



In this issue

5 Quailburn tenure review next in line

The Quailburn Pastoral Lease near Omarama has become the third Crown pastoral lease to complete all stages of the Tenure Review process.



2 Big Year for Landonline

With the roll-out of **Landonline** eSurvey in November and the completion of the back-capture of existing survey records this month, **Landonline** now offers a full slate of services to customers.

6 Knowledge bonanza from continental shelf project

A huge flow of new information about the ocean floor and its geology has been a very welcome spin-off from the data gathering for New Zealand's territorial claims to its continental shelf.

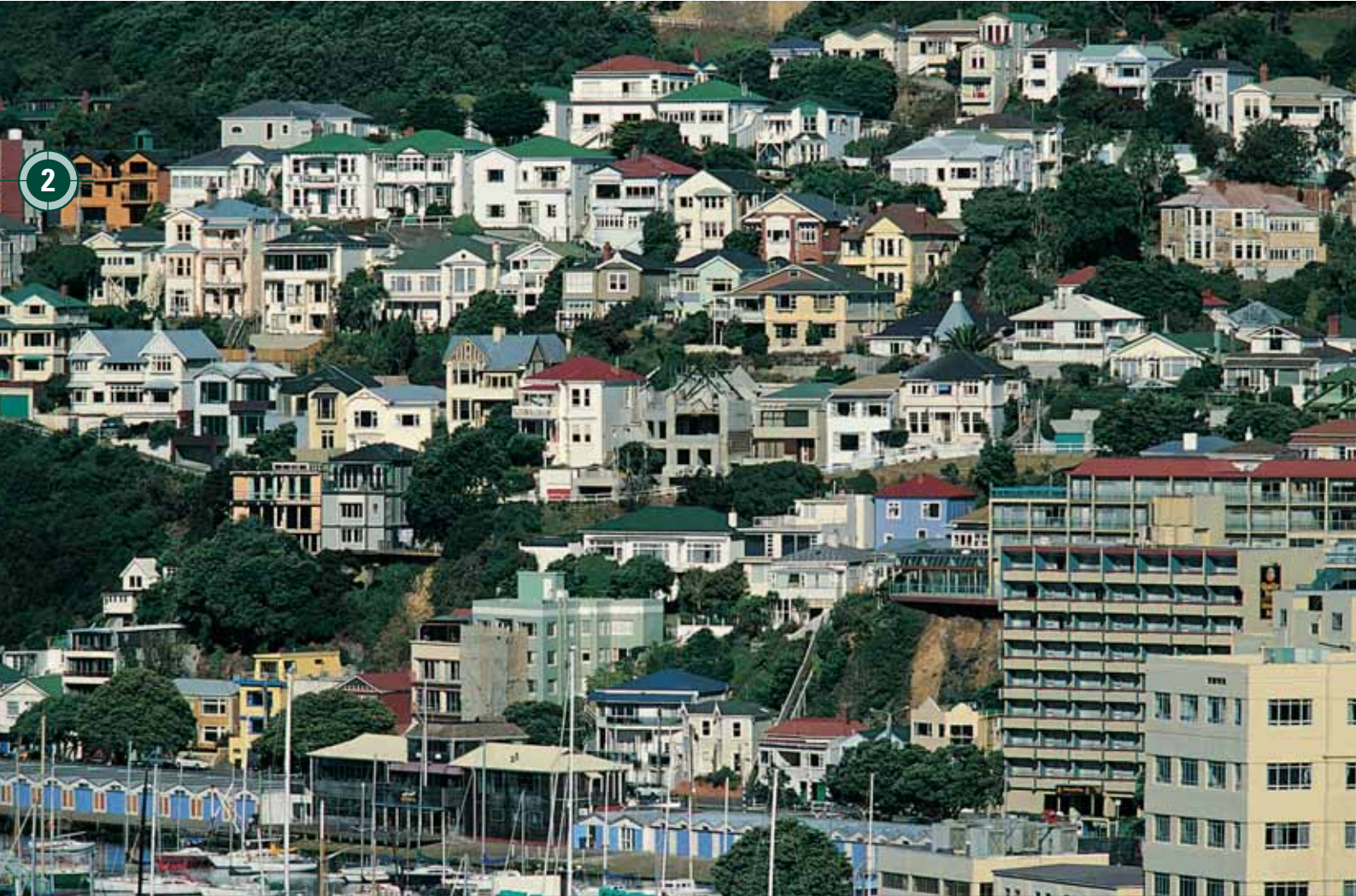
8 Risk assessment project gathers pace

Property adviser DTZ New Zealand Ltd is carrying out risk assessments on properties in the LINZ portfolio, following on from the implementation of the Crown Organisations (Criminal Liability) Act 2002.



