

## Call for experts to support the 2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment – June 2025

Every six years from 2026, the Climate Change Commission will deliver a [national climate change risk assessment](#) (NCCRA). These reports provide a national picture of how Aotearoa New Zealand may be affected by climate change-related hazards. They also identify the most significant risks and opportunities, and steps to take to address them.

Our work to develop the 2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment is well underway.

We are now looking for **independent experts to join our expert review groups** to ensure our evidence base is balanced and reflective of current knowledge, and that our assessment is rigorous and fair. Experts will focus on whether we have identified the correct risks, not overlooked any significant factors in the analysis, and drawn sensible conclusions.

Through our assessment, we are looking particularly at risks to Aotearoa New Zealand's economy, society, environment and ecology that step from the physical impacts of climate change such as rising sea levels and more frequent and intense storms. We are not looking at risks related to emissions and efforts to reduce them.

These working groups will be reviewing the risks across six domains, including:

- Natural environment
- Built environment
- Economy and financial system
- Governance
- People, health and communities
- Sectors relying on the natural environment

A full description of these domains and the identified risks is included on page 3.

**To express interest in joining a working groups, please apply online here:**

<https://haveyoursay.climatecommission.govt.nz/comms-and-engagement/nccra-expert-working-group>

### What you can expect from being involved

Experts will contribute the equivalent of 3-5 days of work between July and October 2025. This will involve actively engaging with others to discuss the risks as well as providing written feedback. This will include several online or in-person meetings/workshops, as well as independent reading and review of the Commission's currently identified risks.

Experts will be paid a daily rate of \$800 per day, up to a maximum total of \$4000.

## What we would like to know about you

To help us with our recruitment process, we will ask for your name and contact details, as well as information about your experience. We will also ask for a CV to detail your relevant experience, and there will be an opportunity to provide any additional information you think will be relevant to our selection process.

All applications will be reviewed by our project team, and we will be assessing these using the following criteria:

Technical merit (fit for purpose)	
Expertise related to the risks across the domain area	<b>50%</b>
Ability to look across whole domain and provide a broad view, including knowledge and understanding of relevant considerations for Māori	<b>20%</b>
Capability of the supplier to deliver	
Experience of providing similar services	<b>30%</b>
<b>Total weightings</b>	<b>100%</b>

If you have any queries about the requirements or the process, please email [nccra@climatecommission.govt.nz](mailto:nccra@climatecommission.govt.nz) and we will endeavour to respond within two working days.

**Final applications are required by 11.59pm 22 June** and we expect to confirm selections by 30 June. From here, our team will review the applications and contact you directly if they have any queries. All applicants will hear from us directly once we have made our appointments.

## Further information about the NCCRA

Learn more about the NCCRA and the Commission's responsibilities on our website at [www.climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/adaptation/national-climate-change-risk-assessments](http://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/adaptation/national-climate-change-risk-assessments)

## Domain summaries and the draft key risks requiring review:

The changing climate impacts many aspects of New Zealander's lives and livelihoods and the environment.

For example, the changing trends and more extreme weather affect people's homes and communities; marae and urupā; infrastructure like roads and water services; businesses and supply chains; people who make a living off the land; and the natural environment.

In carrying out the risk assessment, we are grouping risks into seven domains (interconnected topics):

<b>Natural environment</b>
The natural environment domain includes all aspects of the natural environment that support the full range of our indigenous species, he kura taiao – living treasures, and the ecosystems they form in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments. There are strong links between the natural environment and other domains – particularly the Māori; people and communities; and economic sectors that rely on the natural environment domains. This mean that impacts on New Zealand's natural environment have cascading impacts in other domains.
Key risks to the natural environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal environments and biodiversity</li> <li>• Freshwater environments and biodiversity</li> <li>• Marine environments and biodiversity</li> <li>• Terrestrial environments and biodiversity</li> <li>• Indigenous biodiversity</li> </ul>
<b>Built environment – buildings, urban spaces and infrastructure</b>
The built environment domain refers to the set and configuration of buildings, urban spaces and infrastructure. This also includes energy, three waters (drinking, storm and waste), waste management and flood management assets and infrastructure.  Impacts on Aotearoa New Zealand's built environment have flow on effects for other domains, particularly the people and communities domain and economy domain.
Key risks to the built environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure networks from cascading failures</li> <li>• Potable water supplies and wastewater and stormwater systems</li> <li>• Buildings</li> <li>• Waste management infrastructure</li> <li>• Ports, airports and associated infrastructure</li> <li>• Linear transport networks</li> <li>• Electricity and telecommunications infrastructure</li> <li>• Energy supply</li> </ul>
<b>Economy and financial system</b>

The economy domain considers production, distribution, trade and consumption of goods and services, economic costs, and finance and insurance markets. What happens to and within the economy affects people and their livelihoods.

Key risks to the economy and financial system

- Cost to central and local government
- Financial system
- Insurability of assets
- Economic impact of climate change on business and public organisations

### **Governance**

Governing architecture and processes of interaction and decision-making that exist in and between governments, economic and social institutions. Governance extends through all aspects of Aotearoa New Zealand, from the Treaty partnership between Māori and the Government (the Crown) to the relationship between local government and communities, and across the economy, built environment and natural ecosystems.

Key risks to governance

- Regulatory certainty and strategic and enduring governance
- Fragmented institutional arrangements and capacity constraints
- Ability of democratic institutions to follow due democratic decision-making processes
- Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi

### **People, health and communities**

This domain encompasses people's identity, health, sense of community and social norms, and cultural values and traditions. This domain has particular links to the natural environment domain, built environment domain, economy domain, and Māori domain.

Key risks to people, health and communities

- Social cohesion, community and cultural wellbeing
- Equity
- Physical health
- Mental health, identity, autonomy and sense of belonging and wellbeing
- Ability of emergency management system to respond
- Social infrastructure and community services

### **Sectors relying on the natural environment**

For sectors whose economic productivity is directly linked to the natural environment, and so will experience more direct impacts of climate change than other sectors of Aotearoa New Zealand's economy. This includes the primary industries (livestock agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and forestry), tourism, and energy. The primary industries and tourism make up a large portion of Aotearoa New Zealand's economy. This domain has particular links to the natural environment domain, the Māori domain, and the economy domain.

Key risks to sectors relying on the natural environment

- Livestock agriculture
- Horticulture
- Forestry
- Tourism
- Fisheries

**Ngā mea hirahira o te ao Māori (things of importance in te ao Māori)**

This domain considers Māori interests and investments, health and wellbeing, culture and practices.

The assessment for the Ngā mea hirahira o te ao Māori domain is being conducted by an external provider who will arrange for expert review of the risks in this domain.

## Privacy information

Detailed information about privacy and how we manage your information is available [on the application form](#).

We will use the information you provide on that form to:

- conduct this recruitment
- contact you about your application if needed;
- facilitate your participation in the expert working group if you are successful;
- release information if required to do so by law (including under the Official Information Act 1982).

Being open about our evidence and insights is important to us. **The names of members of this working group will be included in our final report**, which will be published on [our website](#). This information may also be shared on other channels such as social media and email newsletters.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [NCCRA@climatecommission.govt.nz](mailto:NCCRA@climatecommission.govt.nz).