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TE REO O TE TAIAO | Giving Nature a Voice

Standing up for Nature 2026

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Canterbury/West Coast
Forest & Bird
10 February 2026

Tonight's talk

- Overview – an ambitious reform agenda
- Current consultations
- F&B Campaign updates
- Fast Track Approvals Act updates
- Election Year 2026 – getting active for nature



An ambitious reform agenda

Local Government Reform Jigsaw



Image: <https://www.guardianonline.co.nz/news/councils-unpack-sweeping-government-reforms-for-christmas/> Jonathon Leask



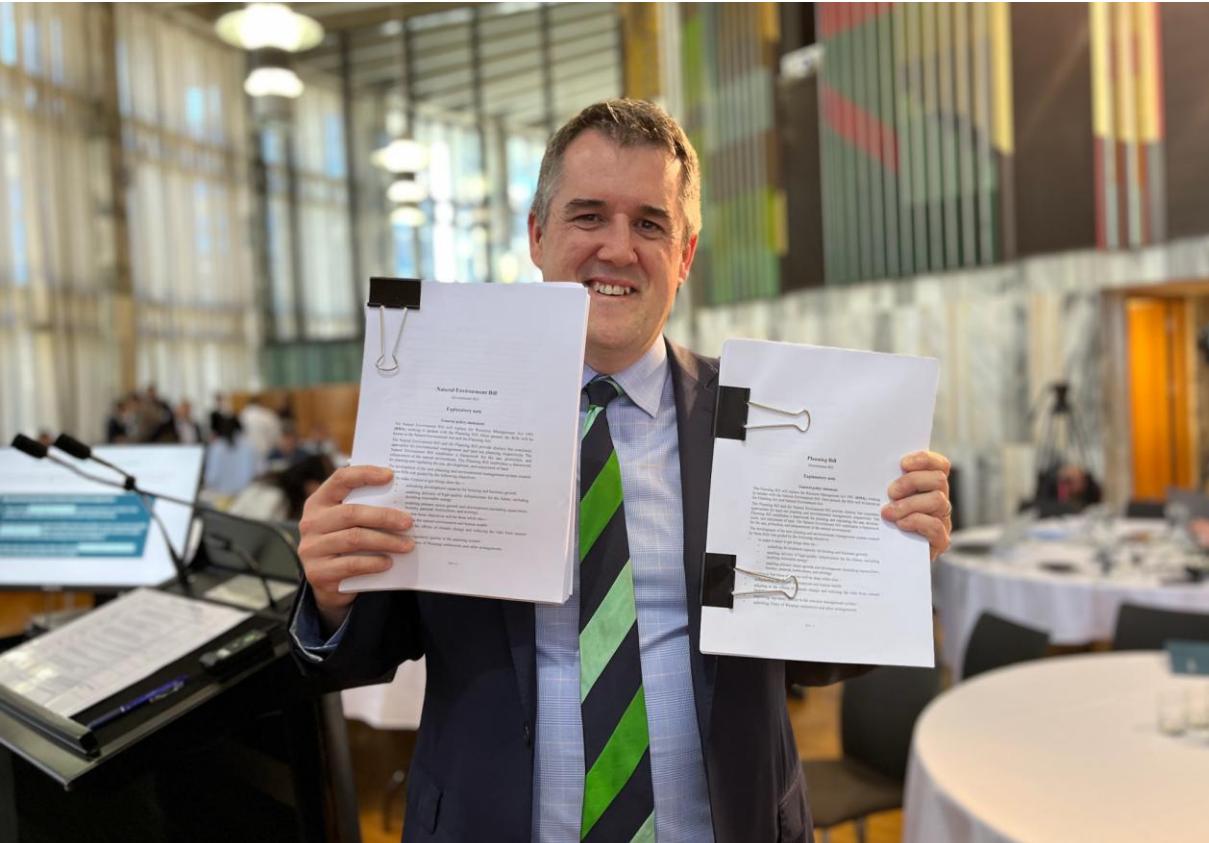
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Current consultations



