

NO NEW MINES ON CONSERVATION LAND

Tēnā koe Prime Minister Ardern,

In 2017, one of your first acts as a new Prime Minister was a promise that your government would stop new mines on New Zealand's public conservation land.

But today, that promise remains unfulfilled. New coal, gold, and other mining activities have been allowed across over 150,000 hectares of public conservation land and the door remains open for more mining to take place.

Climate change and the destruction of our natural living world are the biggest crises humanity has ever faced. Your government has shown leadership in ending new offshore oil and gas exploration. It's time to follow suit and end the destruction of our precious conservation land, by mining activities.

The Crown Minerals (Prohibition of Mining) Amendment Bill will stop new mines on conservation land and new coal permits on any land from 2025. This Bill will protect New Zealand's forests, wetlands, mountain-tops, and the species that depend on these habitats to survive. Supporting this Bill will also demonstrate your government's commitment to addressing the impacts of climate change, and contribute to, in your words "my generation's nuclear-free moment".

We represent the majority of New Zealand's conservation, environment and climate change organisations. We stand for New Zealanders, young and old, from Cape Reinga to Rakiura, and we stand united in asking you to support the Bill, to keep your promise, and to stop new mines on conservation land.

We will keep campaigning until this happens, because public conservation land is for people and nature, not for mining.

In 2010, you joined 40,000 other New Zealanders in the historic march up Queen Street calling for an end to mining on conservation land. Your placard from that day says it all - "Ours. Not Mines".

We call on you to stand by your commitment and your government's promise, and support the Bill. Our future depends on it.

Ngā mihi nui,



Forest & Bird
TE REO O TE TAIAO | *Giving Nature a Voice*

