

FAST-TRACK CONSENTING AND FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT – Te Whānau a Apanui

AGENDA AND NOTES

9 February 2024

3.30pm

Online meeting

Attendees

Name	Role	Organisation
Rikirangi Gage	Lead Negotiator	Te Whānau a Apanui
Sid Russell	Integration	Impact Marine
David Hampton	Director	Impact Marine
Alastair Woods	Strategy	Impact Marine
Amy	Communications/Partnerships	
Mike Berry	IT/Science	
Glenn Webber	Specialist Advisor	Ministry for the Environment
Pearl Carre	Principal Advisor	Ministry for the Environment
Shaun Barton	Senior Advisor	Ministry for the Environment
Emily Allan	Senior Analyst	Ministry for the Environment
Will Murray	Senior Analyst	Ministry for the Environment

Items

1	Karakia
2	Mihimihi
3	Fast-Track Consenting
4	Out of scope
5	Questions
6	Next steps
7	Whakakapi, karakia



Meeting notes

Discussion notes	D1	Karakia from Glenn Webber <ul style="list-style-type: none">Glenn provided an overview of the topics to be discussed followed by introductions from the Ministry for the Environment participants.
	D2	Fast-track consenting (FTC) – Emily Allan <ul style="list-style-type: none">Key points<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Government has committed to introducing FTC in the first 100 days programme, with the introduction in the first week of March. The Government will be reviewing previous legislation from COVID fast track consenting and the NBA to consider what worked or did not work and how this could work in permanent FTC legislation.The architecture has two pathways, listed projects or Ministerial referral.Applications are referred to an expert panel who will assess the merits of the application and determine appropriate conditions of consent. There is likely to be a high bar for decline. If an expert panel recommends an application is declined, it is possible that the relevant Minister would make the final decision although this policy work is still being determined.For the system to progress, there needs to be applications that can be processed. The information in the application need to be at the right level to enable assessment that the project is consistent with the purpose of the legislation and the eligibility criteria. Reviewing the previous legislation may help to understand what was enabled and the level of information required.At the moment we are working on policy details, there is a high-level architecture but not the exact policy detail.The Government has committed to upholding Treaty Settlements, and we are looking at mechanisms for this.Glenn asked how groups can get on the list?We are working on lists now and need to ensure the projects are robust in how they are tested. There are two levels, projects that are ready to go and have undertaken engagement processes already. Second level listed projects are likely to be projects that



		<p>have a solid foundation that fit the priorities and eligibility criteria, but don't yet have all the information and engagement undertaken to support getting on List A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Glenn advised that sending a letter to Minister Jones would be a way of trying to get on the list.- Emily agreed that sending a letter is a way of possibly getting on the list. This is how projects are getting through from other agencies. These will get collated and determined at a Ministerial level. There are criteria to guide this process. We are looking at a broader system, a one stop shop where you get approvals to progress development legislation such as the Wild Life, Reserves, and Heritage New Zealand Act.- The lists are likely to be short due to the assessment that needs to occur to be considered for the legislation. It is possible that some projects would likely meet the assessment criteria, but they cannot be progressed on the list due to the limited time available for this assessment to occur.- The second pathway is a referral when an application is lodged to a relevant Minister. Lodging a referral application to the relevant Minister will be assessed if the application meets the eligibility criteria and if agreed by the relevant Minister, the project will be referred to an expert panel. There is no timeframe for when you need to lodge an application by to a relevant Minister, this is a permanent referral process.- There will be a process for how to lodge an application, there is still policy work being done on this.- Impact Marine advised that they missed the previous COVID FTC process and that they were clear on the previous process. There were some issues with overseas investment and complications with the highly productive land category. MPI saw them as farming, but local council did not see it as highly productive land. A lot of Māori land is rural.
	Out of scope	



	Out of scope	
	D4	Marine Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They have investigated since September 2022 the land based fish farm license and have one in the Bluff. They had consents in place which was quicker. There is large foreign investment and working with local partners.• There are three sites which they are looking at throughout New Zealand. They engaged with Te Whānau a Apanui last year and identified land through due diligence and are looking for a long lease that leads to a fish farm for salmon. Funding is in place.• The process can be long with foreign investment, they were told ten years which can deter foreign investors. Meetings have taken place in Whakatane with hapu, but they do not have consents in place, so the FTC is timely.• Impact Marine has built in Greece and are going around the work. To de-risk this project they need to have visibility of consenting, and to know that if they follow the process, they can have a second site next year.
	D14	
	D15	
	A1	
Actions	A2	
	A3	
	A4	



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