

Attachment - WPQ-39199 (2025)

Nature Investment Prospectus pilot

In November 2024, The Department of Conservation (DOC) initiated the Nature Investment Prospectus pilot, which supports donations for the highly threatened Alborn skink, a rare limestone plant ecosystem in the Waitaki valley and New Zealand's most endangered bird, tara iti/New Zealand fairy tern. The objectives of the pilot were to:

- Increase funds available for critical conservation projects.
- Test donor interest and donation systems.
- Test targeted advertising to drive donations. Key learnings will feed in to the Mobilise for Nature programme of work.

The pilot runs for 10 months and is due to finish at the end of August 2025. It has been funded through baseline funding with a total budget of \$15,000.

Paid car parking pilot

A paid car parking pilot is due to launch in October 2025. It will run for nine months. The objectives of the pilot are to:

- Trial a way for visitors to contribute to costs at high-use sites.
- Improve visitor management and experience.

DOC expects to spend \$1.2 million establishing the pilot across the three high visitation sites. This will cover costs such as programme management, technical expertise, engineering and design for capital upgrades. \$2 million is tagged for delivering capital works, which is likely to include physical upgrades at Dolomite Point and Whitehorse Hill car parks and installing carpark technology across the three sites. A further \$0.6 million will be spent on running the pilot system at the three sites over the 9-month trial period. The project has a total available budget of \$3.78 million funded from the IVL.

Cashless donations pilot

A cashless donations pilot is due to launch in November 2025. It will run for eight months. The objectives of the pilot are to:

- Design, build, and trial donation stations at selected DOC sites to test both the technical feasibility and social acceptance of cashless donation systems.
- To increase donations revenue to support the implementation of DOC's donations strategy.

Development costs of \$15,000 has been funded by DOC's baseline funding to date.