4 The freeze is over for survey conversion

LINZ's survey conversion project is coming to an end.



Property transactions became more straightforward earlier this year with the launch of **Landonline** eDealing, a system for electronic lodgement and processing of simple titles transactions through **Landonline**.

BIG YEAR FOR LAND ONLINE

With the roll-out of **Landonline** eSurvey in November underpinned by the completion of the back-capture of existing survey records this month, **Landonline** now offers a full slate of services to customers.

The first highlight in what has been a busy year for **Landonline** was the implementation of **Landonline** eDealing (electronic lodgement and processing of simple titles transactions) in March and April. This was followed on 3 November by the launch of **Landonline** eSurvey, a digital lodgement service for surveyors containing enhancements made on the recommendation of pilot customers. The back-capture of survey data for 1.35 million parcels into **Landonline** is due for completion by mid-December.

For LINZ Chief Executive Brendan Boyle, the passing of these milestones is a source of quiet but intense satisfaction. This integrated system for online searching of New Zealand's land title and survey database including survey accurate data, coupled with electronic lodgement, is a world first, Brendan notes.

More importantly, he believes, the original vision for **Landonline** has been adhered to. It was conceived at a time when LINZ required 32 kilometres of shelf space to accommodate its paper records, which were gobbling up an additional 1.5 kilometres of space each year.

That vision, he says, along with the close involvement and support of stakeholder groups from day one, has ensured that **Landonline** successfully delivered on its promise to move transactions from a paper to an electronic environment.

“Right from the beginning, **Landonline** has been based on a sound vision – that automation of survey and title processing is the only way to go,” Brendan says.

“We have stuck to the focus and scope of the vision throughout. It's very easy to get distracted by possible enhancements and

add-ons, whilst implementing a vision. We've resisted those temptations. Of course there will be enhancements, but these will be introduced gradually as part of a regular programme of six-monthly maintenance and upgrades. Our priority up until now has been to get **Landonline** established and working and that's been achieved."

Brendan says the commitment and involvement of the key stakeholder groups, especially the New Zealand Law Society and the Institute of Surveyors, has been crucial to the success of **Landonline**. Sustained political support has also been crucial. There have been five Ministers of Land Information and a change of government since the business case for **Landonline** was first made, and that continuity of support has been essential throughout the inevitable highs and lows.

He also pays special tribute to his predecessor, Russ Ballard, whose strong vision and overall management of **Landonline** brought it through the tough times. "I am also very grateful to a very dedicated group of LINZ and contract staff who have seen **Landonline** through its establishment phase. They have put in incredibly long hours and coped with disruption to their family lives to help us realise our goals."

While Brendan is pleased to reflect on what's been achieved so far, he is also anxious to point out that LINZ will not be resting on its laurels. Far from it.

"Our focus is now shifting to building a strong customer base for **Landonline**. We've shown that the system works – we're now working to show the benefits of electronic transactions. We have done a lot of research into what customers want from **Landonline**, and we're committed to developing a service that provides them with the features they've identified."

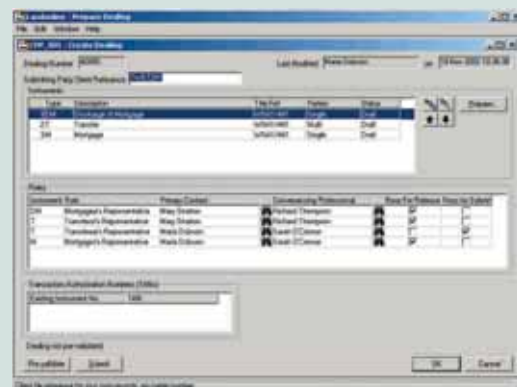
The new capacity for online Territorial Authority certification of survey plans submitted through **Landonline** eSurvey is just one tool that will give **Landonline** users an edge, Brendan adds.

