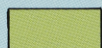


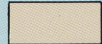
Report published



Survey complete



Planned 1985/86



As at October 1985

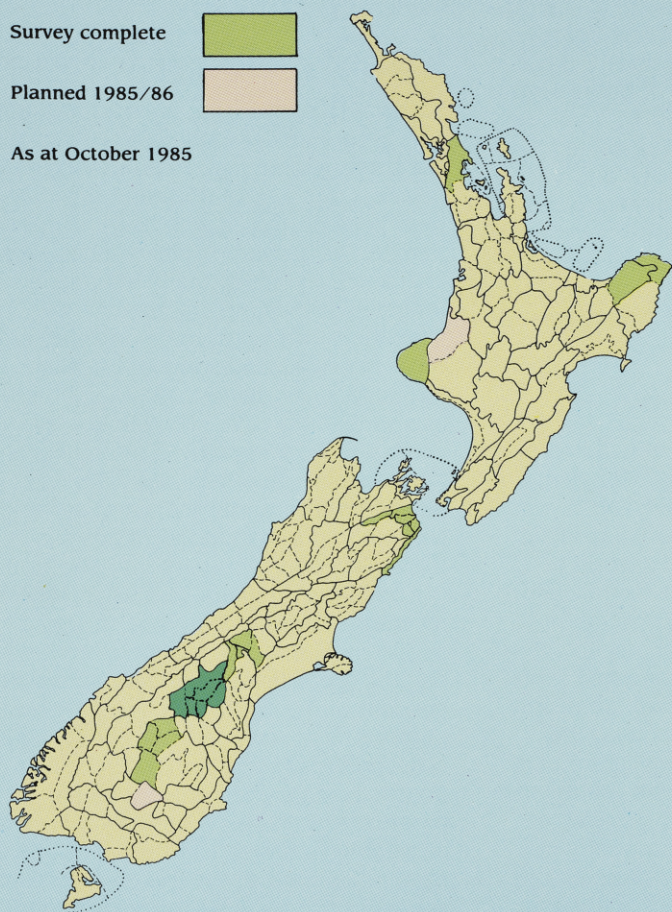


Fig 1: New Zealand divided up into 268 ecological districts based on climate, vegetation, soils and landforms.

Decisions will then be made by Cabinet rather than bureaucrats; this transparency is central to the rationale for the Department of Conservation. The new department will have a clear and undivided responsibility for conservation. It is vital that it presses strongly for PNA funding, and that the merits of its case are given a sympathetic hearing by the purse string controllers in Treasury.

### Implementation the key

Once the PNA surveys are completed, areas will then have to be protected, again raising the question of finance. However, many areas will be protected at minimal cost. They may be publicly-owned lands, their owners may be willing to covenant them either through the QE II National Trust or with the Government under the Reserves Act, or the land may be swapped for less ecologically valuable Crown land. Some key areas will have to be bought outright.

However it is done, implementation of the PNA surveys must follow rapidly. When it was begun in 1983, the programme was hailed as a world leader. By 1986 the claim rings a little hollow. It is not so much the programme which is deficient but the political will to push it. 🐦



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