

Briefing for the incoming Minister for the South Island

23 January 2025



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1. Welcome to the South Island Portfolio

1. As the incoming Minister for the South Island you will have responsibilities focused on the South Island, as agreed between yourself and the Prime Minister. We would value an early opportunity to discuss how you would like to progress your priorities for the South Island portfolio and support you to develop a portfolio work programme.
2. The purpose of this briefing is to provide:
 - Background information about the portfolio
 - Background on the Ministry of Business, Employment & Innovation's (MBIE's) key initiatives and interventions that have a significant impact on the South Island
 - Initial advice on how you might undertake the Minister for South Island role.
3. We have set out the key areas of MBIE's work that have significant impacts on the South Island. While almost all Government decisions will have an impact on the South Island, we have looked to call out where we have specific initiatives underway.
4. This briefing primarily focuses on MBIE initiatives, but also reflects some of the wider Government work programmes that are particularly relevant.
5. We believe there are three specific areas where you could focus:
 - The focal point for the Government's relationship with the South Island
 - Providing coordination across Ministerial portfolios
 - Bringing a South Island perspective into national policy settings.
6. Engagement with your Ministerial colleagues, community leaders across the South Island, and businesses and business leaders will be very important. At a Ministerial level, close engagement with Ministers focused on economic growth, infrastructure and regional development will be priorities, especially given that the portfolio does not have levers of its own.
7. Further briefings will be provided to you as needed, focussing on specific topics in greater depth.

2. Portfolio overview

Purpose

8. This briefing provides you with information relevant to this newly established portfolio. The Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) has prepared the briefing for this portfolio as the Government's priorities for the portfolio (as we understand them) relate to roles and functions primarily held by MBIE. We would welcome an early discussion with you on your portfolio priorities and forward work programme.

Responsibilities

9. Your portfolio responsibilities will be determined by you and the Prime Minister. As this is a new portfolio, early work to clarify the scope and responsibilities and relationships with other portfolios will be required. MBIE is ready to support you to achieve this, as well as to deliver your priorities and fulfil your responsibilities.
10. The South Island portfolio will traverse other Ministerial portfolios, and key levers for change will sit elsewhere in Government and outside of government. Achieving the Government's priorities in the South Island will require collaboration with your Ministerial colleagues and with South Island stakeholders.
11. Section 4 provides advice on the scope of your role to assist you in your discussions with the Prime Minister and your Ministerial colleagues.

Department

12. The South Island portfolio will be supported by MBIE. MBIE does not currently have staff allocated to the portfolio, as it is unfunded (noted below). Decisions on this will be taken in discussion with you once we understand the scope of the portfolio and the support you require, and also once budget arrangements have been made.

Vote Business, Science and Innovation and appropriations

13. Currently the portfolio does not have an appropriation or funding allocation. You may wish to speak with the Minister of Finance on this matter.

Legislation

14. The South Island portfolio has no legislative responsibilities.

3. Overview and initiatives relating to the South Island

Introduction

15. This section summarises the areas of MBIE that have a direct impact on issues relating to the South Island, with a particular focus on areas where we look to lift productivity and drive economic growth.
16. As a South Island based Minister you will already have a strong appreciation of the key characteristics of the South Island, and the areas of strength and opportunity. You will also have an understanding of the South Island not being a homogeneous entity, but rather a group of regions, each facing separate (and often related) issues, that each present unique opportunities. These include: New Zealand's second-largest city (Christchurch); one of New Zealand's fastest growing territorial authorities (Queenstown-Lakes); and some of our most remote communities (Stewart Island).
17. The Coalition Government is committed to getting New Zealand back on track. To do this, it is focused on rebuilding a more dynamic and productive economy, increasing prosperity and boosting opportunities for New Zealand. The Government's plan to focus on this is framed around five key pillars:
 - improved education and skills outcomes
 - better regulatory and tax settings
 - promoting science, innovation and technology
 - strengthening international connections
 - delivering productivity enhancing infrastructure.

Initiatives within MBIE that have a significant South Island component

18. MBIE has a range of relationships with key stakeholders across the South Island through our work, which cover a number of areas of importance to the South Island, including Regional Development, Tourism, Energy, Immigration and Resources.