Landonline Customer Strategy Manager Jeff Needham says there is no common thread among the 'early adopters' for electronic transactions other than good technical capability and an acceptance that the system will deliver benefits to both them and their clients.

He notes that as the user base grows, so will the comparative advantages of going down the electronic road. "There is provision in the legislation for making use of **Landonline** compulsory. That's not something we're contemplating for the meantime, but once the majority of users are working with **Landonline** and effectively subsidising those who are still using paper transactions, it could be something we'll revisit.

"We will always be on the lookout for taking advantage of new technology and additional options such as electronic lodgements of caveats and transmissions will be added further down the track," Jeff adds.

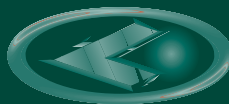
As he reflects on the maturing of **Landonline** from concept to fully-fledged service, Brendan Boyle says he is 100 percent confident in the capacity of the service to successfully meet changing customer needs. "**Landonline** is taking us in the right strategic direction and is helping us provide a world-leading service," he concludes.



Landonline eDealing screen.

At a glance

- ◆ **Landonline** now offers a complete range of services.
- ◆ Highlights for 2003 include the launch of **Landonline** eDealing for electronic lodgement of simple titles transactions, **Landonline** eSurvey for electronic lodgement of survey plans, and the completion of back-capture of survey data enhancing 1.35 million parcels.
- ◆ The strong involvement of stakeholder groups throughout the development of **Landonline**, and adherence to the original vision are important reasons for its success.
- ◆ The focus is now changing to building a strong customer base and enhancing the service.



Landonline
survey and title service

THE FREEZE IS OVER FOR SURVEY CONVERSION

Land Information New Zealand's survey conversion project winds up this month.

By Helen Lawrence

Landonline users no longer have to worry about freeze areas or freeze schedules as the project to convert about 80 percent of existing parcel boundaries around the country to electronic format, comes to an end.

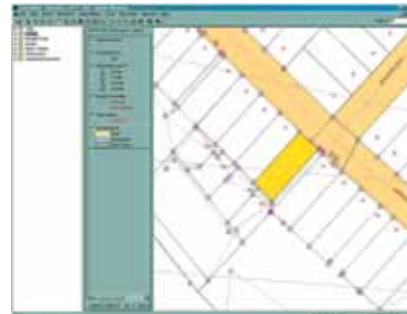
Survey conversion involves entering survey data from original survey plans and connecting it to the LINZ survey control network. Coordinates are adjusted to ensure they are accurate in terms of geodetic control. Where the resulting boundaries comply with accuracy specifications, the adjusted coordinates will be declared to have SDC (Survey-accurate Digital Cadastre) status. Capture of data and adjustments required areas of data to be 'frozen' within **Landonline** for up to seven weeks. This meant that no new data for that area could be entered into **Landonline** to prevent changes to the data while it was being captured.

Freezing areas affected plan approval timeliness and a number of other **Landonline** functions. Colin Morris, LINZ's Data Conversion Manager, explains how this process was managed.

"We gave the customer the freeze schedule outlining what areas would be frozen and when. We advised that their plan would not be able to be approved during that time and to either get it approved beforehand or wait till after the freeze. Our customers



From paper records...



...to electronic data.

were generally very understanding and cooperated well, even when freeze times extended beyond those scheduled due to the quality of the original data."

With the roll-out of eSurvey in November, converted survey data can now be used properly by LINZ's customers. "Surveyors can now extract digital data from **Landonline** and use this in their new surveys," says Colin. "They can then lodge their new survey into **Landonline** over the converted data therefore adding to and increasing the quality of the data.

