



Crombie Lockwood Tower  
Level 16, 191 Queen Street  
PO Box 7244  
Victoria Street West  
Auckland 1142  
New Zealand

Phone: +64 9 377 5570  
Email: [info@infrastructure.org.nz](mailto:info@infrastructure.org.nz)

28 October 2021

Managing our wetlands  
Ministry for the Environment  
Wellington

By email: [WetlandsTeam@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:WetlandsTeam@mfe.govt.nz)

Tēnā koe

**Re: Submission on proposed changes to the wetland regulations**

Infrastructure New Zealand is grateful for the opportunity to make a submission on proposed changes to the wetland regulations.

Infrastructure New Zealand is New Zealand's peak industry body for the infrastructure sector. We promote best practice in national infrastructure development through research, advocacy and public and private sector collaboration. Our members come from diverse sectors across New Zealand and include infrastructure service providers, investors and operators.

The infrastructure and construction industries have been significantly affected by the 'prohibited' activity status applying to quarry operations within natural wetlands as currently defined.

We therefore welcome the proposal for a consenting pathway being provided for the expansion of current quarrying activities, and the development of new quarries. We support the proposal for a discretionary activity status for quarrying, within, or within 100 metres of a natural wetland.

We submit that the Ministry for the Environment should have regard for the matters raised by the Aggregate and Quarry Association in its submission.

I anticipate the proposed changes will provide better clarity and certainty to all stakeholders, including councils.

Infrastructure New Zealand is consistently given a courtesy 'heads-up' by other government departments and other parts of the Ministry for the Environment on consultations and announcements; this includes receiving confidential documents under embargo. I am therefore disappointed the ministry did not think it worthwhile to communicate this consultation process to us.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Claire Edmondson".

Claire Edmondson  
General Manager