Regional Development – Kānoa – Regional Development & Commercial Services

19. Kānoa – Regional Development & Commercial Services (Kānoa) is the branch within MBIE that has led investment into the regions through various funds over the past seven years, through the Regional Development portfolio. These investments include funds that have since closed, with contracts either completed or ongoing, as well as the currently underway Regional Infrastructure Fund.
20. As a result of investments made into the regions over successive funds, Kānoa has developed connections into the regions, where it:
 - Works with regions to develop priorities for investment (and other action)
 - Communicates back to Ministers the key issues facing each region
 - Provides insight into who to engage with on government work programmes
 - Works out the best points of engagement for Ministers with each region.

21. In the South Island, Kānoa has staff based in Nelson, Canterbury and Otago, covering on-the-ground work across the regions. There are also Wellington based staff who provide advice on issues and investments in the regions.

Regional Development – the Regional Infrastructure Fund

22. The National and New Zealand First coalition agreement established a \$1.2 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF), reflecting the Government’s commitment to investing in and improving New Zealand’s regional infrastructure. The fund is made up of \$300 million operating funding (OPEX) and \$900 million capital funding (CAPEX) focused on:

- *Resilience Infrastructure*: infrastructure that improves a region’s ability to absorb, adapt and/or respond to stresses and shocks.
- *Enabling Infrastructure*: infrastructure that ensures regions are well-connected, productive, and resilient.

23. The Minister for Regional Development is responsible for the fund. The Regional Development Ministerial Group (Ministers of/for Finance, Infrastructure, Local Government, Māori Development and Regional Development) is responsible for making RIF investments up to \$35 million. Kānoa manages the delivery of the RIF.

24. As of 21 January 2025, 38.7 per cent of the RIF has been approved or ringfenced. RIF funding is expected to be fully allocated by the end of the parliamentary term.

25. To date fifteen South Island RIF projects have been approved, totalling \$45.9 million:

- Fourteen of these projects are flood resilience projects.
- The other approved project is the Oceans Beach Aquaculture project in Southland.

26. Annex Three contains a list of these projects.

Regional Development – South Island investments over all funds

27. Within the South Island, Kānoa has a role in the administration of 13 key funds (including the RIF) and manages 372 projects, with a further 367 projects managed by partner agencies, for a combined approved funding total of \$849.6 million as at 31 December 2024.

28. 575 of these projects are complete, leaving 164 live projects, made up of 131 grants, 34 loans, and 2 equity (note that some projects have multiple funding types, for example one project may consist of a grant as well as a loan).

29. Of the 13 funds managed by Kānoa, only two are open for applications – the RIF and the Wood Processing Growth Fund (WPGF).

30. Notable South Island projects include:

- The Dolomite Point Redevelopment Project (DPRP), Punakaki, West Coast (to complete a significant redevelopment of key visitor facilities and infrastructure and enrich the visitor experience, improve traffic safety and give profile to the cultural significance of Dolomite Point in Punakaiki - \$28.1 million)
- Construction of four visitor experience Hubs in Te Wai Pounamu/West Coast (to construct four visitor experience hubs throughout the region which connect key locations through interactive displays and storytelling of the history of the West Coast - \$17.9 million)

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- Invercargill City Redevelopment – “Our city for tomorrow” (to facilitate the redevelopment of Invercargill's central city to improve the cities liveability and provide a high-quality commercial district - \$41.3 million)
 - The Lamb Primal Automation Project – Cluster (to facilitate the acquisition of meat processing equipment and the refurbishment of Lorneville meat processing plant, including the installation of conveyors and vacuum packing facilities - \$10.3 million)
 - Ōpuke Thermal Pools and Spa (to build a hot pools and spa complex in Methven heated with solar energy - \$7.5 million)
31. Officials will provide you with further detail on South Island projects broken down by region and sector in subsequent material.
32. As at 31 December 2024, total paid investment into the South Island of \$715.4 million from government funding administered by Kānoa has also unlocked \$593.3 million of co-funding.
33. Combined, this paid investment and co-funding has led to a total impact to the South Island of:
- \$1.8 billion in additional expenditure
 - \$740.4 million in added GDP
 - Over 7,980 FTEs employed.