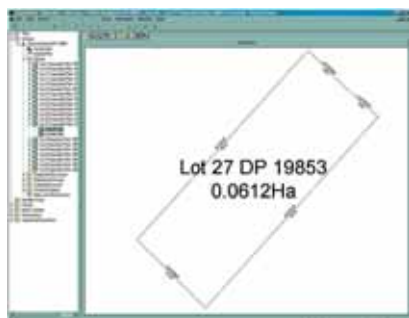
"Before the data was converted," says Colin, "you would have to search images of the original plan in **Landonline**."

Colin says new Cadastral Survey Datasets (or plans) are now captured directly into **Landonline** as they are lodged with LINZ. "More plans will be lodged electronically as people sign up to **Landonline** eSurvey."

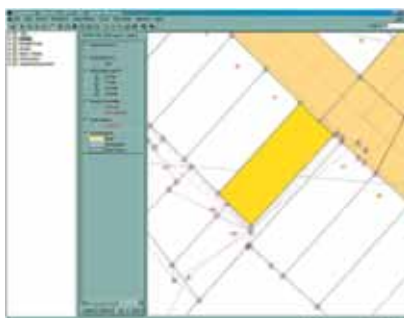
Contact for further information:

**Colin Morris, Data Conversion Manager,
Land Information New Zealand,
via info@linz.govt.nz or 0800 ONLINE (0800 665463)**

info@linz.govt.nz



Electronic version of the one millionth survey parcel to be converted.





ABOVE: New DOC signage showing public access tracks is now in place at Ben Ohau station, the first property to complete the tenure review process.

RIGHT: A wetland area being set aside for conservation purposes as part of the Quailburn tenure review is a feeding area for the threatened black stilt.



QUAILBURN TENURE REVIEW NEXT IN LINE

The Quailburn Pastoral Lease near Omarama has become the third Crown pastoral lease to complete all stages of the tenure review process. Ben Ohau near Twizel (August 2003) and Clayton Station near Fairlie (November 2003) have also been completed. Quailburn has had the fencing and survey work completed, and the new title has been issued.

By late November, a further 13 leases were at the penultimate 'substantive proposal' stage, where the leaseholder has agreed to the proposal for dividing the former leasehold land into freehold and conservation land.

Of these 16 leases, more than 40,000 hectares will be added to the conservation estate, providing formal public access to valued areas for outdoor recreation activities such as walking, fishing and mountain biking.

Another 48,000 hectares will be freeholded, giving former leaseholders the opportunity to economically develop this land, within the requirements of the Resource Management Act and local district plans.

Bob Douglas, Secretary of Federated Farmers' South Island High Country Committee, says the conservation benefits of tenure review are complemented by sound economic benefits in terms of new jobs and ventures.

"The economic benefits will arise from farmers being able to further develop their farm businesses on the freeholded property but also to develop new opportunities in areas such as tourism and outdoor pursuits like hunting and back country skiing."

Bob says that while many leaseholders already willingly give the public access to back country, this access is formalised through the tenure review process.

The outcome of the Quailburn tenure review has been of special interest to conservation and recreation organisations. Just over 70 percent of the 7,413 hectare lease area is joining the conservation estate. This includes the entire Quailburn block (4876 hectares), and 402 hectares of the separate Glen Eyrie block.

The Quailburn block stretches from the Ahuriri River in the west to Quailburn in the East. It had not been grazed for two years, and contains a wide diversity of vegetation including remnants of mountain beech, tall tussocks, snow totara and dwarf mistletoe. The mountain tarns and streams are inhabited by native fish and there are a number of threatened bird and plant species.

Most of the 2537 Glen Eyrie block is being freeholded, but an extensive wetland area is being set aside. It is host to two threatened plant species, a sedge and a dwarf woodrush, and is a feeding area for the threatened black stilt, wrybill and black-fronted tern. An easement through the freeholded land will allow public access.

