



# The FMC Executive

## FAQs for prospective executive members

*Thanks for showing interest in volunteering to join the FMC executive. If you have any more questions, or would like to chat with people from the team, please [contact us](#).*

### ***How often does the Executive meet ?***

The Executive endeavours to set meeting dates up to a year in advance. Currently there are 3 meetings a year: Early March, June and October.

Meetings are usually one weekend day. Other events, such as informal socialising, campaign launches and a day tramp are often scheduled for the weekend, for those with interest and time.

### ***What does the Executive do ?***

The Executive is a “working executive”. This means that voluntary executive members share the load of doing the work, as well as critiquing proposals, debating and making the decisions.

The work of the executive is varied, but our core function is advocacy, such as writing submissions and liaising with the Department of Conservation and other relevant stakeholders.

The executive also leads and contributes to running the organisation itself; meaning aspects of membership, policies, communications, publications, finance and so on.

FMC does employ staff, whose roles support the executive and have responsibility for certain aspects of FMC’s routine operations.

Nearly all of FMC’s communications are done by email.

The Executive is both reactive and proactive. It has to ensure FMC responds effectively to current concerns and also has to keep an eye on the future and think ahead.

Each Executive member will be on two or more Committees. One will usually be the Regional Advocacy Group for the area where they live – you can join other Regional groups if you wish. Other committees will be standing sub committees (eg Membership, Expression (communications) or sub committees formed to deal with a particular issue or campaign.

Sub committees discuss issues by email group and/or phone.



### ***What other meetings are there ?***

Depends on your other commitments and willingness to attend. Wellington members and the President/ Vice President carry the biggest share of this load as a lot of meetings with government are in Wellington. FMC is prepared to pay for people from out of Wellington to attend meetings in the city.

Serving as a FMC member can also assist when it comes to being nominated for other relevant boards and entities such as the NZ Conservation Authority, NZ Geographic Board, Regional Conservation Boards, the FMC Mountain and Forest Trust and The Backcountry Trust.

It is hoped that Executive members will make contact with other clubs within 100 – 150km of their home and be prepared to visit them once every couple of years.

### ***What expenses are paid ?***

All travel, meals and incidental expenses relevant to FMC work are reimbursed.

### ***What can I contribute ?***

If you have read more than a few editions of FMC's *Backcountry* magazine, you'll have a handle on many aspects of FMC's work.

FMC needs executive members with skills, expertise and/or interest in;

- Legislation relevant to lands, recreation, governance, liability, safety etc
- Land management, planning and policy
- Communications, social media, websites, publications and promotions
- Scholarships for youth and benefits for members
- Membership systems and administration
- Finance and budgeting
- FMC's governance, management and policies
- Services for member clubs, history and culture
- Local recreation issues, access and more....

Every executive member brings their own set of interests and initiatives. Support will be given to those with enthusiasm for projects and contributing to the work and goals of FMC.

One of the strengths of the executive is that you don't have to be involved in everything; you can contribute in accordance with your interests, expertise and time.



### ***What general skills do I need ?***

- To be a self-starter: everyone on the executive is expected to find areas to be involved in, or come with ideas to progress. Support will be available, but it will be up to you to seek it, and to show your own initiative.
- The skill to listen to other points of view before making a decision.
- The skill to put your thoughts in writing.
- Ability to read material - usually not that long and you don't get too much of it.
- Adequate IT skills to use email efficiently and cloud services such as Google Drive.
- Some geographical knowledge of parts of NZ is helpful, as is keeping a sense of humour and balance!

### ***Who will I meet in the Executive ?***

One of the advantages of being on the executive is the chance to meet people from different backgrounds each with a common interest in mountain recreation from widely different parts of NZ. Executive members bring a wide set of skills to the table.

### ***Who does FMC Employ ?***

FMC has three part-time employees:

- The Executive Officer, who primarily supports the executive's advocacy functions.
- The Administration Officer who handles membership administration and routine accounting.
- The Development Officer, who concentrates on member services, resources and support to our member clubs and the wider outdoor community.

FMC contracts the services of:

- A Financial Controller who has oversight of all financial matters and reports to the executive
- A Backcountry magazine Editor, proofreader, designer and printer.
- A Communications Assistant, helping in FMC's web and social communications.

In addition FMC may engage from time to time people to work on specific projects.

### ***What next?***

If you have any more general questions, or would like to talk to members of the executive, please [contact us](#).

Nominations can be on [this form](#), or a club may simply email its nominations directly to [eo@fmc.org.nz](mailto:eo@fmc.org.nz), provided each nominee also sends an email consenting to the nomination. All nominations must be received by e-mail no later than 5pm on 7 April 2021.