Immigration New Zealand – RSE and Refugee Resettlement

34. Immigration New Zealand (INZ) has two areas that have a significant impact on the South Island.
35. The Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme allows employers with horticulture and viticulture businesses to have citizens of eligible Pacific countries work for them and is an important part of New Zealand’s relations with the Pacific. INZ provides employer accreditation and processes visas (while also working with the Ministry for Social Development to ensure that New Zealanders are not being denied employment opportunities), and broader support to ensure the scheme delivers on its objectives. The regions in the South Island that use RSE workers are Marlborough, Nelson, Otago and Canterbury.
36. INZ leads the Government’s Refugee Resettlement Strategy. This is a whole-of-government approach to delivering good refugee resettlement outcomes. New Zealand primarily contributes to international humanitarian responses through the grant of residence under our Refugee Quota Programme (the Quota). In addition to the Quota, the Community Organisation Refugee Sponsorship (CORS) programme and family reunification through the Refugee Family Support Category (RFSC) are complementary pathways.
37. From 1 July to 31 December 2024, 681 people arrived in New Zealand under the quota in three intakes. The following table summarises the numbers resettled in various communities, including some who arrived under the previous year’s quota, with the key South Island locations highlighted.

	Total number settled in the community 1 July – 31 December 2024
Ashburton	53
Auckland	142
Blenheim	43
Christchurch	88
Dunedin	101
Hamilton	73

Invercargill	43
Levin	52
Masterton	36
Nelson	57
Palmerston North	54
Timaru	94
Wellington	101
Total	937

Energy – Resilience and Affordability

38. There are several South Island regions that are more exposed to affordability, security and resilience risks than other parts of New Zealand. Most regions identify energy as a regional priority in one form or another. There are three areas of the South Island where a high cost of electricity and lower median household income generally coincide, and/or where there are supply constraints that could be alleviated through investment to improve affordability for businesses and households. These are:

- Marlborough
- Tasman/Nelson
- West Coast.

39. For example, power prices in Westport are roughly 29% higher than the national average.

40. These regions are also exposed to natural hazard risks, which threaten their energy security and resilience.

41. In addition, Stewart Island is also particularly affected by energy affordability.

Resource – contribution to the economy, Fast-Track projects and upcoming issues

42. The resources sector is a significant contributor to the South Island economy, especially on the West Coast and in Otago. On 31 January 2025, the Minister for Resources will launch the Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040 and New Zealand’s Critical Minerals List. The Strategy’s goal is to double mineral exports by 2035, and to lift employment from 5000+ regional jobs to 7,000+ regional jobs – with much of this growth expected in the South Island.

43. The big growth opportunities for the South Island are in:

- **Gold** through the Macraes extension and Santana mine, both in Otago, as the largest opportunity. Both operations will employ hundreds of people.
- **Minerals sands** on the West Coast, which contain a range of critical minerals including rare earth elements.
- **Coking coal** used for steelmaking – the extension of the Bathurst mine at Stockton will extend the life of the mine and its output.

44. New Zealand is exploring ways to attract foreign and domestic investment across the minerals value chain. Part of this is ensuring our regulatory settings are appropriate and do not act as a barrier to investment. There is significant interest from the sector in the Fast-track Approvals process, with a number of significant projects listed in the Act (see Annex One) and the opportunity for others to seek the Minister for Infrastructure’s approval for fast-tracking.

45. There are also challenges for the sector, including the relative cost of operating in New Zealand compared to other mineral producers, including energy costs. The recent closure of the Tawhai rail

tunnel on the West Coast, which at present requires coal shipments to be trucked part of the distance to Lyttleton, has had a significant impact on production levels. Ensuring rail infrastructure is maintained to an appropriate level, and managing the costs associated, will be a significant issue for the West Coast minerals sector (and the wider community). There are also important decisions coming up in the Conservation portfolio which will be important to the sector around the reclassification of stewardship land and charges (e.g. rent) for accessing conservation land.

Science and Innovation – MBIE funds several South Island research organisations

46. Through the Science and Innovation portfolio MBIE funds a number of South Island research organisations. These include: Otago University, Canterbury University, Lincoln University, the Cawthron Institute, the Bragato Wine Research Institute, the NZ Institute for Minerals to Materials Research, the Xerra Earth Observation Institute, and a number of Crown Research Institutes (CRIs) (with 11 CRI locations around the South Island). On 23 January, the Prime Minister announced a reset of the science sector.
47. Annex Two contains a list of the research institutes, their location and what they do.

