

# APPENDIX TWO: OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES IN VERBATIM

## 1 Introduction

The following statutory provisions have been identified by Waka Kotahi and Councils as relevant to the consideration of the NoRs and resource consent applications under section 171(1)(a) and 104 of the RMA respectively. The assessment of the Project in relation to these provisions is provided in Part I of this Report (Volume 2).

## 2 National policy statements

### 2.1 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (“NPSFM”) came into force on 3 September 2020. It identifies freshwater management as a matter of national priority, and requires the management of freshwater that ‘gives effect to’ Te Mana o te Wai, including by involving tangata whenua in long term planning and prioritising the health and wellbeing of water bodies (noting that the NPSFM and its associated regulations are currently under review, with consultation on an exposure draft of each of the documents having closed on 10 July 2022).

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 1	The objective of this National Policy Statement is to ensure that natural and physical resources are managed in a way that prioritises: (a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems (b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water) (c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.
Policy 1	Freshwater is managed in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai
Policy 2	Tangata whenua are actively involved in freshwater management (including decision making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provided for.
Policy 3	Freshwater is managed in an integrated way that considers the effects of the use and development of land on a whole-of-catchment basis, including the effects on receiving environments.
Policy 4	Freshwater is managed as part of New Zealand's integrated response to climate change.
Policy 5	Freshwater is managed through a National Objectives Framework to ensure that the health and well-being of degraded water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is improved, and the health and well-being of all other water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is maintained and (if communities choose) improved.
Policy 6	There is no further loss of extent of natural inland wetlands, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 7	The loss of river extent and values is avoided to the extent practicable
Policy 8	The significant values of outstanding water bodies are protected.
Policy 9	The habitats of indigenous freshwater species are protected.
Policy 10	The habitat of trout and salmon is protected, insofar as this is consistent with Policy 9.
Policy 12	The national target (as set out in Appendix 3) for water quality improvement is achieved.
Policy 13	The condition of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is systematically monitored over time, and action is taken where freshwater is degraded, and to reverse deteriorating trends.
Policy 15	Communities are enabled to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being in a way that is consistent with this National Policy Statement.

## 2.2 National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020

The National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (“NPSUD”) supersedes the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity 2016, and took effect on 20 August 2020. The NPSUD sets out objectives and policies for planning for well-functioning urban environments.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 1	New Zealand has well-functioning urban environments that enable all people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety, now and into the future
Objective 4	New Zealand’s urban environments, including their amenity values, develop and change over time in response to the diverse and changing needs of people, communities, and future generations.
Objective 6	Local authority decisions on urban development that affect urban environments are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) integrated with infrastructure planning and funding decisions;</li> <li>b) and strategic over the medium term and long term;</li> <li>c) and responsive, particularly in relation to proposals that would supply significant development capacity.</li> </ul>
Policy 1	Planning decisions contribute to well-functioning urban environments, which are urban environments that, as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) have or enable a variety of homes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) meet the needs, in terms of type, price, and location, of different households; and</li> <li>(ii) enable Māori to express their cultural traditions and norms; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) have or enable a variety of sites that are suitable for different business sectors in terms of location and site size; and</li> <li>(c) have good accessibility for all people between housing, jobs, community services, natural spaces, and open spaces, including by way of public or active transport; and</li> <li>(d) support, and limit as much as possible adverse impacts on, the competitive operation of land and development markets; and</li> <li>(e) support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and</li> </ul> are resilient to the likely current and future effects of climate change.
Policy 6	When making planning decisions that affect urban environments, decision-makers have particular regard to the following matters:

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the planned urban built form anticipated by those RMA planning documents that have given effect to this National Policy Statement</li> <li>(b) that the planned urban built form in those RMA planning documents may involve significant changes to an area, and those changes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) may detract from amenity values appreciated by some people but improve amenity values appreciated by other people, communities, and future generations, including by providing increased and varied housing densities and types; and</li> <li>(ii) are not, of themselves, an adverse effect</li> </ul> </li> <li>(c) the benefits of urban development that are consistent with well-functioning urban environments (as described in Policy 1)</li> <li>(d) any relevant contribution that will be made to meeting the requirements of this National Policy Statement to provide or realise development capacity</li> <li>(e) the likely current and future effects of climate change.</li> </ul>

### 2.3 National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land 2022

The NPS-HPL came into force on 17 October 2022. It requires productive land to be identified and managed to prevent inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 1	Highly productive land is protected for use in land-based primary production, both now and for future generations.
Policy 1	Highly productive land is recognised as a resource with finite characteristics and long-term values for land-based primary production.
Policy 8	Highly productive land is protected from inappropriate use and development.
Policy 9	Reverse sensitivity effects are managed so as not to constrain land-based primary production activities on highly productive land.
Clause 3.9(	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Territorial authorities must avoid the inappropriate use or development of highly productive land that is not land-based primary production.</li> <li>(2) A use or development of highly productive land is inappropriate except where at least one of the following applies to the use or development, and the measures in subclause (3) are applied:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) it provides for supporting activities on the land:</li> <li>(b) it addresses a high risk to public health and safety:</li> <li>(c) it is, or is for a purpose associated with, a matter of national importance under section 6 of the Act:</li> <li>(d) it is on specified Māori land:</li> <li>(e) it is for the purpose of protecting, maintaining, restoring, or enhancing indigenous biodiversity:</li> <li>(f) it provides for the retirement of land from land-based primary production for the purpose of improving water quality:</li> <li>(g) it is a small-scale or temporary land-use activity that has no impact on the productive capacity of the land:</li> <li>(h) it is for an activity by a requiring authority in relation to a designation or notice of requirement under the Act:</li> <li>(i) it provides for public access:</li> <li>(j) it is associated with one of the following, and there is a functional or operational need for the use or development to be on the highly productive land:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the maintenance, operation, upgrade, or expansion of specified infrastructure:</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	(ii) the maintenance, operation, upgrade, or expansion of defence facilities operated by the New Zealand Defence Force to meet its obligations under the Defence Act 1990: (iii) mineral extraction that provides significant national public benefit that could not otherwise be achieved using resources within New Zealand: (iv) aggregate extraction that provides significant national or regional public benefit that could not otherwise be achieved using resources within New Zealand. (3) Territorial authorities must take measures to ensure that any use or development on highly productive land: (a) minimises or mitigates any actual loss or potential cumulative loss of the availability and productive capacity of highly productive land in their district; and (b) avoids if possible, or otherwise mitigates, any actual or potential reverse sensitivity effects on land-based primary production activities from the use or development

