Have your say on the future management of Crown pastoral land

The Government is consulting on changes to strengthen the management of Crown pastoral land to ensure this taonga is stewarded in the best interests of all New Zealanders.

What is Crown pastoral land?
The Crown owns 1.2 million hectares of Crown pastoral land, mostly in the South Island’s high country. This land is leased for pastoral farming.

Why are changes being proposed?
New Zealand’s environmental, economic and social context has changed, affecting how Crown pastoral land should be managed. There are also increasing concerns about environmental impacts.

The Government has a responsibility to respond and wants to ensure this land is protected for future generations.

Tenure review process to end
The Government has decided to end the process by which Crown pastoral land can be sold to a leaseholder and areas with high ecological or other values can be transferred to the conservation estate.

Effective management of Crown pastoral land
Ending tenure review requires the Crown to take a stronger enduring stewardship role for the remaining pastoral estate and changes to the regulatory system are needed to ensure it can support effective management of Crown pastoral land.

Stewardship of this land is a shared responsibility
This can’t be achieved alone. The Crown wants to work in partnership with leaseholders, iwi and communities to improve the management of Crown pastoral land and deliver outcomes in the best interest of all New Zealanders.

We are seeking your views
We encourage you to read the discussion document and invite your feedback on the proposals. More information on these proposals can be found on the back of this factsheet and on the Land Information New Zealand website.

How can I have my say?
Submissions can be made online or by downloading a form which can be posted to LINZ.

For more information on the Crown pastoral land consultation, or to make a submission, please visit the LINZ website: www.linz.govt.nz/cplc

The consultation closes on Friday 12 April 2019.
Outcomes for Crown pastoral land:
The Government has developed a set of outcomes it wants to achieve for Crown pastoral land. These outcomes would be included in the Crown Pastoral Land Act. They include:

- Ensuring that the natural landscapes, indigenous biodiversity, and cultural and heritage values are secured and safeguarded through the Crown’s management of the land.
- Allowing for pastoral and non-pastoral activities that support economic resilience and local communities.
- Enabling the Crown to obtain a fair financial return.

The consultation asks the public for their views on the outcomes, as well as what changes to the Crown pastoral land regulatory system are needed to achieve those outcomes.

Feedback is also being sought on how the Crown can honour the Treaty of Waitangi in respect to Crown pastoral land, and what Treaty principles should be applied in decision making.

Changes to the management system to achieve the outcomes:
There are a number of proposals to support changes to how the Crown manages its pastoral land to achieve the outcomes. These include:

Ensuring decision making is accountable and transparent, by:
- requiring the regular development and public release of a statement of performance expectations
- providing for the release of additional guidance and standards, developed in consultation with stakeholders

Making decisions in the best interests of achieving the outcomes, by:
- requiring the Commissioner to give effect to the outcomes in discretionary consents decisions
- requiring the Commissioner to obtain expert advice and consult as necessary in discretionary consents decisions
- updating the fees and charges framework

Improving system information, performance and monitoring, by:
- requiring the development of, and regular reporting against, a monitoring framework

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