

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
AT CHRISTCHURCH**

ENV – 2026 – CHC –000041

**I MUA I TE KOOTI TAIAO
KI ŌTAUATAHI**

IN THE MATTER

of an appeal under clause 14(1) of the First
Schedule of Resource Management Act 1991 in
relation to the decision on the proposed Timaru
District Plan

BETWEEN

**Federated Farmers of New Zealand
Incorporated**

Appellant

AND

TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Respondent

**NOTICE OF WISH TO BE A PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS BY THE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CONSERVATION**

Dated 4 June 2026

Department of Conservation

Private Bag 10420

Wellington 6140

Counsel acting: A McCubbin-Howell

Phone: 027 201 3551

Email: amccubbinhowell@doc.govt.nz

Notice of person's wish to be a party to proceedings

Section 274 Resource Management Act 1991

To: The Registrar
Environment Court/ Te Kooti Taiao o Aotearoa
Christchurch

1. The Director-General of Conservation (the Director-General) wishes to be a party to the following proceedings:
 - 1.1. **Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated v Timaru District Council – ENV-2026-CHC-000041**
2. The Director-General made a submission about the subject matter of the proceedings.
3. The Director-General also has an interest greater than the interest that the general public has regarding conservation values.
4. The Director-General is not a trade competitor for the purposes of sections 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act).
5. The Director-General is interested in the parts of the appeal, as set out in Appendix 1 to the appeal, relating to:
 - 5.1. Amendments sought to the definition of the term “riparian margin” to reduce the area to which that definition applies (Appeal Point #1); and
 - 5.2. Amendments sought to Policy EC0-P6 – Maintaining indigenous biodiversity (Appeal Point #6).
6. The Director-General opposes the relief because the relief sought:
 - 6.1. Would reduce the environmental protections compared to the decision of the Independent Hearing Panel appointed by the Timaru District Council (the Council);
 - 6.2. Does not promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in accordance with section 5 of the Act;

- 6.3. Does not recognise and provide for the preservation of natural character of wetlands and rivers and their margins, and their protection from inappropriate subdivision, use and development as required by section 6(a) of the Act;
 - 6.4. Does not recognise and provide for the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, as required by section 6(c) of the Act;
 - 6.5. Is not consistent with the Council's function under section 31(1)(b)(iii) to control the effects of the use of land for the purpose of maintenance of biodiversity; and
 - 6.6. Is not consistent with higher order documents, including the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement and the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.
7. The Director-General agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



Alice McCubbin-Howell

Counsel for the Director-General of Conservation

Dated 4 June 2026

Address for service of person wishing to be a party:

Director General of Conservation

Department of Conservation

Private Bag 10420, Wellington 6140

Contacts

Alice McCubbin-Howell, Senior Solicitor – Legal Services

Ph: 027 201 3551

Email: amccubbinhowell@doc.govt.nz

Liz Williams – Senior Planner

Ph:027 253 8586

Email: lwilliams@doc.govt.nz

Advice

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.