## 2.4 Other National Policy Statements

For completeness, the remaining National Policy Statements which are in effect are not considered to be relevant to this project. These are:

### 2.4.1 National Policy Statement on Renewable Electricity Generation

Comment: This project does not involve the creation, demolition or modification of the generation of electricity.

### 2.4.2 National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission

Comment: No electricity transmission lines (above or below ground) will be impacted by this project.

### 2.4.3 New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement

Comment: This project is not located within the coastal environment, nor does it directly impact the coastal environment

## 3 Regional plans

### 3.1 Horizons One Plan

The Horizons One Plan was made operative on 19 December 2014. The Regional Policy Statement provisions are included in Part 1.

#### 3.1.1 Horizons One Plan - Regional Policy Statement (Part 1)

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 2-1	Resource Management (a) To have regard to the mauri of natural and physical resources to enable hapū and iwi to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing. (b) Kaitiakitanga must be given particular regard and the relationship of hapū and iwi with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga (including wāhi tūpuna) must be recognised and provided for through resource management processes.
Policy 2-1	Hapū and iwi involvement in resource management

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>The Regional Council must enable and foster kaitiakitanga and the relationship between hapū and iwi and their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga (including wāhi tūpuna) through increased involvement of hapū and iwi in resource management processes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) memoranda of partnership between the Regional Council and hapū or iwi which set clear relationship and communication parameters to address resource management objectives,</li> <li>(b) recognition of existing arrangements and agreements between resource users, local authorities and hapū or iwi,</li> <li>(c) development of catchment-based forums, involving the Regional Council, hapū, iwi, and other interested groups including resource users, for information sharing, planning and research,</li> <li>(d) development, where appropriate, of hapū and iwi cultural indicator monitoring programmes by the Regional Council,</li> <li>(e) assistance from the Regional Council to <a href="#">hapū*</a> or <a href="#">iwi*</a> to facilitate research, projects, seminars and training,</li> <li>(f) development of joint management agreements<sup>^</sup> between the Regional Council and <a href="#">hapū*</a> or <a href="#">iwi*</a> where appropriate,</li> <li>(g) the Regional Council having regard to <a href="#">iwi management plans*</a> lodged with Council,</li> <li>(h) involvement of <a href="#">hapū*</a> or <a href="#">iwi*</a> in resource consent<sup>^</sup> decision-making and planning processes in the ways agreed in the memoranda of partnership and joint management agreements<sup>^</sup> developed under (a) and (f) above, and</li> <li>(i) the Regional Council advising and encouraging resource consent<sup>^</sup> applicants to consult directly with <a href="#">hapū*</a> or <a href="#">iwi*</a> where it is necessary to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• i. the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands<sup>^</sup>, water<sup>^</sup>, <a href="#">sites*</a>, <a href="#">wāhi tapu*</a> and other <a href="#">taonga*</a> (including <a href="#">wāhi tūpuna*</a>), and</li> <li>• ii. the actual and potential adverse effects<sup>^</sup> of proposed activities on those relationships.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Policy 2-2	<p><a href="#">Wāhi tapu*</a>, <a href="#">wāhi tūpuna*</a> and other <a href="#">sites*</a> of significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <a href="#">Wāhi tapu*</a>, <a href="#">wāhi tūpuna*</a> and other <a href="#">sites*</a> of significance to Māori identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. In the Regional Coastal Plan and district plans<sup>^</sup>,</li> <li>ii. as historic reserves under the <a href="#">Reserves Act 1977</a>,</li> <li>iii. as Māori reserves under the <a href="#">Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993</a>,</li> <li>iv. as sites recorded in the <a href="#">New Zealand Archaeological Association’s Site Recording Scheme</a>, and</li> <li>v. as registered sites under the <a href="#">Historic Places Act 1993</a></li> </ul> <p>must be protected from inappropriate subdivision, use or development that would cause adverse effects<sup>^</sup> on the qualities and features which contribute to the values of these <a href="#">sites*</a>.</p> </li> <li>(b) The Regional Council must facilitate <a href="#">hapū*</a> and <a href="#">iwi*</a> recording the locations of <a href="#">wāhi tapu*</a>, <a href="#">wāhi tūpuna*</a> and other <a href="#">sites*</a> of significance to Māori in an appropriate publicly-available database.</li> <li>(c) Potential damage or disturbance (including that caused by inappropriate subdivision, use or development) to <a href="#">wāhi tapu*</a>, <a href="#">wāhi tūpuna*</a> and other <a href="#">sites*</a> of significance to Māori not identified (for confidentiality and sensitivity reasons) by <a href="#">hapū*</a> or <a href="#">iwi*</a> under</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(a), above, must be minimised by the Regional Council facilitating the compilation of databases by <a href="#">hapū*</a> and <a href="#">iwi*</a> to record locations which need to remain confidential.</p> <p>(d) The Regional Council must ensure that resource users and contractors have clear procedures in the event <a href="#">wāhi tapu*</a> or <a href="#">wāhi tūpuna*</a> are discovered.</p>
Policy 2-3	<p>The <a href="#">mauri*</a> of water^</p> <p>(a) The Regional Council must have regard to the <a href="#">mauri*</a> of water^ by implementing <a href="#">Policy 2-1</a> (a) to (i) above and by restricting and suspending water^ takes in times of minimum flow consistent with <a href="#">Policy 5-18</a> in <a href="#">Chapter 5</a>.</p> <p>(b) In exceptional circumstances the Regional Council, following advice and guidance of <a href="#">hapū*</a> or <a href="#">iwi*</a> and consultation with potentially affected resource users, may facilitate a voluntary <a href="#">rāhui*</a> - temporary cessation of resource activities (with the exception of <a href="#">public water supply*</a>).</p>