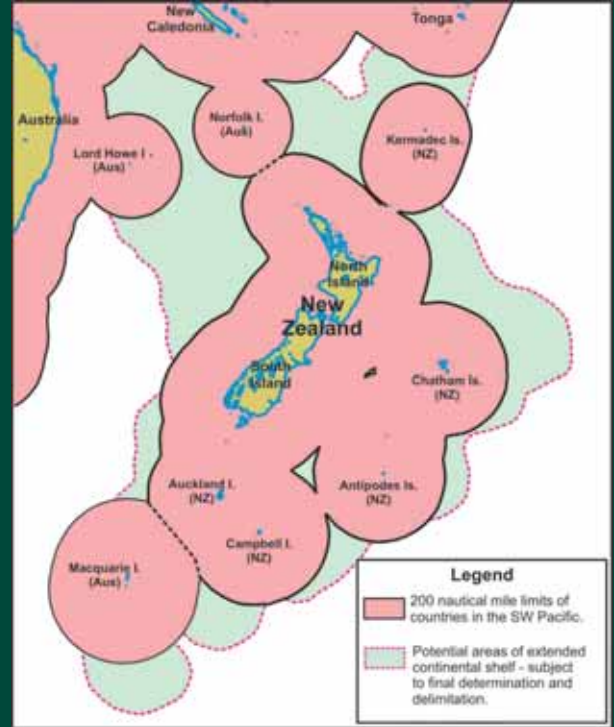
Contact for further information:

**Paul Jackson, Manager Crown Property,
Land Information New Zealand,
via info@linz.govt.nz or 0800 ONLINE (0800 665463)**

info@linz.govt.nz



New Zealand and its continental shelf have a dynamic and complex geological history. The thick black lines show the plate boundary through New Zealand, and the red lines show active and fossil volcanic arcs. (Source: New Zealand's Continental Shelf and UNCLOS Article 76, GNS/NIWA)



Exclusive economic zones and potential areas of extended continental shelf of New Zealand and its neighbours. (Source: New Zealand's Continental Shelf and UNCLOS Article 76, GNS/ NIWA)

KNOWLEDGE BONANZA FROM CONTINENTAL SHELF PROJECT

For the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS) scientists working on the continental shelf project, the feeling has been somewhat akin to that of a scientific bonanza.

A tsunami of new information has been a very welcome spin-off from GNS's contract to analyse the data and prepare the documents that will spearhead New Zealand's submission to the United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

According to Vaughan Stagpoole, senior scientist at GNS, the data flowing back from the seabed surveys is filling some important gaps in our knowledge of the deep ocean surrounding New Zealand.

The Hikurangi Plateau, which lies north of the Chatham Rise to the east of New Zealand, is a case in point. "Under our own steam, we would normally have the resources for only about 10 days of survey work every two or three years," Vaughan says. "The continental shelf project concentrated 50 days of surveying in the area in just two to three months."

But while the significant boost to the sum of knowledge of the sea floor and its geology have been most welcome, the primary focus has been the work to develop documentation for New Zealand's submission under Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFAT) is responsible for this submission to the United Nations.

The project is working to a target date of 2006 to lodge the submission. GNS and the National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) are partners in joint venture work to gather and interpret data for LINZ and prepare the documents that will underpin our submission when it is presented at the United Nations.

GNS and NIWA have also acted as LINZ representatives on a number of the seabed surveys during the data gathering phase of the project, and have analysed some rock samples when required.

Their main priority now, however, is to prepare the documents supporting New Zealand's forthcoming submission, focusing on six 'areas of interest':

1. Lord Howe Rise (northwest of the North Island)
2. Three Kings/Colville Ridge areas (north of the North Island, encompassing the South Fiji Basin)
3. Resolution Ridge through to Campbell Plateau (south of the South Island)
4. Hikurangi Plateau and Chatham Rise (east of the North Island)

