Environmental and Climate Reporting Programmes

Responsible Minister	
Key Message(s)	• We have an independent statutory role to report on our environment and climate under the Environmental Reporting Act 2015 and the Climate Change Response Act (CCRA) 2002. Our obligations under the Public Service Act 2020 to provide independent Long-Term Insights Briefings are also fulfilled by these programmes. • These programmes provide data, guidance and insights to support environmental and climate decisions and outcomes for NZ. • We conduct independent reporting to meet NZ's international commitments, including under the Paris Agreement. **Note:** This fact sheet is connected to fact sheets "Improving Environmental Information for Decision making" and "Science Assurance"
Known Risks/Issues	• A lack of dedicated, consistent national-level strategic investment in long-term data and science, and limited levers to coordinate environmental and climate monitoring activity to ensure a coherent national network (see Hot topics Factsheet). • Low existing investment and capability for leveraging technology to improve efficiency of data analysis and reporting. • DOC and MfE collect vegetation carbon monitoring data in partnership (LUCAS). DOC is reviewing its component, and if discontinued or significantly reduced, will impact our programme. DOC has now signalled that they will be continuing their Tier 1 monitoring and will be moving to a 10-year cycle. • Sparse and disaggregated resource to support input and engagement into the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, and the IPCC's science programme, to ensure NZ's interests are protected and goals are met (as agreed by Cabinet). • Loss of subject matter capacity and capability (due to the workforce downsizing) could impact on New Zealand's ability to meet our international reporting obligations.
What next?	• Jun 24 – Localised climate projections for NZ released; Emissions tracking dashboard. • Oct 24 – Our Air 2024 published • Oct 24 – Biennial Transparency Report completed, publication date to be determined • Feb 25 – Planned methods improvements for NZ's GHGI 1990-2023 published. • Apr 25 - Annual NZ Greenhouse Gas Inventory published

	• Apr 25 – Environment Aotearoa 2025 published
Short anecdote or specific example of outcomes sought	• The ER programme has been developing targeted digital products for the public and schools with analytics showing good uptake in NZ classrooms. • Ongoing work will provide updated localised climate projections and will be available to people, communities, organisations (e.g. banking and insurance), assets managers, as well as local and central government to support better risk planning and decision-making.

The evidence:
 	
Facts, figures, amounts invested & how the outcome will be measured
	• Environment Aotearoa 2022: cost approx. $820k (including data of $300k).
	  ○ At Feb 2023 – 25,286 Views and 3,947 Downloads.
	• LTIB: cost approx. $675k (majority was staff costs).
	• NZ's Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2024 cost approximately $4.6m in total for FY23/24 (including approximately 4.4M for the LUCAS programme and 0.16M for Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) data and publication costs).
	  ○ Since the publication of the report in April 2024, there have been: 6108 website views; 1274 downloads; and 17,624 impressions via social media channels for the period 18 April to 20 May 2024.
	  ○ The Inventory is a key data source for tracking New Zealand's domestic and international emissions targets (e.g., Target 9, Nationally Determined Contributions, Emissions Budgets, and targets under the CCRA (2002)).
	  ○ It provides critical data input into: the Climate Change Commission's monitoring obligations under the CCRA; development of emissions projections; other reporting (e.g., IEB reporting, Biennial Transparency Reports, Climate Economic Fiscal Assessments); generation of emissions statistics (i.e., Stats NZ's System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) statistics and the environmental indicator programme); development of emission calculators for businesses; and is the evidence base for policy development e.g., Emissions Reduction Plans.
	• Localised climate projections for NZ: cost approx. $2m over 2 yrs (MBIE funded)

Responsible General Manager	• Megan Hurnard, General Manager Data, Evidence and Insights • Clare Barton, General Manager Science and Data Systems