



**New Zealand House of Representatives**  
Te Whare Māngai o Aotearoa

**Environment Committee**  
Komiti Whiriwhiri Take Taiao

54th Parliament  
January 2026

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**Natural Environment Bill**

234—1

**Planning Bill**

235—1

Interim report

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# Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill

## Recommendation

The Environment Committee is examining the Natural Environment Bill and the Planning Bill, and recommends that the House take note of this interim report.

## Purpose of this interim report

The Natural Environment Bill and the Planning Bill were referred to the Environment Committee on 12 December 2025. We have commenced our examination of the bills and have called for public submissions.

The purpose of this interim report is to make the initial briefing documents we have received so far publicly available before we make final reports to the House on the bills. Documents received as advice are not usually released to the public until after a committee concludes its consideration of a bill. However, in this instance, we believe releasing some of the initial advice documents publicly could assist submitters in preparing their written submissions on the two bills.

## Overview of initial advice documents

We wish to draw to the public's attention the following initial advice documents that we are releasing.

- Ministry for the Environment (Initial briefing)
- Ministry for the Environment (Initial briefing – Cover note)
- Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (Preliminary consideration questions for the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill) 2025 12 18

The documents will be published on the Parliament website following presentation of this interim report.

## **Appendix**

### **Committee procedure**

The Natural Environment Bill and the Planning Bill were referred to this committee on 12 December 2025. We have decided to make an interim report to the House.

### **Committee members**

Catherine Wedd (Chairperson)  
Hon Rachel Brooking  
Hon Marama Davidson  
Ryan Hamilton  
Cameron Luxton  
David MacLeod  
Grant McCallum  
Lan Pham  
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan

### **Related resources**

The documents received as advice which we are publicly releasing are available on the Parliament website under the [Planning Bill](#).