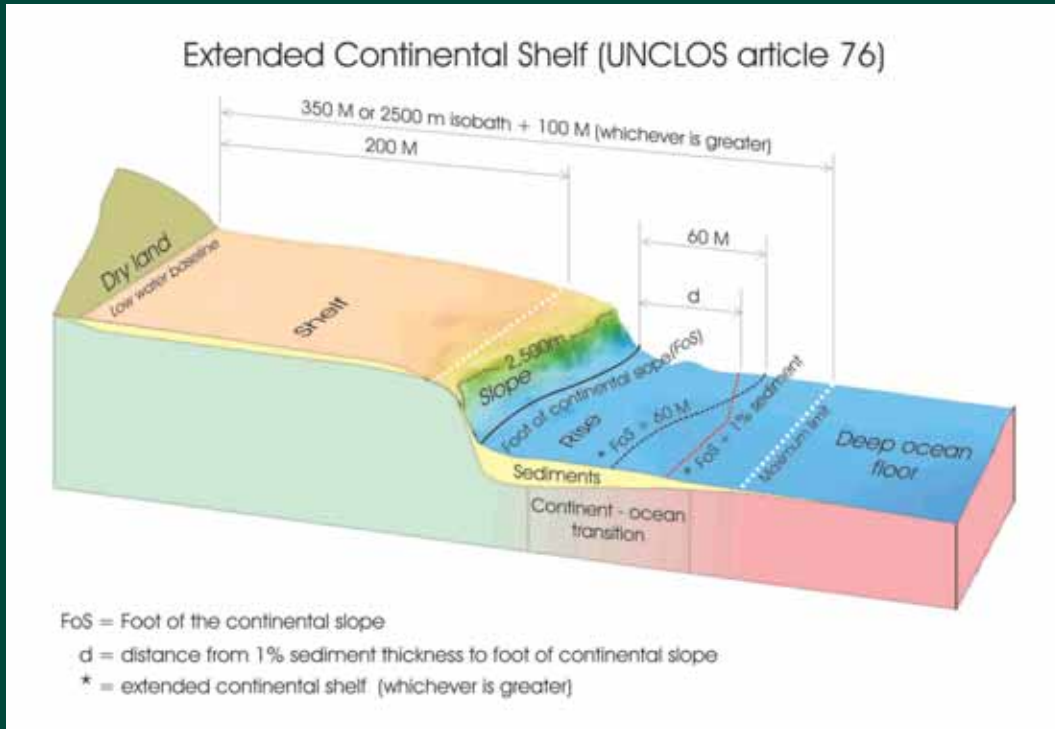


Diagram summarising the formulae and constraints on the outer limits of the continental shelf. (Source: New Zealand's Continental Shelf and UNCLOS Article 76, GNS/NIWA)

5. The Bollons Seamount (southeast of New Zealand)

6. Louisville Ridge (northeast of New Zealand)

Documents for the first two areas have been completed, with work underway on the next two, Vaughan says.

The GNS and NIWA team have also taken a strategic stand to garner support for the interpretations and definitions used as part of the New Zealand continental shelf project.

They are publishing a comprehensive document to describe the project. The 60-page glossy booklet gives a detailed account of the interpretations that are being used to define the outer limits of New Zealand's continental shelf. "We are acting proactively to get our point of view publicised internationally," Vaughan explains.

While the continental shelf work continues, the GNS/NIWA team is continuing to reap the benefits of the continental shelf research.

"The quality of the data we're receiving is a great improvement on what was collected during earlier surveys in the 1970s and 80s," Vaughan says.

"We have been able to see much deeper into the earth's crust than before, and also get a much clearer picture of the sediments beneath the ocean floor.

"One of the most interesting discoveries was made during the first survey in 1996, when a new hydrocarbon province was discovered off the Taranaki Coast. This data gave our

hydrocarbon group a significant 'leg-up' and led to petroleum industry exploration of the area and a new petroleum licensing round."

Plate tectonics specialists have also benefited from the better understanding of the structures that have formed beneath the oceans, Vaughan says.

Scientific interpretation of much of the new data will have to wait for now, but Vaughan says the continental shelf project, in addition to its direct benefits, will be of tremendous benefit to New Zealand to help manage its marine estate.

"The contracts with LINZ as part of the continental shelf project are commercially very significant for both GNS and NIWA and the science has also benefited tremendously," he concludes.

Contacts for further information:

**Vaughan Stagpoole, Senior Scientist,
 Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences,
 phone (04) 570 4832, email V.Stagpoole@gns.cri.nz**

**Ian Wright, Principal Scientist,
 National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research
 (NIWA) phone (04) 386 0300, email i.wright@niwa.cri.nz**

**Russell Turner, Project Leader New Zealand
 Continental Shelf, Land Information New Zealand,
 via info@linz.govt.nz or 0800 ONLINE (0800 665463)**

