

What to look out for in 2022

The below timeline is our understanding of when developments are likely to occur based on Government publications and discussions with a range of parties and officials.

Item	Watch Out For	Date
Ministry for the Environment discussion document – Our future resource management system	Consultation on the discussion document.	Feedback is due 28 February 2022
Water Services Entities Bill	The Working Group is to report back to the Minister on the exposure draft of the Water Services Entities Bill by 28 February 2022. The Ministers will then consider the Working Group's recommendations before the Bill is introduced.	Working Group to report back on the exposure draft by 28 February 2022
National environmental standards for sources of human drinking water ("NES-DW")	Consultation on proposed amendments to the NES-DW.	Consultation is currently open on the proposed amendments and closes on 6 March 2022
Infrastructure Strategy	Following further refinement of the draft Infrastructure Strategy, Te Waihanga will provide a final strategy to the Minister in early 2022, which must be tabled in Parliament. The Government then has six months to respond to the recommendations in the strategy.	Early 2022
Climate Adaptation Act ("CAA")	Public consultation on the CAA, which is expected to take place in early 2022 alongside consultation on the National Adaptation Plan under the Climate Change Response Act 2002.	Early 2022
Conservation law reform	Engagement on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> proposed conservation management and process amendments; and a review of the Wildlife Act 1953 	First quarter
Proposed national policy statement for indigenous biodiversity ("NPSIB")	Decisions on the release of an exposure draft of the NPSIB, which are expected in the first half of 2022.	First half of 2022
Proposed national policy statement for highly productive land ("NPS-HPL")	Final decisions on the proposed NPS-HPL will be made by ministers and Cabinet in the first half of 2022. If approved by Cabinet, the proposal will likely take effect in the first half of 2022.	First half of 2022
Emissions Reduction Plan	The Emissions Reduction Plan by the end of May 2022.	End of May 2022
Proposed national direction on industrial greenhouse gas emissions	A summary of the submissions received on the discussion document is expected to be released early 2022. We expect final decisions will be made by Cabinet on the proposed national direction in mid-2022.	Mid - 2022
Natural and Built Environments Act and the Strategic Planning Act	The introduction of these Bills is expected in Q3 of 2022.	Third quarter of 2022
Non-binding guidance on climate change under the RMA	The release of guidance from the Ministry for the Environment is expected to precede the climate change amendments coming into effect on 30 November 2022.	Before 30 November 2022
Enactment of the climate change amendments to the RMA	The climate change amendments under the RMA now come into effect on 30 November 2022.	30 November 2022

Any questions? Talk to one of our experts



Allison Arthur-Young

Partner

+64 9 367 8224

allison.arthur-young@russellmcveagh.com



Simon Pilkinton

Partner

+64 9 367 8374

simon.pilkinton@russellmcveagh.com



Daniel Minhinnick

Partner

+64 9 367 8714

daniel.minhinnick@russellmcveagh.com