Tourism

48. Tourism is a key sector for the South Island's economic growth potential. For the year ending March 2023, tourism spend in the South Island made up 40 per cent of total international tourism spend, or \$4.3 billion (North Island held 60 per cent or \$6.5 billion) and 31 per cent of total domestic tourism spend for New Zealand (North Island held 69 per cent or \$18.4 billion). Guest nights for the year ending November 2024 for the combined South Island Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) were 16.1 million, in comparison to 22.6 million for the North Island RTOs. From an international connectivity perspective, Christchurch and Queenstown airports are important strategic gateways for New Zealand, with Queenstown airport hosting 2.56 million international passengers in 2024.
49. The sector has a key role to play in the Government's ambitions for economic growth and lifting productivity. The South Island gateways will be an important part of this picture by supporting increased visitor numbers and providing a world-class arrivals experience. Tourism is also an important economic contributor for regional and remote areas of the South Island.
50. An example of this is the West Coast, hosting a diverse tourism offering that is a key source of economic development, including Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers, the West Coast Wilderness Cycle Trail, Punakaiki Rocks and Great Walks. However, access, weather events and visitor concentration (such as in Queenstown) can impact certainty of business for tourism operators in more remote areas of the South Island. Many popular tourism areas in the South Island also have low rating bases compared to the number of visitors they host.
51. A key tourism initiative that you may wish to engage with is the Milford Opportunities Project (MOP). In 2017, MOP was established to rethink the way Milford Sound is accessed and enjoyed by visitors. A range of interventions were considered to enable an improved visitor experience while protecting and preserving the site. The Department of Conservation is the lead Government agency for MOP, with MBIE supporting from the Tourism and Hospitality portfolio, and the Ministry of Transport supporting under the Associate Transport portfolio. There is significant involvement from Ngāi Tahu, Environment Southland, Southland District Council, other local stakeholders and the wider tourism industry.
52. In July 2024, the final MOP Report was delivered to the Ministers of Conservation, Tourism and Hospitality and Associate Transport to decide on next steps for implementation. Confidential advice to Government

Confidential advice to Government

Initiatives across Government with a significant South Island component that we are strongly engaged with

53. Almost all work programmes across government will have an impact on the South Island. We have summarised some key areas.

Regional Deals

54. Regional Deals are the Government's initiative for establishing long-term agreements between central and local government. Regional Deals give effect to the National Party manifesto commitment, and the National and ACT New Zealand coalition agreement commitment, to institute long-term regional deals.

55. The programme, led by the Minister of Local Government intends to unlock funding and resource opportunities to support councils to make improvements in their region, for example to roads, infrastructure, and the supply of quality housing.

56. This work is led by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA).

Focusing local government on the basics

57. The Government has committed to reform and refocus local councils on delivering essential services and core infrastructure, spending responsibly, and operating under greater scrutiny. These reforms are being led by the Minister of Local Government.

58. The local government reform programme will:

- Remove references to the 'four well-beings' from the Local Government Act 2002, restoring a purpose focused on fixing pipes, filling potholes, and delivering core local services.
- Refocus local government on basics, guiding council decision-making and avoiding duplication of roles with central Government.
- Benchmark council performance. A yearly report on key financial and delivery outcomes will be published.
- Modernise outdated rules, including removing requirements for newspaper notices, to drive efficiency and cost savings.

59. DIA are leading this work Confidential advice to Government

4. Portfolio responsibilities

Your role as Minister for the South Island

60. As Minister for the South Island, you will play a critical role in helping ensure that the issues facing the South Island are well understood by the Government at the most senior levels in consideration of its work programmes and helping to communicate the Government's work programme to South Island stakeholders.
61. Many of the levers that will help lift the performance of the South Island sit in other Ministerial portfolios or outside government. Achieving the Government's priorities in the South Island will require collaboration with your Ministerial colleagues and with stakeholders across the South Island.
62. You therefore have an important leadership role in setting direction, driving alignment and coordinating across multiple portfolios.
63. We anticipate the role of Minister for the South Island will be largely set by the Prime Minister and yourself, based on the specific priorities you wish to pursue. We will provide further advice on how we will support you in your role once the scope of the Prime Minister's delegation and your own priorities are known.
64. The following advice helps you consider how you would like to undertake the Minister for the South Island role and any necessary steps that would help ensure your role is successful. We believe there are three specific areas you could lead:
- The focal point for the Government's relationship with the South Island
 - Providing coordination across Ministerial portfolios
 - Bringing a South Island perspective into national policy settings.