Policy 2-4	<p>Other resource management issues</p> <p>The specific issues listed in 2.2 which were raised by <a href="#">hapū*</a> and <a href="#">iwi*</a> must be addressed in the manner set out in Table 2.1 below.</p> <p>Table 2.1 highlights issues of significance to the Region's <a href="#">hapū*</a> and <a href="#">iwi*</a>, provides explanations in the context of Māori belief and demonstrates how the Regional Council must address these matters. The issues and explanations do not in any way represent a complete picture of <a href="#">hapū*</a> and <a href="#">iwi*</a> concerns, but they offer possible explanations as to the depth of feeling and connection <a href="#">hapū*</a> and <a href="#">iwi*</a> have with the Region's natural resources.</p>
Objective 3-1	<p>Infrastructure</p> <p>Have regard to the benefits of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance by recognising and providing for their establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading.</p>
Policy 3-1	<p>Benefits of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance</p> <p>(a) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must recognise the following infrastructure as being physical resources of regional or national importance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) facilities for the generation of more than 1 MW of electricity and its supporting infrastructure where the electricity generated is supplied to the electricity distribution and transmission networks</li> <li>(ii) the National Grid and electricity distribution and transmission networks defined as the system of transmission lines, sub- transmission and distribution feeders (6.6kV and above) and all associated substations and other works to convey electricity</li> <li>(iii) pipelines and gas facilities used for the transmission and distribution of natural and manufactured gas</li> <li>(iv) the road and rail networks as mapped in the Regional Land Transport Strategy</li> <li>(v) the Palmerston North and Wanganui airports</li> <li>(vi) the RNZAF airport at Ohakea</li> <li>(vii) telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(viii) public or community sewage treatment plants and associated reticulation and disposal systems</li> <li>(ix) public water supply intakes, treatment plants and distribution systems</li> <li>(x) public or community drainage systems, including stormwater systems</li> <li>(xi) the Port of Wanganui</li> </ul> <p>(b) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must recognise the following facilities and assets as being physical resources of regional or national importance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) solid waste facilities including landfills, transfer stations and resource recovery facilities that deal with municipal waste</li> <li>(ii) existing flood protection schemes</li> <li>(iii) New Zealand Defence Force facilities.</li> </ul> <p>(c) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must, in relation to the establishment, operation, maintenance, or upgrading of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance, listed in (a) and (b), have regard to the benefits derived from those activities.</p> <p>(d) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must achieve as much consistency across local authority boundaries as is reasonably possible with respect to policy and plan provisions and decision-making for existing and future infrastructure</p>
Policy 3-2	<p>Adverse effects of other activities on infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance:</p> <p>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must ensure that adverse effects on infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance from other activities are avoided as far as reasonably practicable, including by using the following mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) ensuring that current infrastructure, infrastructure corridors and other physical resources of regional or national importance, are identified and had regard to in all resource management decision-making, and any development that would adversely affect the operation, maintenance or upgrading of those activities is avoided as far as reasonably practicable,</li> <li>(b) ensuring that any new activities that would adversely affect the operation, maintenance or upgrading of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance are not located near existing such resources or such resources allowed by unimplemented resource consents or other RMA authorisations,</li> <li>(c) ensuring that there is no change to existing activities that increases their incompatibility with existing infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance, or such resources allowed by unimplemented resource consents or other RMA authorisations,</li> <li>(d) notifying the owners or managers of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance of consent applications that may adversely affect the resources that they own or manage,</li> <li>(e) ensuring safe separation distances are maintained when establishing rules and considering applications for buildings, structures and other activities near overhead electric lines and conductors e.g., giving effect to the New Zealand Code of</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34:2001), prepared under the Electricity Act 1992, and the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003 prepared under the Electricity Act 1992,</p> <p>(f) ensuring safe separation distances are maintained when establishing rules and considering applications for buildings, structures and other activities near transmission gas pipelines e.g., giving effect to the Operating Code Standard for Pipelines - Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZS/AS 2885) and the Gas Distribution Networks (NZS 5258:2003), the latter promulgated under the Gas Act 1992,</p> <p>(g) ensuring that any planting does not interfere with existing infrastructure, e.g., giving effect to the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003 promulgated under the Electricity Act 1992 and Section 6.4.4 External Interference Prevention of the Operating Code Standard for Pipelines - Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZS/AS 2885), and</p> <p>(h) ensuring effective integration of transport and <i>land</i> use planning and protecting the function of the strategic <i>road</i> and rail network as mapped in the Regional Land Transport Strategy</p>
Policy 3-3	<p>Adverse effects of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance on the environment:</p> <p>In managing any adverse environmental effects arising from the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of infrastructure or other physical resources of regional or national importance, the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must:</p> <p>(a) recognise and provide for the operation, maintenance and upgrading of all such activities once they have been established,</p> <p>(b) allow minor adverse effects arising from the establishment of new infrastructure and physical resources of regional or national importance, and</p> <p>(c) avoid, remedy or mitigate more than minor adverse effects arising from the establishment of new infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance, taking into account:</p> <p>(i) the need for the infrastructure or other physical resources of regional or national importance,</p> <p>(ii) any functional, operational or technical constraints that require infrastructure or other physical resources of regional or national importance to be located or designed in the manner proposed,</p> <p>(iii) whether there are any reasonably practicable alternative locations or designs, and</p> <p>(iv) whether any more than minor adverse effects that cannot be adequately avoided, remedied or mitigated by services or works can be appropriately offset, including through the use of financial contributions.</p>