Natural Environment & Planning Bills



**Submission Due:
13 Feb 2026**

No secret in Canterbury: Water is our most significant RM Issue

Canterbury urged to unite on nitrate crisis as water contamination worsens

Reports paint picture of declining fish populations in
Canterbury rivers

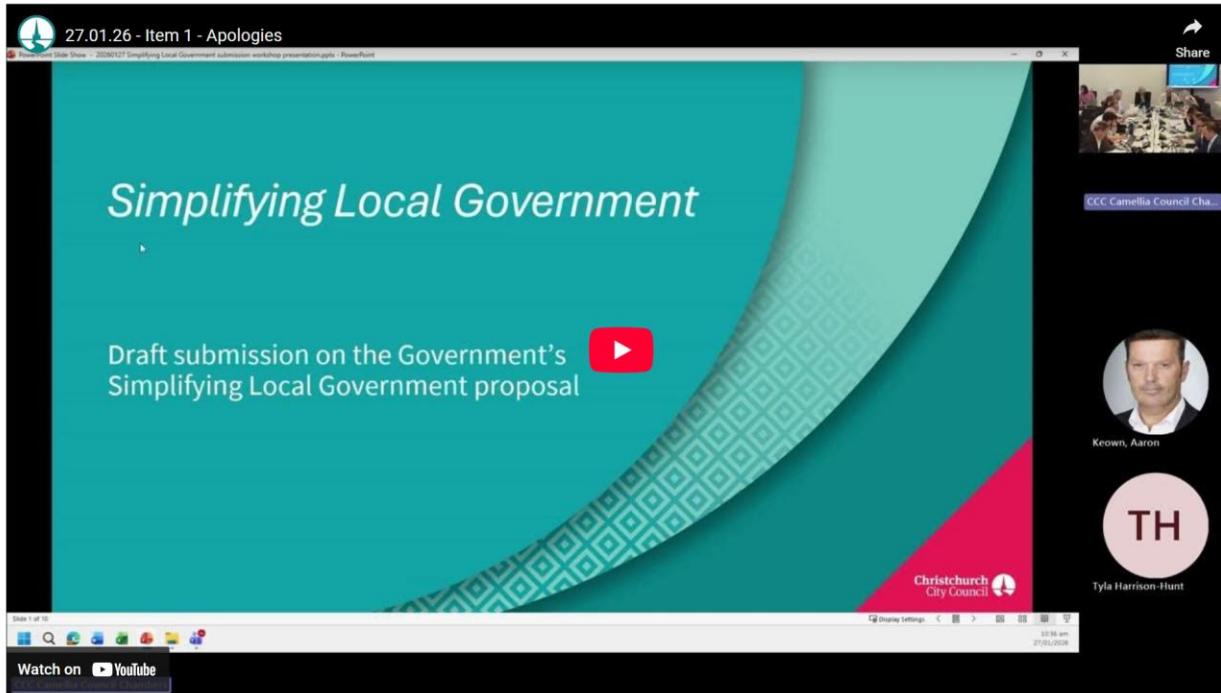
Environment Canterbury has declared a
nitrate emergency. Now what?

What's really going on with Canterbury's water

The native fish that
foretold a river's collapse

Simplifying Local Government

27.01.26 – Council Workshop



Feedback Due:
20 Feb 2026

Image: <https://councillive.ccc.govt.nz/meeting/27-01-26-council-workshop/>



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F&B Campaign updates



Campaign update: Browsing Pests



- **GAC Bill third reading imminent**
- **Draft HOSI HMPs – summary of submissions 30 March 2026**
- **Write to political parties & agencies**