The focal point for the Government's relationship with the South Island

65. South Island stakeholders have often outlined that engaging with the Government can be complex and difficult. While this is not unique to the South Island, there is an opportunity to help improve the quality of engagement with key South Island groups and simplify the channels of communication. By being the focal point for engagement for the South Island, you help stakeholders understand the Government's priorities in the region. It also enables stakeholders to provide you with feedback which helps inform your priorities and conversations with your colleagues and improves strategic policy and implementation decisions.
66. The creation of the South Island portfolio provides an opportunity for Government to channel some of its engagement on important South Island issues through you. This would be in partnership with your Ministerial colleagues and would help ensure a joined-up and consistent engagement, especially on cross portfolio issues.

Providing coordination across Ministerial portfolios

67. The diverse regions in the South Island and the challenges they face are often complex and comprise numerous interconnected and interdependent elements. Changes in policy settings will have cascading effects, sometimes unintended, through parts of the South Island (e.g., immigration-led population increases, transport decisions, land-use planning changes and economic growth).

68. Achieving coordination across different Ministerial portfolios is key to addressing complex rural and urban issues facing the South Island, particularly where issues span multiple Government agencies. Your role provides an opportunity to improve inter-ministerial leadership, engagement and coordination on the South Island.

Bringing a South Island perspective into national policy settings

69. Despite the importance of the South Island within the national context, we do not have a clear strategy and narrative that sets out the opportunities and challenges facing the South Island from a national perspective. A clear narrative for the South Island can ensure Government work programmes that impact communities across the South Island are calibrated to the unique circumstances of each of the South Island's communities and help guide public and private sector investment.

70. Equally, on occasions there is good reason to bring a South Island perspective into public policy and Cabinet decision making. Part of this is that the unique geography, accessibility and infrastructure of various communities can be quite different to what other Ministers represent.

71. Your ability to provide a South Island perspective helps ensure that national policy decisions leverage the comparative advantages of the regions within the South Island for the national benefit.

Major links with other portfolios

72. The South Island portfolio intersects with a range of other portfolios across government (as mentioned above, almost all portfolios will have a South Island impact). You will likely need to work most closely with the Minister of/for Regional Development, Rural Communities, Local Government, Transport, Energy, Resources and Agriculture as these portfolios are strongly aligned. MBIE will support you in your role on any relevant Cabinet Committees, Ministerial Groups, and bilateral meetings with other Ministers.

Key regional groups

73. We anticipate that key regional groups from across the South Island will look to proactively engage with you following your appointment (and the creation of the portfolio). We have relationships with a number of these groups already and can support you in your engagements. This support can include: providing any background briefings in advance of meetings; an assessment of our understanding of the key issues they may raise (based on our interactions in the past); and attending meetings to support you.

74. We can support you to develop an engagement programme. We envisage at a minimum that engagement will include: Mayoral forums; Economic Development Agencies; and Regional Leadership Groups. The Government's work on Regional Deals will have led regional groupings to have further developed as they look to present proposals to Government.

Regional Public Service Commissioners

75. The Public Service Commission has named a series of senior public servants around New Zealand as Regional Public Service Commissioners. There are three that work across the South Island. We can work to facilitate meetings between yourself and the Regional Public Service Commissioners as part of an engagement programme for you.

5. How MBIE assists you

76. MBIE assists you in fulfilling your portfolio responsibilities.

77. The primary group that will provide support is Kānoa – Regional Development & Commercial Services.

Key MBIE officials

78. The key MBIE officials who will support you in this portfolio are listed below:

Table 1: Key MBIE officials

Contact	Role	Priority Area	Contact details
<p>Carolyn Tremain</p> 	<p>Secretary, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Privacy of natural persons</p>
<p>Robert Pigou</p> 	<p>Deputy Secretary, Kānoa Regional Development and Commercial Services</p>	<p>Regional Development</p>	<p>Privacy of natural persons</p>