Objective 4-2	<p>Regulating potential causes of accelerated erosion:</p> <p>Land is used in a manner that ensures:</p> <p>(a) accelerated erosion and increased sedimentation in water bodies (with resultant adverse effects on people, buildings and infrastructure) caused by vegetation clearance, land disturbance, forestry, or cultivation are avoided as far as reasonably practicable, or otherwise remedied or mitigated, and</p> <p>(b) sediment loads entering water bodies as a result of accelerated erosion are reduced to the extent required to be consistent with the water management objectives and policies for water quality set out in Chapter 5 of this Plan.</p> <p>(c) The Regional Council will generally allow small scale vegetation clearance*, land disturbance*, forestry* and cultivation* to be undertaken without the need for a</p>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>resource consent<sup>^</sup> if conditions<sup>^</sup> are met. Vegetation clearance* and land disturbance* require a resource consent<sup>^</sup> if they are undertaken adjacent to some water bodies<sup>^</sup> (including certain wetlands<sup>^</sup>) in Hill Country Erosion Management Areas* or in coastal foredune* areas. Any other large scale land disturbance* will also require a resource consent<sup>^</sup>.</p>
Objective 5-1	<p>Water management Values</p> <p>Surface water bodies and their beds are managed in a manner which safe guards their life supporting capacity and recognises and provides for the Values in Schedule B.</p>
Objective 5-2	<p>Water quality</p> <p>(a) Surface water quality is managed to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) water quality is maintained in those rivers and lakes where the existing water quality is at a level sufficient to support the Values in Schedule B</li> <li>(ii) water quality is enhanced in those rivers and lakes where the existing water quality is not at a level sufficient to support the Values in Schedule B</li> <li>(iii) accelerated eutrophication and sedimentation of lakes in the Region is prevented or minimised</li> <li>(iv) the special values of rivers protected by water conservation orders are maintained.</li> </ul> <p>(b) Groundwater quality is managed to ensure that existing groundwater quality is maintained or where it is degraded/over allocated as a result of human activity, groundwater quality is enhanced.</p>
Objective 5-3	<p>Water quantity and allocation, enables use of water to meet reasonable needs while ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) minimum flows and allocation regimes are set for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing (where degraded) the existing life supporting capacity of rivers<sup>^</sup> and their beds<sup>^</sup> and providing for the other Values in Schedule B as appropriate</li> <li>(iii) in times of water<sup>^</sup> shortage, takes are restricted to those that are essential to the health or safety of people and communities or drinking water<sup>^</sup> for animals, and other takes are ceased.</li> </ul>
Objective 5-4	<p>Beds of rivers and lakes</p> <p>The beds of rivers and lakes will be managed in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) sustains their life supporting capacity</li> <li>(b) provides for the instream morphological components of natural character</li> <li>(c) recognises and provides for the Schedule B Values</li> <li>(d) provides for infrastructure and flood mitigation purposes.</li> </ul> <p>The land adjacent to the bed of reaches with a Schedule B Value of Flood Control and Drainage will be managed in a manner which provides for flood mitigation purposes.</p>
Policy 5-3	<p>Ongoing compliance where water quality targets are met</p> <p>(a) Where the existing water quality meets the relevant Schedule E water quality targets within a Water Management Sub-zone, water quality must be managed in a manner which ensures that the water quality targets continue to be met beyond the zone of reasonable mixing (where mixing is applicable).</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(b) For the avoidance of doubt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) in circumstances where the existing water quality of a Water Management Sub-zone meets all of the water quality targets for the Sub-zone (a) applies to every water quality target for the Sub-zone</li> <li>(ii) in circumstances where the existing water quality of a Water Management Sub-zone meets some of the water quality targets for the Sub-zone (a) applies only to those water quality targets that are met</li> <li>(iii) for the purpose of (a) reasonable mixing is only applicable to a discharge from an identifiable location.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy 5-4</p>	<p>Enhancement where water quality targets are not met</p> <p>(a) Where the existing water quality does not meet the relevant Schedule E water quality targets within a Water Management Sub-zone, water quality within that sub-zone must be managed in a manner that enhances existing water quality in order to meet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the water quality target for the Water Management Zone in Schedule E, and/or</li> <li>(ii) the relevant Schedule B Values and management objectives that the water quality target is designed to safeguard.</li> </ul> <p>(b) For the avoidance of doubt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) in circumstances where the existing water quality of a Water Management Sub-zone does not meet all of the water quality targets for the Sub-zone, (a) applies to every water quality target for the Sub-zone</li> <li>(ii) in circumstances where the existing water quality of a Water Management Sub-zone does not meet some of the water quality targets for the Sub-zone, (a) applies only to those water quality targets not met.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy 5-5</p>	<p>Management of water quality in areas where existing water quality is unknown</p> <p>(a) Where there is insufficient data to enable a comparison of the existing water quality with the relevant Schedule E water quality targets, water quality within the Water Management Sub-Zone must be managed in a manner which, beyond the zone of reasonable mixing (where reasonable mixing is applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) maintains or enhances the existing water quality</li> <li>(ii) has regard to the likely effect of the activity on the relevant Schedule B Values that the water quality target is designed to safeguard</li> <li>(iii) has regard to relevant information about the existing water quality in upstream or downstream Water Management Sub- zones, where such information exists.