSTALK ZB: CALL 0800 80 10 80 OR TEXT THE KEYWORD AND YOUR MESSAGE TO 9292
- RNZ NATIONAL: CALL 0508 826 436 OR TEXT 2101
- ZM: CALL 0800 342 596 OR TEXT YOUR MESSAGE TO 9696.
- THE HITS: DOWNLOAD THE IHEARTRADIO APP TO USE THE IN-APP "TALKBACK" RECORD FEATURE

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