

Our mission

As a Crown Research Institute, NIWA is expected to play a broad transformative role in New Zealand's economy, society, and environment and to contribute to the government's economic transformation goals. We do this by carrying out environmental research, by transferring and applying knowledge gained from that research, by applying best sustainable practice and helping all New Zealanders do the same, and by our strong financial performance.

To be an internationally respected research organisation dedicated to creating and delivering innovative and excellent science that enables New Zealanders to make informed decisions on the sustainable use of their natural environment and its living resources.

Our Vision

NIWA will have a reputation for:

- scientific excellence in aquatic and atmospheric research;
- providing objective science-based advice and leadership to enhance the sustainable management of natural resources;
- producing new tools and providing information that enables enhanced environmental management, improved wealth creation, and increased public safety;
- working with the fisheries and aquaculture sectors to create new business opportunities and optimise returns;
- transferring commercialisation opportunities to private enterprise in a manner that maximises both their chances of success and their economic benefits to New Zealand;
- working collaboratively with other researchers to enhance scientific creativity and to maximise associated benefits to New Zealand and the globe;
- partnering with others to ensure our science positively influences environmental, economic, social, and cultural outcomes;
- operating a financial strategy that ensures both a continual investment in its people, facilities, and equipment to ensure appropriate science capability in areas of strategic benefit to New Zealand while providing an appropriate return on shareholders' funds.

Our Values

We are committed to:

- promoting creativity, innovation, and opportunity-seeking;
- ensuring national capabilities in core aquatic and atmospheric sciences are appropriately staffed and supplied with sufficient equipment and resources;
- encouraging a workplace culture which is empowering, collegial, adaptable, and openly communicative;
- operating with integrity, skill, and professionalism;
- providing a remuneration system that attracts, retains, and rewards high quality staff;
- providing a safe and healthy working environment, including appropriate work/life balance;
- ensuring that all staff are treated in a fair and equitable manner;
- taking social responsibility, valuing our environment, and operating in a sustainable manner;
- encouraging staff and stakeholder participation in the setting of our research strategies;
- working collaboratively with others where this adds value and enhances benefits to New Zealand;
- honouring the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.