



Environmental Sustainability and Resilience

Total investment

\$204m

per year by 2029/30
(from forecast \$285m
in 26/27)

Expected contributions:

- Improved resilience to natural hazards and weather impacts
- Better allocation, efficiency and environment outcomes for natural resources
- Protection and restoration of biodiversity and NZ’s distinct natural heritage
- Climate mitigation and adaptation informed by robust science
- Trusted environment data, monitoring and integrated decision support
- International leadership in Antarctic and Southern Ocean stewardship

TfP = Technology for Prosperity

PI&B = Primary Industries and Bioeconomy

ES&R = Environmental Sustainability and Resilience

H&S = Healthy People and a Thriving Society

ESR 1	Large	Protecting NZ from multi-hazard and climate risk
Decision-makers have access to trusted multi-hazard risk information to guide planning, investment and adaptation.		
Invest in science that: • Builds integrated hazard, exposure and vulnerability datasets. • Develops dynamic risk models and decision tools. • Improves real-time monitoring, forecasting and response. Supports national, regional and community decision-making. Integrates climate adaptation, resilience and emergency management.		

ESR 2	Large	Actionable climate science
Climate science provides decision-ready information for adaptation, risk management and future opportunities.		
Invest in science that: • Strengthens climate, earth-system and water modelling. • Produces decision-grade impact information. • Builds trusted climate data services and tools. Foundational capability supporting multiple ES&R outcomes and wider system planning.		

ESR 3	Large	Supporting effective system-scale ecosystem interventions
Integrated science supports large-scale recovery of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.		
Invest in science that: • Helps understand ecosystem connectivity and recovery. • Prioritises interventions with highest long-term impact. • Validates scalable recovery approaches and monitoring systems. Source-to-sea focus. Aligns environmental, cultural and economic (w/ PI&B) outcomes.		

ESR 4	Medium	Sustainable economic growth through clean energy and circular production systems
Research that integrates clean energy and circular systems, improving productivity, resilience and environmental performance.		
Co-invest in industry-led science that: • Integrates cross-sector energy, materials and waste flow modelling. • Identifies high-impact circular and low-emissions opportunities. • Tests clean energy and circular production systems at scale. Focus on adoption, system performance and long-term value creation. Energy elements closely tied to TfP , circular systems connect to PI&B critical minerals outcome.		



ESR 5	Small	Place-based knowledge, leadership and governance
Integrated knowledge systems support place-based environmental management and informed decision-making across local, regional and national scales.		
Invest in science that: • Combines environmental science, mātauranga Māori and place-based knowledge to support stewardship and resilience. • Strengthens place-based monitoring and knowledge systems for environmental and risk-informed decisions. • Supports Māori and community leadership, governance and adaptive management. Cross-cutting outcome supporting resilience, climate, ecosystem and resource management decisions.		

ESR 6	Small	Antarctic and Southern Ocean science leadership
Targeted Antarctic and Southern Ocean science supports stewardship, strategic interests and global influence.		
Invest in science that: • Improves understanding of climate, oceans and ecosystems. • Supports marine governance and ecosystem management. • Maintains long-term observations and datasets. Focus on areas of distinctive NZ capability and responsibility, meeting our international obligations and contributing, where appropriate, to international initiatives.		