</li> </ul> <p>(b) For the avoidance of doubt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) in circumstances where there is insufficient data to enable a comparison of the existing water quality with all of the water quality targets for a Water Management Sub-zone (a) applies to every water quality target for the Sub-zone</li> <li>(ii) in circumstances where there is insufficient data to enable a comparison of the existing water quality with some of the water quality targets for a Water Management Sub-zone (a) applies only to those water quality targets with insufficient data</li> <li>(iii) for the purpose of (a) reasonable mixing is only applicable to a discharge from an identifiable location.</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 5-6	<p>Maintenance of groundwater quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Discharges and land use activities must be managed in a manner which maintains the existing groundwater quality, or where groundwater quality is degraded/over allocated as a result of human activity, it is enhanced.</li> <li>(b) An exception may be made under (a) where a discharge onto or into land better meets the purpose of the RMA than a discharge to water, provided that the best practicable option is adopted for the treatment and discharge system.</li> <li>(c) Groundwater takes in the vicinity of the coast must be managed in a manner which avoids saltwater intrusion.</li> </ul>
Policy 5-7	<p>Land use activities affecting groundwater and surface water quality</p> <p>The management of land use activities affecting groundwater and surface water must give effect to the strategy for surface water quality set out in Policies 5-2, 5-3, 5-4 and 5-5, and the strategy for groundwater quality in Policy 5-6, by managing diffuse discharges of contaminants in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) identifying in the regional plan targeted Water Management Sub-zones. Targeted Water Management Sub-zones are those subzones where, collectively, land use activities are significant contributors to elevated contaminant levels in groundwater or surface water</li> <li>(b) identifying in the regional plan intensive farming land use activities. Intensive farming land use activities are rural land use activities that (either individually or collectively) make a significant contribution to elevated contaminant levels in the targeted Water Management Sub- zones identified in (a) above</li> <li>(c) actively managing the intensive farming land use activities identified in (b) including through regulation in the regional plan, in the manner specified in Policy 5-8</li> <li>(d) the Regional Council must continue to monitor ground and surface water quality in Water Management Sub-zone not identified in (a) and rural land uses not identified in (b). Where monitoring shows the thresholds in (a) and (b) are met then the regional plan must be amended so that those further Water Management Sub-zones and rural land uses are included in the management regime set out in (c).</li> </ul>
Policy 5-9	<p>Point source discharges to water</p> <p>The management of point source discharges into surface water must have regard to the strategies for surface water quality management set out in Policies 5-3, 5-4 and 5-5, while having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the degree to which the activity will adversely affect the Schedule B Values for the relevant Water Management Sub-zone</li> <li>(b) whether the discharge, in combination with other discharges, including non-point source discharges will cause the Schedule E water quality targets to be breached</li> <li>(c) the extent to which the activity is consistent with contaminant treatment and discharge best management practices</li> <li>(d) the need to allow reasonable time to achieve any required improvements to the quality of the discharge</li> <li>(e) whether the discharge is of a temporary nature or is associated with necessary maintenance or upgrade work and the discharge cannot practicably be avoided</li> <li>(f) whether adverse effects resulting from the discharge can be offset by way of a financial contribution set in accordance with Chapter 19</li> <li>(g) whether it is appropriate to adopt the best practicable option.</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 5-10	<p>Point source discharges to land</p> <p>Discharges of contaminants onto or into land must be managed in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) does not result in pathogens or other toxic substances accumulating in soil or pasture to levels that would render the soil unsafe for agricultural, domestic or recreational use</li> <li>(b) has regard to the strategies for surface water quality management set out in Policies 5-3, 5-4 and 5-5, and the strategy for groundwater management set out in Policy 5-6</li> <li>(c) maximises the reuse of nutrients and water contained in the discharge to the extent reasonably practicable</li> <li>(d) results in any discharge of liquid to land generally not exceeding the available water storage capacity of the soil (deferred irrigation)</li> <li>(e) ensures that adverse effects on rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</li> </ul>
Policy 5-12	<p>Reasonable and justifiable need for water: the amount of water<sup>^</sup> taken by resource users must be reasonable and justifiable for the intended use.</p>
Policy 5-14	<p>Overall approach for surface water allocation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) Core allocations of surface water<sup>^</sup> from rivers<sup>^</sup> must be determined in accordance with Policies 5-15 and 5-16. Takes that comply with the relevant core allocation, when assessed in combination with all other takes, must be allowed.</li> <li>e) Takes from rivers<sup>^</sup> must be apportioned, restricted or suspended when river<sup>^</sup> flows are at or below their minimum flows in accordance with the provisions of Policy 5-18.</li> </ul>
Policy 5-20	<p>Overall approach to bore management and groundwater allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) New bores must be constructed and managed in accordance with Policy 16-4.</li> <li>(b) Groundwater Management Zones are mapped in Schedule D.</li> <li>(c) Total groundwater allocations must comply with the annual allocable volumes for Groundwater Management Zones set out in Policy 5-21.</li> <li>(d) The measured or modelled effects of a proposed groundwater take on other groundwater users, surface water bodies and saltwater intrusion must be managed in accordance with Policies 16-1, 16-5, 16-6 and 16-7</li> </ul>
