



## Public Works Act 1876

- Citation:** 40 V. No 50
- Date of Assent:** 31 October, 1876
- Commencement:** Date of Assent
- Repeal:** Repealed 1894, No 42
- Amendments:** –
- Type of Legislation:** Public
- Subject:** Public Works
- Relevant Sections:** ss21 - 32: Taking lands for public works. Nothing to exclude Maori land.  
s78: No Surveyor to enter Native Land for purposes of this Act until special permission of Minister gained.
- Commentary:** This Act consolidates the Provincial public works legislation now that the Provincial Councils are to be abolished. Tairaroa protested against Public Works legislation on the grounds that it only applied to compensation for Europeans, because of an example in Greymouth where land was taken for a railroad without compensation. He suggested that the Government should negotiate with Maori before any work commences. The provision relating to surveys could be a precautionary measure to prevent situations where Maori resisted the encroachment of roads etc by removing survey pegs.
- Cross Reference:** NZPD vol 23 (1876) 517.