

Reporting on New Zealand's environment

A fresh approach



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



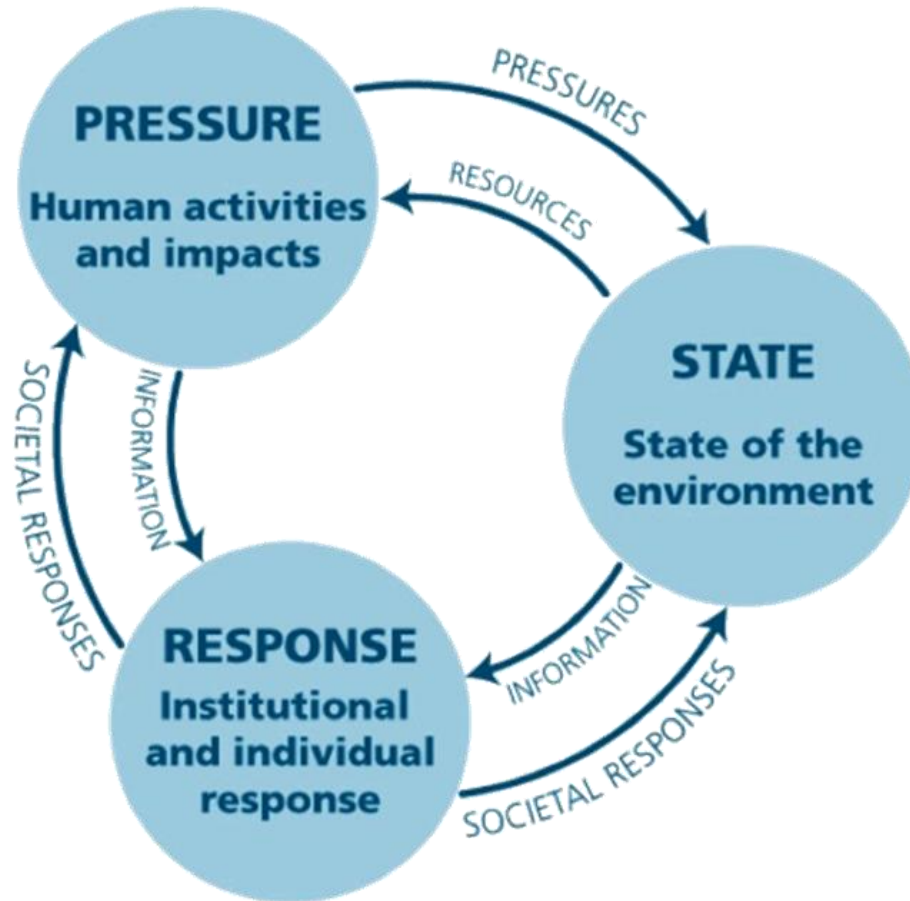
THE STATE OF
NEW ZEALAND'S
ENVIRONMENT

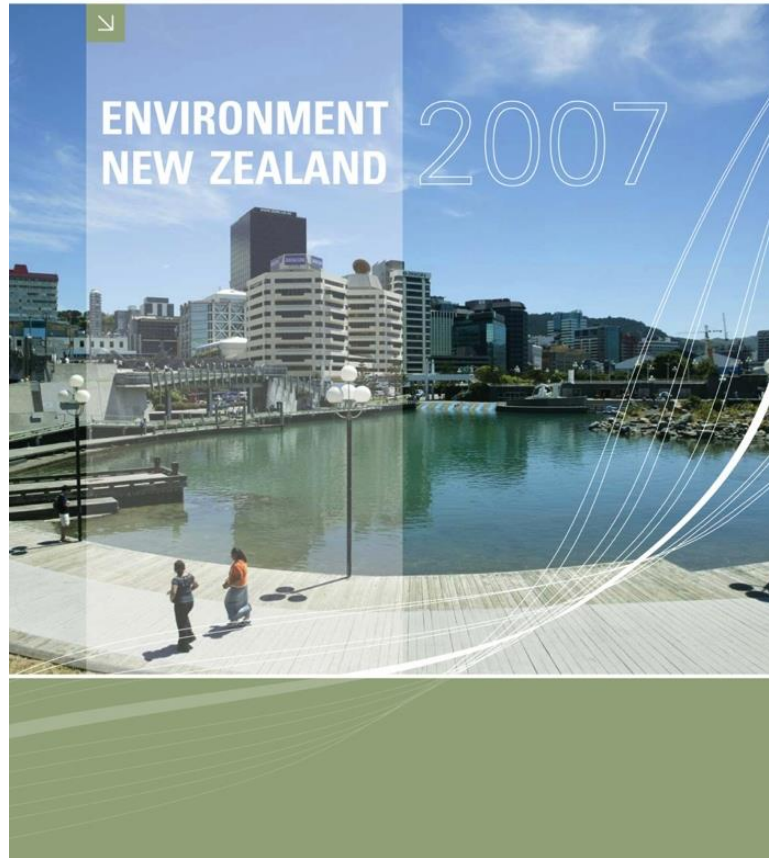
1997



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2007 2008 2009 2010 AUGUST 2011



Measuring up
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING – A DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

New Zealand Government



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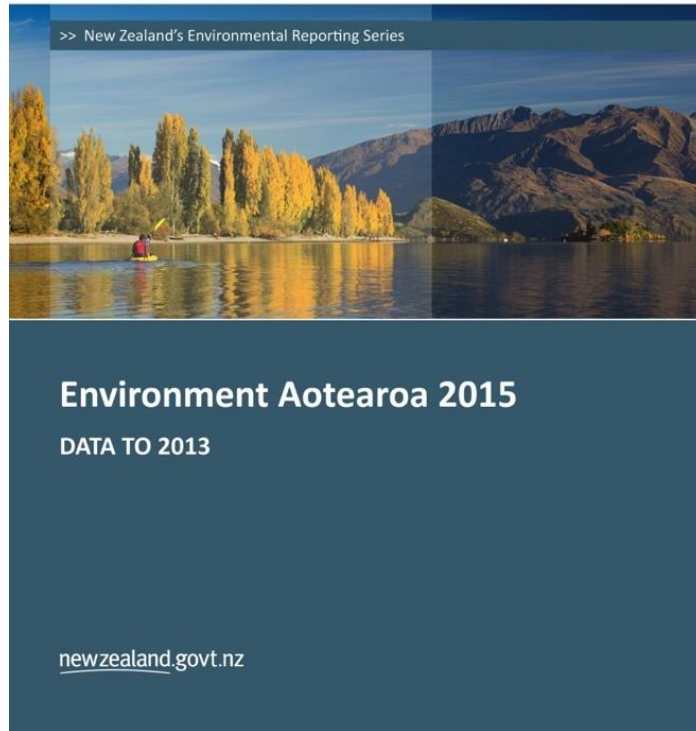
>> New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series



2014 Air domain report
DATA TO 2012

newzealand.govt.nz





New Zealand's environment at a glance

Key findings from New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series: Environment Aotearoa 2015



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ATMOSPHERE AND CLIMATE

Our climate shapes and supports our environment, economy, and way of life, but it is slowly changing.

UV light



high rates of melanoma due to UV exposure

Carbon dioxide

21%

CO₂ concentrations over NZ since 1972

Temperature

0.9°C

over the past 100 years

Global emissions

33%

global greenhouse gas emissions since 1990

AIR

We enjoy good air quality in most places most of the time. Air quality problems can occur, usually in winter in specific locations.

Airborne particles

8%

since 2006, leading to improved air quality

Home heating

58%

human-made airborne particles in 2013 were from burning wood and coal

Transport emissions

46%

carbon monoxide since 2001

FRESH WATER

It is poorer in urban and agricultural areas, and very good in national parks, native bush, and tussock.

Nitrogen on land

29%

since 1990, from livestock and fertiliser

Nitrogen in rivers

12%

since 1989, increasing the likelihood of slime and weeds

Water clarity

14%

improvement since 1999

LAND

Our land has undergone dramatic change since people arrived 700–800 years ago, affecting our biodiversity and land productivity.

Land use

49%

used for farming and forestry in 2012

Erosion

192 million

tonnes of eroded soil entering NZ waterways each year affecting water quality and productivity

Soil compaction

78%

soils under dairy farming badly affected by compaction in 2013

Pests

94%+

area affected by possums, rats, and stoats in 2014

MARINE

Our marine environment is diverse, but changes are affecting our native seabirds and marine mammals.

Seabirds

35%

threatened with extinction in 2012

Marine mammals

27%

threatened with extinction in 2009

Oceans



coastal sea levels and acidity are rising

Overfishing



overfishing has declined since 2009

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/environmental-reporting/new-zealands-environment-glance/infographic>



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