



Place Naming Legislation in New Zealand

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Presentation Overview

- **Background to NZ Place Naming**
- **Government Outcomes**
- **Why Legislate?**
- **Conclusion**





Background to New Zealand Place Naming



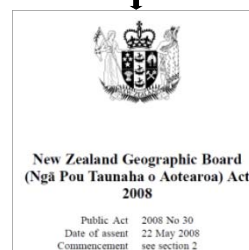
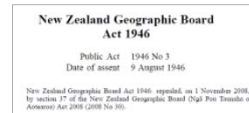
- **800-950 AD Māori arrived**
- **1642 Abel Tasman circumnavigation**
- **1769 Captain James Cook**
- **1790 sealers**
- **Missionaries, then colonial settlers**
- **1840 Treaty of Waitangi**



Background to New Zealand Place Naming – Official Naming



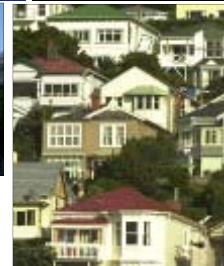
- **Royal Society of London**
- **Designation of Districts Act 1894**
- **Honorary Geographic Board 1924**
- **NZ Geographic Board Act 1946**
- **1956 Cabinet directive for Antarctic naming**
- **Review ⇒ NZ Geographic Board Act 2008**



- **Features and places within New Zealand's jurisdiction are identifiable by name so that people can effectively communicate information about location**
- **Place names preserve New Zealand's heritage and culture**



- **Sovereignty**
- **Indigenous rights**
- **Heritage, culture**
- **Consistency**
- **International**
- **High public interest**



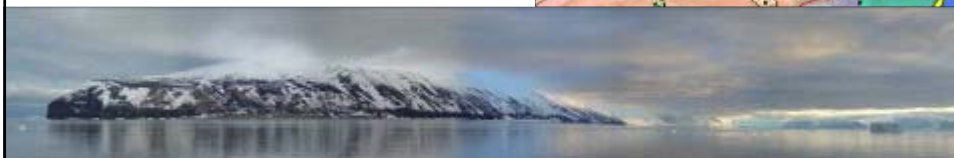
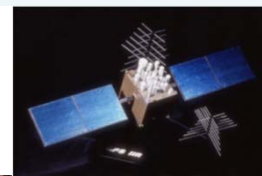
Need For Consistency

- Safety
- Emergency & disaster response
- Travellers & tourists
- Efficient government administration
- Communications



International Consistency

- Antarctica
- Continental shelf
- Global spatial data
- Tourists and travellers
- GPS navigation



- **Ensure consistency**
- **Standards**
- **Government leadership**
- **Authoritative data**
- **Public change over time**
- **Legislative backing**



- **Not just about mapping**
- **High interest**
- **Careful decision making**
- **Good information**
- **Expert advice**
- **Best practice**
- **Public acceptance**



Why Legislate?

- **Public good**
- **Clear scope**
- **Clear authority**
- **Accepted processes**
- **Decisions at right level**
- **Subject to challenge**



Conclusion

The review of the Act confirmed the need for:

- **Legislation for place names**
- **Extending over a wider area of New Zealand**
- **Public participation**
- **Modernised processes**
- **Encouraging compliance**

For further information see <http://www.linz.govt.nz/placenames/index.aspx>