

**IN THE MATTER of
the Resource Management Act 1991**

AND

**IN THE MATTER of
Hearing of submissions and further
submissions on the Proposed Te Tai o
Poutini Plan**

**MINUTE 14 – Ecosystems and Indigenous
Biodiversity**

1. Submissions on Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity are currently scheduled to be heard during March 2024 as part of the Topic 10 - Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity and Natural Features and Landscapes.
2. The new Government has signaled its intention to review a number of aspects of the Resource Management Framework including the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity, with a particular focus on reconsidering the mapping of significant natural areas (SNAs) that are required by the current policy statement.
3. The matter has been discussed by the Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee who noted that there might be some benefit in delaying the hearing of the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity topic until later in the year when there is more clarity about SNAs.
4. The Hearing Panel agree that there is sense in delaying the hearing of the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity component of Topic 10 until later in the year, which is likely to be October, to see whether there is any clarity around this matter.
5. As a result, only the Natural Features and Landscapes component of Topic 10 will be heard in March and the hearing days will be revised to 4th – 6th of March in Hokitika and 19th – 20th March in Westport. It's the Panel's intention to utilise the remaining days to undertake site visits associated with outstanding natural landscapes in the Grey and Buller regions along with some other relevant sites visits which could be conveniently undertaken at this time.



Dean Chrystal

Independent Commissioner – Chair - on behalf of the Hearing Panel members

11 January 2024