

1946
NEW ZEALAND

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY
**PUBLIC DOMAINS AND NATIONAL PARKS OF
NEW ZEALAND**
(ANNUAL REPORT ON)

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency

Department of Lands and Survey,
Wellington, 28th June, 1946.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit herewith a report on the public domains and national parks of the Dominion for the year ended 31st March, 1946.

I have, &c.,

R. G. MACMORRAN,
Under-Secretary for Lands.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands.

REPORT

PART I.—PUBLIC DOMAINS

At 31st March, 1946, the total number of public domains administered under the provisions of Part II of the Public Reserves, Domains, and National Parks Act, 1928, was 816, covering a total area of 79,946 acres. Of these, 43 domains are controlled by the various Commissioners of Crown Lands, 300 are administered by local authorities acting as Domain Boards, while the remaining 473 are under local Boards.

Following the cessation of hostilities, there has been a renewal of interest in the development of public domains, and numerous applications for financial assistance have been received and dealt with. However, the shortage of materials and lack of available labour have in most cases hindered the carrying-out of any large-scale programme of improvements.

During the year two new domains—the Opoutama Domain and the Maruia War Memorial Domain—were constituted and arrangements made for their control.

The Opoutama Domain, comprising $9\frac{1}{2}$ acres, is situated at Mahia Bay, some 110 miles north of Napier. The area is suitable for use as a camping and picnic ground.

The Maruia War Memorial Domain contains 10 acres, and is situated at Maruia, some 37 miles from Murchison. The area is to be used for general recreation purposes.

Additions to existing domains were made as follows :—

Land District.			Domain.	Area added.		
				A.	R.	P.
North Auckland	..	..	Kawakawa ..	8	3	32
Auckland	..	..	Mount Maunganui..	1	0	0
"	..	..	Hamilton ..	1	3	36·72
Nelson	..	..	Rotoiti ..	466	2	17·7
Total area added to four domains				478	2	6·42

The area of 466 acres 2 roods 17·7 perches added to the Rotoiti Domain adjoins Lake Rotoiti and the upper reaches of the Buller River. The land is for the most part level, but it includes a peninsula jutting into the lake between the east and west bays, also a conical hill which is a favourite vantage point commanding an extensive view. The stretch of the Buller River bounding the area on the west is a favourite resort for fishermen.

PART II.—NATIONAL PARKS

No new national park areas were set aside during the year. Grants of £1,221 to the Egmont National Park Board, £300 to the Arthur Pass National Park Board, and £300 to the Abel Tasman National Park Board were made for general administration and improvement purposes.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given ; printing (560 copies) £2 10s.

By Authority: E. V. PAUL, Government Printer, Wellington.—1946.

Price 3d.]