



## Reserves Act 1977

- Citation:** No 66
- Date of Assent:** 23 December, 1977
- Commencement:** 1 April, 1978
- Repeal:** Still in Force
- Amendments:** **1978, No 121:** See s3 – Application of proceeds of land where reservation revoked.  
**1979, No 63:** See s4 – Classification of reserves.  
**1983, No 43:** See s43 – Classification of certain reserves vested in local authorities.  
**1990, No 31:** ss90 - 104. See s95 which amends s40 – administering body of a reserve which includes part of the Wanganui river shall have regard to the spiritual, historical, and cultural significance of the Whanganui Iwi.  
**1993, No 8:** See s3 – Inserts new s77A. If the Minister is satisfied that any Maori land or Crown land held under a lease by Maori should be managed so as to preserve and protect the natural environment, landscape amenity, wildlife or freshwater life or historical value of the land or the spiritual and cultural values which Maori associate with the land, the Minister may treat with the owner for a Nga Whenua Rahui kawenata. The Nga Whenua Rahui kawenata may be in perpetuity or for any specific term or in perpetuity but subject to review at intervals of not less than 25 years.
- Type of Legislation:** Public
- Subject:** Reserved Land  
Wahi Tapu & Non Tangible Resources  
Other Resource Issues  
Maori Land Court: Structures & Jurisdiction  
Incorporations  
Public Works
- Relevant Sections:** s2: Maori Reservation defined as one constituted under s439 Maori Affairs Act 1953. Definition of Reserve does not include any Maori reservation.  
s12: Acquisition of land by the Minister for a reserve. Proviso that no Maori land may be taken or otherwise acquired under the Public Works Act 1928 without the consent of the Minister of Maori Affairs.  
s25: Revocation or change of classification of reserve. Maori land transferred to the Crown by way of gift for purpose of a reservation

*Relevant Sections, Commentary and Cross Reference continued next page*



and the reservation of which has been revoked, may be offered to the former owner or descendants as determined by the MLCt.

*s38:* Control and management of land that is not a reserve – including any Maori reservation. Maori Trust Boards and Maori Incorporations may be declared to be administering body.

*s39:* Provision of technical assistance to administering body.

*s46:* Minister may grant to Maori the right to take or kill birds within any scenic reserve which immediately before the reservation was Maori land. Where any scenic or historic reserve contains any historic burial grounds, Minister may grant the right to bury deceased Maori in a specified place therein.

**Commentary:** This Act is mainly a Consolidation, but includes amendments to allow for Maori to be involved in reserve management and for the return of reserves no longer used for the specified purpose they were taken.

**Cross Reference:** NZPD vol 412 (1977) 1741 - 1743  
NZPD vol 413 (1977) 2632 - 2640.