Toitu te whenua
Land Information
New Zealand

Land Information

Fact Sheet

Tenure Review

This fact sheet explains the basics of Tenure Review for pastoral leaseholders:

- *What is Tenure Review?*
- *What do I get out of it?*
- *How long does it take?*

What is Tenure Review?

Tenure Review is a legal process that reviews your pastoral lease and gives you the potential to own part of your leasehold land. Land with 'significant inherent' values (e.g. land with historic, scientific, ecological and cultural characteristics) is protected, usually by restoration to full Crown ownership and control. Land restored to full Crown ownership is managed by the Department of Conservation (DoC). 'Significant inherent' values may also be protected on land capable of economic use by freeholding the land subject to some form of protective mechanism such as a QEII Trust or Conservation Act covenant.

Under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998 (CPLA), each tenure review follows the same process but may have different results. A successful tenure review provides a balance of outcomes. Land that is capable of economic use may be freeholded, 'significant inherent' values will be protected and public access and recreation opportunities may be created.

What do I get out of it?

Generally, the outcome of Tenure Review is that the leaseholder gains freehold title over part of the leasehold land. As a pastoral leaseholder you are subject to a range of special conditions on your use of the land, imposed by the CPLA.

Who else is involved?

The Tenure Review process is a team effort. It is voluntary for you as a leaseholder and consultative involving DoC, Fish and Game, iwi, and the public. LINZ administers the process under the CPLA. We make sure the process is followed correctly and that the best information is available to all parties for the right outcome to occur.

How long does it take?

Tenure Review does take time but that's because it's important that all the views of those who are affected are taken into account. You can be confident about the outcomes of Tenure Review because of that consultation.

From the time the information gathering stage begins to the time you receive your freehold title can be up to four years. This is dependent on a number of factors which range from the time it takes for consultation between parties to the weather conditions needed for survey and fencing.

How does it work?

As a leaseholder you make the first move by inviting LINZ to undertake tenure review of your lease. The invitation form is on the LINZ website. Go to www.linz.govt.nz and click on the 'Tenure Review' link.

After we receive your invitation, LINZ decides whether to accept it or not. New invitations are considered annually.

continued overleaf

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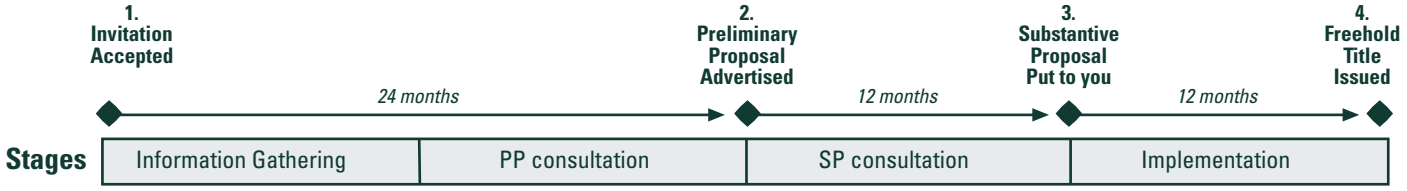
Indicative timeline



Once accepted Tenure Review begins its four stage process:

1. Information Gathering. The start of your review
2. Preliminary Proposal (PP) for Tenure Review. You, DoC, Fish and Game and iwi are consulted and you see the first 'cut' of the proposal which will generally divide the land into freehold and conservation sections. When you and LINZ agree, the proposal is advertised for public submissions.
3. Substantive Proposal (SP) for Tenure Review. Decision time. Views raised in public and iwi submissions are considered. You see a second 'cut' of the proposal. You make a decision whether to accept the SP or not.
4. Implementation of Substantive Proposal for Tenure Review. The finish line. You get your freehold title, DoC gets conservation or reserve land.

Indicative timeline

Indicative timeframe from start to finish: four years. From the time the information gathering stage begins to the time you receive your freehold title can be up to four years. This is dependent on a number of factors which range from the time it takes for consultation between parties to the weather conditions needed for survey and fencing.

What if I do nothing?

If you do not want to enter Tenure Review the conditions of your lease will continue as normal. Nothing changes

Can I withdraw from Tenure Review?

Yes. Tenure Review is voluntary. You can withdraw at any time. LINZ can also discontinue a Tenure Review.

Contact details

If you want to know more about Tenure Review, please visit our website. Go to www.linz.govt.nz and click on the 'Tenure Review' link. You can also contact the following LINZ staff:

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