

To: Senior solicitor

From: Chief Legal Adviser

Cc: Legal Services Manager

Date: 10 June 2024

**TASK ASSIGNMENT:** Focus of Senior Solicitor Treaty of Waitangi issues and statutory planning role

To be attached to Role Description.

Context

*Te Kaupapa a te Papa Atawhai: Our organisational strategy*



Te Kaupapa a Te Papa Atawhai puts nature and people at the heart of everything we do. They are connected through our single, united purpose: Papatūānuku Thrives.

In te ao Māori, Papatūānuku is the earth mother who creates and nourishes all life. Her realm includes the lands and waters and the life that flourishes within them. She is the land, sea, sky, ocean, freshwater, plants, animals and us.

Te reo Māori and te ao Māori are the anchor of Te Kaupapa, the purpose and strategy of Te Papa Atawhai. This recognises that Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the relationship with our Treaty Partner are central to all that we do.

Te Kaupapa reminds us of who we are, what we do and why we do it.

*Toitū te marae a Tāne, toitū te marae a Tangaroa, toitū te tangata. If the land is well and the sea is well, the people will thrive.*

# Papatūānuku Thrives

## OUR ROLES

- Partner with iwi, hapū and whānau, and collaborate with others
- Care for the land, the waters, our native species and our heritage
- Advocate for nature, and be a regulator
- Foster recreation in nature
- Tell the stories of our nature and our history

## OUR BEHAVIOURS

- Whakatinanatia | We deliver
- Atawhaitia a Papatūānuku | We love nature
- Whakawhānau | We build relationships
- Whakaaauaha | We innovate



## OUR OUTCOMES

- Te ora o Papatūānuku | Healthy nature
- Te ora o te Hapori | Thriving communities
- Te hunga Atawhai | People who care

## OUR PRINCIPLES

Within our operating model, our decision-making principles are:

- Elevating principles of the Treaty and fulfilling our Treaty Partner relationships
- Holding wellbeing and safety at our heart
- Working together with others
- Leaving the world a better place

TE PAPA ATAWHAI | DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Within this context, this is a new role working closely with the policy, operations and regulatory teams within DOC with a focus on Treaty of Waitangi principles and their implementation in DOC's work, in particular statutory planning processes and documentation<sup>1</sup>.

The role will focus on providing support and advice to DOC in implementing giving effect to Treaty principles in the course of DOC's work.


The key focus is providing sound legal input into the delivery of processes and good quality statutory decision making in the complex Treaty of Waitangi environment, especially relating to the development, interpretation and development of statutory planning documents.

Your knowledge of Te Ao Māori and experience in working with Māori organisations will be important in this role.

The work will also involve supporting conservation by providing legal input and advice on other DOC activities, legislation administered by DOC and other agencies to our internal customers and business groups.

Purpose	This new role is to add to the Legal Team's ability and capacity to be able to respond to and advise DOC's decision makers on Treaty related matters, especially in the statutory planning context.
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<sup>1</sup> See Part 3A Management Planning, Conservation Act 1987, Part 5 National Parkes Act 1980, s41 Reserves Act 1977.



	And to upskill us on better understanding Māori concepts and Te Ao Māori. You will report to the Legal Services Manager who in turn reports to me.
<b>Quantity</b>	This is a full -time role. DOC emphasises a good work-life balance and high standards of wellbeing but from time to time the demands of the role may mean working long hours. Time in lieu is provided for.
<b>Quality</b>	You will work to a high standard and provide quality advice.
<b>Resources</b>	You will be a member of the Legal Team and avail yourself of its resources.
<b>Timing</b>	This role is a permanent full-time position

Signed:

Jonty Somers  
Chief Legal adviser