6. Annexes

Annex One: South Island Fast-track mining and quarrying projects

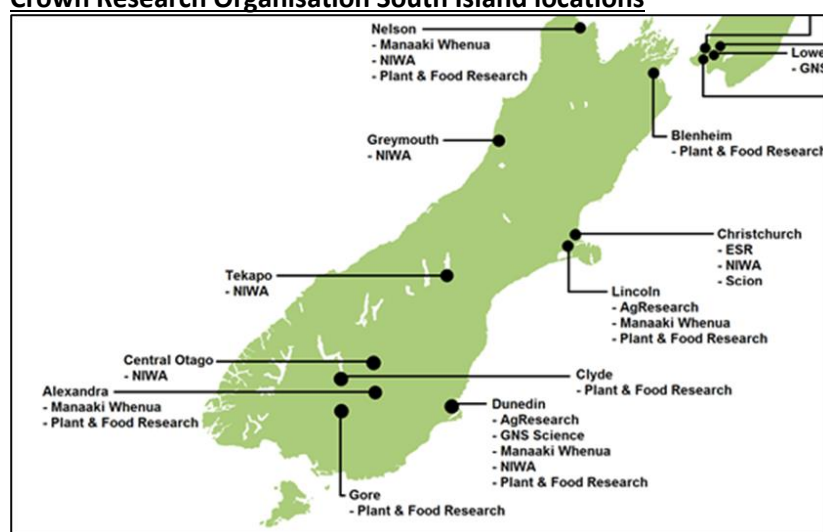
Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	Region	Sub-sector
KB Contracting & Quarries Limited	Miners Road Northern Expansion	Expand existing aggregate extraction activities over a 25 to 30 year period. Miners Road Northern Expansion Ministry for the Environment	Canterbury	Quarry
Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited	Macraes Phase Four (MP4).	In stages, expand the existing open pit and underground gold mining operations to enable output of 130,000 ounces per annum to 2036 Macraes Phase Four (MP4) Ministry for the Environment	Otago	Precious metals
Matakanui Gold Limited	Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project	Establish, operate, and remediate an open pit and underground gold mine Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Ministry for the Environment	Otago	Precious metals
Southern Screenworks Limited	Southern Screenworks quarry extension and managed fill	Expand the extraction of aggregate from the existing quarry, and establish and operate a managed fill facility Southern Screenworks Quarry Extension and Managed Fill Ministry for the Environment	Canterbury	Quarry
Bathurst Coal Limited, Bathurst Resources Limited, BT Mining Limited, Buller Coal Limited	Buller Plateaux Continuation	Expand existing coking coal mining activities, and extend the life of the mine, to enable the extraction of an additional 20 million tonnes over 25 years, including— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water diversion, and water control and treatment facilities • historic acid mine drainage rehabilitation Buller Plateaux Continuation Project Ministry for the Environment	West Coast	Coal
TiGa Minerals and Metals Limited	Barrytown Mineral Sands Project	In stages, establish and operate mine sites for mineral sand extraction activities, processing, and transporting processed minerals through the Greymouth Port, comprising — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1: Northern Block and Rapahoe plant — sand mineral extraction (approximately 63 hectares over 5 years), establishing a wet concentrator plant, and constructing and operating a secondary mineral separation plant • Stage 2: Central Block—sand mineral extraction (approximately 208 hectares over 9 years) • Stage 3: Southern Block—sand mineral extraction (approximately 172 hectares over 9 years), including Maher swamp enhancement, planting, and restoration Barrytown Mineral Sands Project Ministry for the Environment	West Coast	Mineral sand extraction

Annex Two: Key Research Organisations funded in the South Island

MBIE is responsible for making and managing science investments on behalf of Government to support economic, social and environmental outcomes. A number of key research organisations supported by science funds are located in the South Island.