Policy 5-22	<p>General management of the beds of rivers and lakes:</p> <p>Activities in, on, under or over the beds of rivers and lakes must generally be managed in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) recognises and provides for the Schedule B Values for the Water Management Sub-zone(s) in which the activity takes place, in the manner described in Policies 5-23, 5-24 and 5-25</li> <li>(b) avoids any significant reduction in the ability of a <i>river</i> and its <i>bed</i> to convey flood flows, or significant impedance to the passage of floating debris</li> <li>(c) avoids, remedies or mitigates any significant adverse effects on the stability and function of the beds of rivers and lakes, and existing structures including flood and erosion control structures</li> <li>(d) avoids, remedies or mitigates any significant reduction in the habitat diversity, including the morphological diversity, of the river or lake or its bed</li> <li>(e) manages effects on natural character and public access in accordance with the relevant policies in Chapter 6. Natural character can include the natural style and dynamic processes of the river, such as bed style and width and the quality and quantity of bed habitat</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(f) provides for the safe passage of fish both upstream and downstream</li> <li>(g) ensures that the existing nature and extent of navigation of the river or lake are not obstructed</li> <li>(h) ensures that access required for the operation, maintenance, and upgrade of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance is not obstructed</li> <li>(i) provides for continued public access in accordance with Policy 6-10.</li> </ul>
Policy 5-23	<p>Activities in sites with a Value of Natural State, Sites of Significance – Cultural, or Sites of Significance – Aquatic:</p> <p>In sites with a Schedule B Value of Natural State, Sites of Significance – Cultural or Sites of Significance – Aquatic, activities in, on, under or over the beds of rivers and lakes must be managed in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) avoids adverse effects on these Values in the first instance, or</li> <li>(b) for infrastructure and other resources of regional and national importance, or activities that result in an environmental benefit, remedies or mitigates those effects where it is not practicable to avoid them, and</li> <li>(c) maintains the habitat and spawning requirements of the species identified.</li> </ul>
Policy 5-25	<p>Activities in rivers or lakes and their beds with other Schedule B Values</p> <p>In sites with Schedule B Values other than Natural State, Sites of Significance - Cultural, Sites of Significance - Aquatic, or Flood Control and Drainage, activities in, on, under or over the beds of rivers and lakes must be managed in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) in the first instance avoids, remedies or mitigates significant adverse effects on the instream morphological components of natural character and Schedule B Values</li> <li>(b) provides consent applicants with the option of making an offset</li> <li>(c) allows compensation by way of a financial contribution in accordance with the policies in Chapter 19</li> </ul>
Policy 5-26	<p>Essential and beneficial activities</p> <p>Activities in, on, under or over the beds of rivers and lakes that are essential or result in an environmental benefit must generally be allowed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the use, maintenance and upgrading of existing infrastructure and other existing physical resources of regional or national importance</li> <li>(b) works designed to maintain or improve the stability and functionality of existing structures</li> <li>(c) the removal of derelict, unlawful or non-functional structures</li> <li>(d) the restoration or enhancement of natural habitats.</li> </ul>
Objective 6-1	<p>Indigenous biological diversity:</p> <p>Protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and maintain indigenous biological diversity, including enhancement where appropriate.</p>
Objective 6-2	<p>Outstanding natural features and landscapes, and natural character:</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(a) The characteristics and values of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i) the Region’s outstanding natural features and landscapes, including those identified in Schedule G, and</li> <li>• (ii) the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins</li> </ul> <p>are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p> <p>(b) Adverse effects, including cumulative adverse effects, on the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) avoided in areas with outstanding natural character, and</li> <li>(ii) avoided where they would significantly diminish the attributes and qualities of areas that have high natural character, and</li> <li>(iii) avoided, remedied or mitigated in other areas.</li> </ul> <p>(c) Promote the rehabilitation or restoration of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins.</p>
Objective 6-3	<p>Historic heritage</p> <p>Protect historic heritage from activities that would significantly reduce heritage qualities.</p>
Policy 6-2	<p>Regulation of activities affecting indigenous biological diversity:</p> <p>For the purpose of managing indigenous biological diversity in the Region:</p> <p>(a) Habitats determined to be rare habitats and threatened habitats under Schedule F must be recognised as areas of significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna.</p> <p>(b) At-risk habitats that are assessed to be significant under Policy 13-5 must be recognised as significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna.</p> <p>(c) The Regional Council must protect rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats identified in (a) and (b), and maintain and enhance other at-risk habitats by regulating activities through its regional plan and through decisions on resource consents.</p> <p>(d) Potential adverse effects on any rare habitat, threatened habitat or at-risk habitat located within or adjacent to an area of forestry must be minimised.</p> <p>(e) When regulating the activities described in (c) and (d), the Regional Council must, and when exercising functions and powers described in Policy 6-1, Territorial Authorities must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) allow activities undertaken for the purpose of pest plant and pest animal control or habitat maintenance or enhancement,</li> <li>(ii) consider indigenous biological diversity offsets in appropriate circumstances as defined in Policy 13-4,</li> <li>(iii) allow the maintenance, operation and upgrade of existing structures, including infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance as identified in Policy 3-1, and</li> <li>(iv) not unreasonably restrict the existing use of production land where the effects of such land use on rare habitat, threatened habitat or at-risk habitat remain the same or similar in character, intensity and scale.</li> </ul>
Policy 6-6	Regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes:

