



Environmental and ecological consultant
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Dr Paul Blaschke

Paul Blaschke has more than 35 years' wide-ranging experience in environmental management and applied ecology. He has BSc. (Hons) and PhD degrees in ecology, and field experience in many New Zealand regions and Pacific Island nations. Paul has always been involved with broad land and resource management issues, applying scientific knowledge, in social and economic contexts, to sustainable land, freshwater and biodiversity management, in both rural and urban environments. He is an experienced project manager and team leader.

In his early career as a scientist with the former Water and Soil Conservation Organisation and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Paul worked extensively on land resource inventory, erosion and vegetation mapping. Later he undertook intensive research into hill country landscape and vegetation dynamics, and has widely applied this knowledge to policy settings and the development of more sustainable farming and forestry systems.

During six years at the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Paul worked on a wide range of environmental management issues. He also worked in the Department of Conservation on the preparation of the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy, as well as many conservation policy and Treaty of Waitangi settlement issues.

As a consultant Paul worked in a major NZ environmental consultancy firm, before starting his independent consultancy in 2002. He has worked on many land, freshwater management and biodiversity issues, at national, regional and local scales. He has written major policy reports for the Ministries of Primary Industries and Environment, the Department of Conservation, and many regional and territorial councils. He has also consulted extensively on natural area and catchment assessments, environmental impact assessments, ecosystem services, renewable energy projects, tourism management, ecological restoration in land, freshwater and coastal environments; and a range of other research and review projects. For the last decade Paul has undertaken regular contract lecturing in environmental studies and environmental health at Victoria University of Wellington and the University of Otago.

Paul has extensive experience in the application of the NZ Resource Management Act. He has participated in numerous RMA consent, plan change and appeal hearings as an expert ecological witness on behalf of applicants, submitters and councils. He is particularly experienced in integrating ecological knowledge with that of experts in diverse other areas such as landscape evaluation, erosion and sediment control, renewable energy, human health effects, and urban design. Paul is certified under the "Making Good Decisions" programme for RMA decision makers. He was a member of the Special Ministerial Tribunal hearing an application for a Water Conservation Order on the upper Oreti River, Southland.

Paul has a long-standing interest in international development and environmental issues, ever since being a Volunteer Service Abroad school-leaver volunteer in Tonga. He has travelled widely in Pacific Island countries. He has been a Board member of Volunteer Service Abroad, a Trustee of International Development and Education Action and an Advisory Trustee of the Pacific Development and Conservation Trust (2009-12). Paul has consulted on flood and landslide hazard mapping and erosion management in the Solomon Islands for UNCTD, advised on erosion and land management in Fiji, studied and documented Pacific Island deforestation, and published an international review of mass movement's impact on land productivity. He has attended international conferences on environmental, development and public health themes in NZ, Australia, Fiji and Japan. Most recently he was a workshop panellist in the Pacific Climate Change conference at Victoria University and co-supervised a Masters thesis on community forest conservation in the Peruvian Amazonas.

Selection of published papers, reports, presentations

- Wilson N, **Blaschke P**, Thomson G, Nghiem N, Horrocks J 2015. Public health aspects of feral deer, goats and pigs in New Zealand: A review to inform eradication decisions. *New Zealand Geographer*, 71(3), 177-188. doi: [10.1111/nzg.12086](https://doi.org/10.1111/nzg.12086)
- Blaschke P**, Forsyth F, Bill A, Emeny M, Wood N 2013. Catchment-based ecological restoration in urban settings: examples and conclusions from Wellington, New Zealand. Paper presented to: *EcoTas13, Joint conference New Zealand Ecological Society – Ecological Society Australia*, Auckland, November 2013.
- Meurk CD, **Blaschke PM**, Simcock, R 2013. Ecosystem services in urban areas. Chapter 1-18 in: Dymond J ed. *Ecosystem services in New Zealand: condition and trends*. Manaaki Whenua Press, Lincoln, Canterbury. https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/77046/1_18_Meurk.pdf
- Roberts L, Brower A, Kerr G, Lambert S, McWilliam W, Moore K, Quinn J, Simmons D, Thrush S, Townsend M, **Blaschke P**, Costanza R, Cullen R, Hughey K, Wratten S 2014. *The Good Life: how nature's ecosystem services contribute to the wellbeing of New Zealand and New Zealanders*. Department of Conservation, Wellington. <http://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/science-and-technical/sap258entire.pdf>
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- Warren J, Taylor N, Gough J, **Blaschke P** 2009. Integrated Planning and Managing of Natural Areas for Integrated Tourism Planning. *The International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability* 3: 167-178.
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- Blaschke P**, Green W, Gallacher S 2006. *Enhancing New Zealand's Natural Advantage: Biodiversity-related activities in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry*. MAF Policy, Wellington
- Blaschke P**, Trustrum N, Hicks D 2000. Impacts of mass movement erosion on land productivity: a review. *Progress in Physical Geography* 24: 21-52.
- Pacific Environments Group 1992. *Rainforest destruction and conservation in the South Pacific: a preliminary bibliography*. Royal Forest and Bird Conservation Society NZ, Wellington.
- Blaschke P**, Trustrum N, DeRose R 1992. Ecosystem processes and sustainable land use in New Zealand steeplands. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 41, 153– 178.
- Trustrum NA, Whitehouse IE, **Blaschke PM**, Stephens PR 1990. Flood and landslide hazard mapping, Solomon Islands. Pp138-146 in: Ziemer RR, O'Loughlin CL and Hamilton LS eds *Research*

Needs and Applications to Reduce Erosion and Sedimentation in Tropical Steeplands
(Proceedings of the Fiji Symposium, June 1990): IAHS-AISH Publ. No. 192.