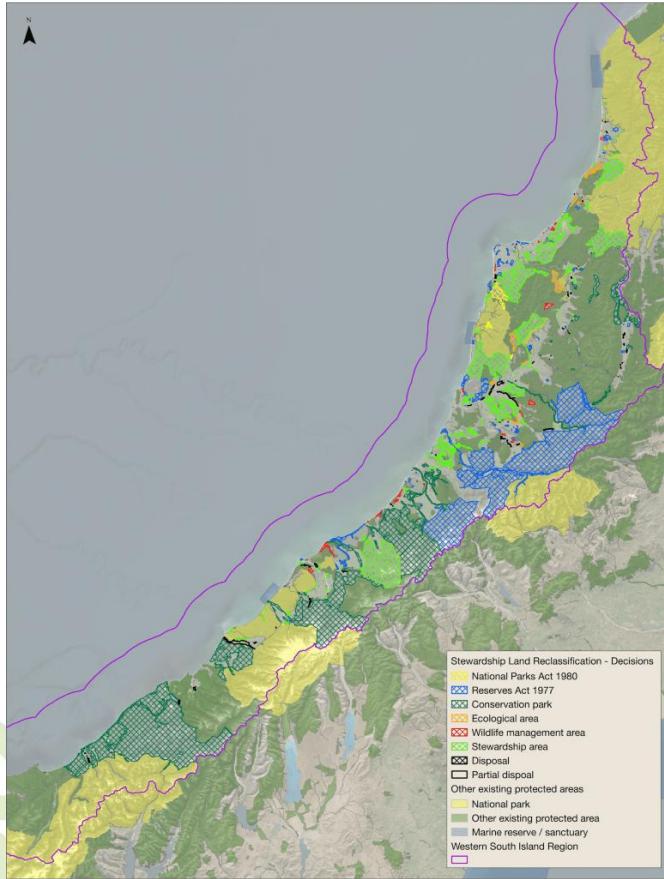
Campaign update: Denniston



Image: Neil Silverwood

- **Sign the petition**
- **FT application imminent**
- **Bioblitz**
- **Market stalls**

Campaign update: Stewardship Land

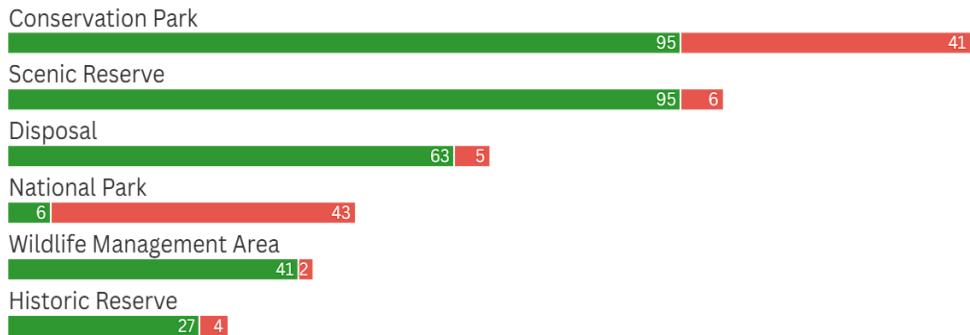


CONSERVATION

Potaka rebuffs advice; refuses 72,000ha expansions to national parks

MOC Decisions 11 December 2025

● Minister accepted ● Minister rejected



Source: Minister for Conservation Tama Potaka • [Graph excludes land classifications with unanimous decisions]

Graph: <https://newsroom.co.nz/2026/01/21/potaka-rebuffs-advice-refuses-72000ha-expansions-to-national-parks/>

newsroom.



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Fast Track Approvals Act updates





Fast Track update

- Trans Tasman Resources – REJECTED (draft decision)
- Waihi North Gold Mine - APPEAL
- Denniston – NO APPLICATION YET
- Mackenzie solar farms – TWO APPLICATIONS IN PROCESS
- Taiko Critical Mining (Barrytown) – NO APPLICATION YET
- Waitaha Hydro – IN PROCESS

Whakaoratia Te Waitaha

Rescue the Waitaha

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MnVgyItXZj8>



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**Election Year 2026 –
getting active for nature**



Getting active

- Share with friends and family
- Encourage and activate young people
- Keep an eye on Fast Track websites/social media/comms
- Look out for “Building a Nature Positive Future”



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GREENPEACE

- Branch toolkit coming – posters/flyers etc.
- Candidate meetings – consider hosting one



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Pātai/Questions