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>The natural features and landscapes listed in Schedule G Table G.1 must be recognised as regionally outstanding and must be spatially defined in the review and development of district plans. All subdivision, use and development directly affecting these areas must be managed in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) avoids significant adverse cumulative effects on the characteristics and values of those outstanding natural features and landscapes, and</li> <li>(b) except as required under (a), avoids adverse effects as far as reasonably practicable and, where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on the characteristics and values of those outstanding natural features and landscapes</li> </ul>
Policy 6-8	<p>Natural Character</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins must be preserved and these areas must be protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</li> <li>(b) The natural character of these areas must be restored and rehabilitated where this is appropriate and practicable.</li> </ul> <p>Natural character of these areas may include such attributes and characteristics as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Natural elements, processes and patterns,</li> <li>(ii) Biophysical, ecological, geological, geomorphological and morphological aspects,</li> <li>(iii) Natural landforms such as headlands, peninsulas, cliffs, dunes, wetlands, reefs, freshwater springs and surf breaks,</li> <li>(iv) The natural movement of water and sediment including hydrological and fluvial processes,</li> <li>(v) The natural darkness of the night sky,</li> <li>(vi) Places or areas that are wild and scenic,</li> <li>(vii) A range of natural character from pristine to modified, and</li> <li>(viii) Experiential attributes, including the sounds and smell of the sea; and their content or setting.</li> </ul>
Policy 6-9	<p>Managing natural character</p> <p>In relation to the natural character of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the component of the coastal environment which is not coastal marine area (CMA), and</li> <li>(b) wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins</li> </ul> <p>subdivision, use or development must generally (but without limitation) be considered appropriate if it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) is compatible with the existing level of modification to the environment,</li> <li>(d) has a functional necessity to be located in or near the component of the coastal environment which is not coastal marine area (CMA), wetland, river or lake and no reasonably practicable alternative locations exist,</li> <li>(e) is of an appropriate form, scale and design to be compatible with the existing landforms, geological features and vegetation,</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(f) will not, by itself or in combination with effects of other activities, significantly disrupt natural processes or existing ecosystems, and</p> <p>(g) will provide for the restoration and rehabilitation of natural character where that is appropriate and practicable</p>
Policy 6-10	<p>Public access to and along rivers and lakes and their margins</p> <p>(a) Activities within or near rivers and lakes must be established and operated in a manner which readily provides for public access. Public access may be restricted only where necessary for safety, cultural or conservation purposes, or to ensure a level of security appropriate for activities authorised by a resource consent.</p> <p>(b) Public access for recreational purposes must recognise the need to protect rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats.</p> <p>(c) Public access must recognise existing private <i>property</i> rights.</p>
Policy 6-11	<p>Historic heritage</p> <p>The Regional Coastal Plan and district plans must, without limiting the responsibilities of local authorities to address historic heritage under the RMA, include provisions to protect from inappropriate subdivision, use and development historic heritage of national significance, which may include places of special or outstanding heritage value registered as Category 1 historic places, wāhi tapu, and wāhi tapu areas under the Historic Places Act 1993 and give due consideration to the implementation of a management framework for other places of historic heritage.</p>
Objective 7-1	<p>Ambient air quality</p> <p>A standard of ambient air quality is maintained which is not detrimental to amenity values, human health, property or the life-supporting capacity of air and meets the national ambient air quality standards.</p>
Objective 7-2	<p>Fine particle (PM<sub>10</sub>) level</p> <p>(a) Fine particle levels in Taihape and Taumarunui are reduced to comply with the national ambient air quality standard for PM<sub>10</sub> by 1 September 2013.</p> <p>(b) Fine particle levels in other areas are managed in a manner which ensures ongoing compliance with the national ambient air quality standard for PM<sub>10</sub></p>
Policy 7-1	<p>National Environmental Standards</p> <p>The National Environmental Standards set out in Table 7.1 must be adopted as ambient air quality standards for the Region and ambient air quality must be:</p> <p>(a) maintained or enhanced in those areas which meet the standards, and</p> <p>(b) enhanced in those airsheds which do not meet the standards in accordance with the air quality categories and designated responses in Table 7.2.</p>
Policy 7-2	<p>Regional standards for ambient air quality</p> <p>In addition to the National Environmental Standards set out in Policy 7-1, ambient air quality must be managed in accordance with the regional standards set out in Table 7.3.</p>
Policy 7-3	<p>Regulation of discharges to air</p>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>Discharges of contaminants into air will be generally allowed, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the effects of the discharge are consistent with the approach set out in Policy 7-1 for implementing the National Environmental Standards for ambient air quality, and</li> <li>(b) the discharge is consistent with the regional standards for ambient air quality set out in Policy 7-2.</li> </ul>
Policy 7-7	<p>Fine particles in airsheds within the Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) All applications to discharge fine particles (PM<sub>10</sub>) into airsheds within the Region lodged before 1 September 2013 must be managed in accordance with regulation 18 of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards Relating to Certain Air Pollutants, Dioxins, and Other Toxics) Regulations 2004.</li> <li>(b) All applications to discharge fine particles (PM<sub>10</sub>) within the Region lodged after 1 September 2013 must be managed in accordance with regulation 19 of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards Relating to Certain Air Pollutants, Dioxins, and Other Toxics) Regulations 2004.</li> </ul>
Objective 9-1	<p>Effects of natural hazard events:</p> <p>The adverse effects of natural hazard events on people, property, infrastructure and the wellbeing of communities are avoided or mitigated.</p>
