

BIGNELL, Andrew (New Zealand)

Current employment and/or position/title:

Manager International, Department of Conservation, Wellington, New Zealand

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

My career has focussed on natural resources management, particularly National Park and other terrestrial and marine protected areas management. I have undertaken roles in research, planning and governance of protected areas, with particular focus on New Zealand and the Pacific. I have been a senior member of the Department of Conservation for many years and have had active engagement in departmental governance and the whole of Government activity. Currently I am responsible for the Department's engagement in international activities with responsibility for strategic relationships. I am a member of the CBD COP Bureau.

Within the Pacific I have participated in the work of inter-governmental organizations, the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (an NGO/Government alliance) and participated in the formation and work of the IUCN Oceania Regional Committee. I am a member of the WCPA and Chair of the New Zealand Committee of IUCN Members.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

As a senior manager in the Department of Conservation I am closely acquainted with the roles of governance, leadership and management of a large organization. These skills have also been developed in the international arena. Within the IUCN family I have been active in Oceania and New Zealand, especially in the work of the National Committee.

Experience in multilateral environmental agreements, especially the CBD, has led to a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of these agreements and the role that IUCN plays in the development, evolution and implementation of the agreements.

As a long standing member of the New Zealand Committee of IUCN Members, combined with Pacific experience, the importance of the role of representing and reporting to Members and Commission members is well understood.