

26 February 2024

John Luke

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Tēnā koe John

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (the Department), received on 2 February 2024, in which you asked for the following information in relation to nominations for Conservation Boards:

*The Minister of Conservation is seeking nominations for conservation boards in 2024. We are looking for people with experience, expertise, and links with the local community. May I ask how you called for public nomination and on what platform you have call for public nominations e.g. govt.jobs website. Also, how many applications you have received from the public and how many you have received from other nominating agencies such as TPK or Ministry of women etc for each of your conservation boards. Also, how many vacancy you had for each of the conservation boards and when you anticipate the process will finish.*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

**1. Platforms used to call for public nominations:**

Section 6P(2) of the Conservation Act 1987 stipulates that the Minister of Conservation shall appoint every public member of a Conservation Board after giving public notice, and after consultation with the New Zealand Conservation Authority. The Department placed newspaper notices seeking nominations for the 52 public vacancies across the 15 Conservation Boards on 29 November 2023, and again on 17 January 2024.

In advertising these vacancies, the Department also used its website, social media, and communication channels in the regions, and wrote to iwi and Māori organisations (as listed in Te Kāhu Māngai) and nominating agencies (Te Puni Kōkiri, Ministry for Pacific Peoples, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ministry for Women, and Ministry of Disabled People).

**2. Number of applications received for public vacancies, number of applications received from nominating agencies, and number of vacancies for each conservation board:**

<b>Board</b>	<b>Number of public vacancies</b>	<b>Applications for public vacancies</b>
Te Hiku o te Ika	4	9
Northland	5	34
Auckland	5	75
Waikato	4	32
Bay of Plenty	3	26
East Coast Hawke's Bay	2	28
Tongariro Taupō	4	15
Taranaki Whanganui	2	15
Wellington	2	31
Chatham Islands	5	8
Nelson Marlborough	3	16
West Coast Tai Poutini	3	16
Canterbury Aoraki	2	36
Otago	4	24
Southland	4	19
<b>Totals</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>384</b>

Three (3) nominations were received from Ministry for Ethnic Communities. Three (3) nominations were received from Ministry for Pacific Peoples.

**3. When the process will finish**

The process will be finished by 30 June 2024.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Andrew Bichan  
Acting Director, Governance and Government Services  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*