Organisation	Location	Description
University of Otago	Dunedin – main campus	Founded in 1869, the University of Otago is New Zealand’s oldest university and includes the only dental school in New Zealand. The Christchurch campus is the base for medical and postgraduate health education.
University of Canterbury	Christchurch – main campus	Founded in 1873, University of Canterbury also has a network of field stations across the South Island that are available for use for teaching and research.
Lincoln University	Lincoln, Christchurch	Lincoln University formed in 1990 when made independent from the University of Canterbury. Founded in 1878, it is the oldest agricultural teaching institution in the Southern Hemisphere. New Zealand’s only specialist land-based university.
Lincoln Agritech	Lincoln, Christchurch	Established in 1964, Lincoln Agritech is a multidisciplinary research and development company with over 50 staff. Owned by Lincoln University, it delivers science and engineering knowledge and technologies into environmental, primary sector, processing and new materials applications.
Cawthron Institute	Nelson	Cawthron’s science supports the growth of primary industries and the protection of the marine and freshwater environments. With a focus on growing and ensuring the safety of the seafood sector, developing bioactive resources, and improving the health of freshwater ecosystems and oceans.
Bragato Research Institute	Blenheim	Bragato was established in 2015 as one of four Regional Research Institutes. It leads research and innovation that enables the New Zealand wine industry to thrive, from blue sky research to the practical application of science in vineyards and wineries. A wholly owned subsidiary of New Zealand Winegrowers.
New Zealand Institute for Minerals to Materials Research (NZIMMR)	Greymouth	NZIMMR was established in August 2017 as one of four Regional Research Institutes for research that shifts activities from mining of minerals to manufacturing from minerals.
Xerra Earth Observation Institute	Alexandra	Xerra was established in 2015 as one of four Regional Research Institutes, it undertakes research to drive innovation and growth in New Zealand by enabling access to, and exploiting, earth observation data.
Crown Research Institutes	South Island Locations	Crown Research Institutes significantly contribute to the economy of many regions. There are 50 Crown Research Institute locations around New Zealand, 11 on the South Island, with 20 of them shared by several CRIs.

Crown Research Organisation South Island locations



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Annex Three: Approved South Island Investments in the RIF

Region	Title	Organisation	Funding Type	Approved RIF Funding	Co-funding (non-Govt)	Total Value
Canterbury	Environment Canterbury - Rangitata Flood and Resilience #2	Environment Canterbury	Grant	\$1,800,000.00	\$1,200,000	\$3,000,000
Canterbury	Environment Canterbury - Structure Upgrades / Adaptation Works	Environment Canterbury	Grant	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,000,000	\$2,500,000
Canterbury	Environment Canterbury - Waitarakao / Washdyke / Seadown Works	Environment Canterbury	Grant	\$2,400,000.00	\$1,600,000	\$4,000,000
Otago	Otago Regional Council - West Taieri Resilience Upgrade	Otago Regional Council	Grant	\$5,400,000.00	\$3,600,000	\$9,000,000
Southland	Environment Southland - Aparima Catchment Flood Protection Upgrade	Southland Regional Council	Grant	\$300,000.00	\$200,000	\$500,000
Southland	Environment Southland - Oreti River Catchment Flood Protection Upgrade	Southland Regional Council	Grant	\$3,000,000.00	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
Southland	Environment Southland - Te Anau Basin Catchment Flood Management Upgrade	Southland Regional Council	Grant	\$300,000.00	\$200,000	\$500,000
Southland	Ocean Beach - Aquaculture Centre of Excellence	Bluff Limited	Loan	\$2,200,000.00	\$4,195,000	\$6,395,000
Te Taihu/Top of the South	Tasman District Council - Lower Motueka River Stopbank Refurbishment	Tasman District Council	Grant	\$6,600,000.00	\$4,400,000	\$11,000,000
Te Taihu/Top of the South	Tasman District Council - Peach Island Stopbank Repair	Tasman District Council	Grant	\$900,000.00	\$600,000	\$1,500,000
Te Taihu/Top of the South	Marlborough District Council - Lower Wairau Flood Capacity Upgrade	Marlborough District Council	Grant	\$3,600,000.00	\$5,100,000	\$8,700,000
Te Taihu/Top of the South	Marlborough District Council - Wairau River Flood Protection Scheme	Marlborough District Council	Grant	\$2,880,000.00	\$1,920,000	\$4,800,000
Te Taihu/Top of the South	Nelson City Council - Maitai Flood Management Project	Nelson City Council	Grant	\$5,400,000.00	\$3,600,000	\$9,000,000
Te Taihu/Top of the South	Nelson City Council - Nelson Floods Repairs / Flood Risk Protection	Nelson City Council	Grant	\$3,600,000.00	\$2,400,000	\$6,000,000
West Coast	West Coast Regional Council - Stopbank - Waiho River Northside Havill Wall Extension and Southside Protection	West Coast Regional Council	Grant	\$6,000,000.00	\$4,000,000	\$10,000,000