Policy 9-2	<p>Development in areas prone to flooding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must not allow the establishment of any new structure or activity, or any increase in the scale of any existing structure or activity, within a floodway mapped in Schedule J unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) there is a functional necessity to locate the structure or activity within such an area, and</li> <li>(ii) the structure or activity is designed so that the adverse effects of a 0.5% annual exceedance probability (AEP) (1 in 200 year) flood event<sup>2</sup> on it are avoided or mitigated, and</li> <li>(iii) the structure or activity is designed so that adverse effects on the environment, including the functioning of the floodway, arising from the structure or activity during a flood event<sup>2</sup> are avoided or mitigated, in which case the structure or activity may be allowed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) Outside of a floodway mapped in Schedule J the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must not allow the establishment of any new structure or activity, or an increase in the scale of any existing structure or activity, within an area which would be inundated in a 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 year) flood event<sup>2</sup> unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) flood hazard avoidance is achieved or the 0.5% AEP (1 in 200year) flood hazard is mitigated, or</li> <li>(ii) the non-habitable structure or activity is on production land, or</li> <li>(iii) there is a functional necessity to locate the structure or activity within such an area,</li> </ul> <p>in any of which cases the structure or activity may be allowed.</p> </li> <li>(c) Flood hazard avoidance must be preferred to flood hazard mitigation.</li> <li>(d) When making decisions under Policies 9-2(a) and b(i) regarding the appropriateness of proposed flood hazard mitigation measures, the Regional Council and Territorial</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>Authorities must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) ensure that occupied structures have a finished floor or ground level, which includes reasonable freeboard, above the 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 year) flood level.</li> <li>(ii) ensure that in a 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 year) flood event<sup>2</sup> the inundation of access between occupied structures and a safe area where evacuation may be carried out (preferably ground that will not be flooded) must be no greater than 0.5 m above finished ground level with a maximum water velocity of 1.0 m/s, or some other combination of water depth and velocity that can be shown to result in no greater risk to human life, infrastructure or property,</li> <li>(iii) ensure that any more than minor adverse effects on the effectiveness of existing flood hazard avoidance or mitigation measures, including works and structures within River and Drainage Schemes, natural landforms that protect against inundation, and overland stormwater flow paths, are avoided,</li> <li>(iv) ensure that adverse effects on existing structures and activities are avoided or mitigated,</li> <li>(v) have regard to the likelihood and consequences of the proposed flood hazard mitigation measures failing,</li> <li>(vi) have regard to the consequential effects of meeting the requirements of (d)(ii), including but not limited to landscape and natural character, urban design, and the displacement of floodwaters onto adjoining properties, and</li> <li>(vii) have regard to the proposed ownership of, and responsibility for maintenance of, the flood hazard mitigation measures including the appropriateness and certainty of the maintenance regime.</li> </ul> <p>(e) Within that part of the Palmerston North City Council district that is protected by the Lower Manawatu River Flood Control Scheme to a 0.2% AEP (1 in 500 year) standard, including the Mangaone Stream stopbank system, additional flood hazard avoidance or mitigation measures will generally not be required when establishing any new structure or activity or increasing the scale of any existing structure or activity.</p> <p>(f) Despite Policy 9-2(d)(i) and (ii), within that part of the Wanganui central city bounded by Bates Street, Ridgway Street and Victoria Avenue, flood hazard mitigation measures will not be limited to considering flood height and flow but will include such methods as resilient construction and emergency management systems.</p> <p>(g) This policy does not apply to new critical infrastructure.</p>
Policy 9-3	<p>New critical infrastructure:</p> <p>The placement of new critical infrastructure in an area likely to be inundated by a 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 year) flood event (including floodways mapped in Schedule J), or in an area likely to be adversely affected by another type of natural hazard, must be avoided, unless there is satisfactory evidence to show that the critical infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) will not be adversely affected by floodwaters or another type of natural hazard,</li> <li>(b) will not cause any adverse effects on the environment in the event of a flood or another type of natural hazard,</li> <li>(c) is unlikely to cause a significant increase in the scale or intensity of natural hazard</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>events, and</p> <p>(d) cannot reasonably be located in an alternative location.</p>
Policy 9-4	<p>Other types of natural hazards</p> <p>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must manage future development and activities in areas susceptible to natural hazard events (excluding flooding) in a manner which:</p> <p>(a) ensures that any increase in risk to human life, property or infrastructure from natural hazard events is avoided where practicable, or mitigated where the risk cannot be practicably avoided,</p> <p>(b) is unlikely to reduce the effectiveness of existing works, structures, natural landforms or other measures which serve to mitigate the effects of natural hazard events, and</p> <p>(c) is unlikely to cause a significant increase in the scale or intensity of natural hazard events.</p>
Policy 9-5	<p>Climate change</p> <p>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must take a precautionary approach when assessing the effects of climate change and sea level rise on the scale and frequency of natural hazards with regard to decisions on:</p> <p>(a) stormwater discharges and effluent disposal,</p> <p>(b) coastal development and coastal land use,</p> <p>(c) activities adjacent to rivers,</p> <p>(d) water allocation and water takes,</p> <p>(e) activities in a Hill Country Erosion Management Area,</p> <p>(f) flood mitigation activities, and</p> <p>(g) managing storm surge.</p>

### 3.1.2 Horizons One Plan - Regional Plan (Part 2)

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 13-1	<p>Accelerated erosion - regulation of vegetation clearance, land disturbance, forestry and cultivation:</p> <p>The regulation of vegetation clearance, land disturbance, forestry and cultivation in a manner that ensures:</p> <p>(a) accelerated erosion and any associated damage to people, buildings and infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance are avoided as far as reasonably practicable or otherwise remedied or mitigated, and</p> <p>(b) increased sedimentation in water bodies as a result of human activity is avoided as far as reasonably practicable, or otherwise mitigated.</p>
Objective 13-2	Regulation of activities affecting indigenous biological diversity

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>The regulation of resource use activities to protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna or to maintain indigenous biological diversity, including enhancement where appropriate.</p>
<p>Policy 13-4</p>	<p>Consent decision-making for activities in rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats</p> <p>(a) For activities regulated under Rule 13-8 and 13-9, the Regional Council must make decisions on consent applications and set consent <i>conditions</i> on a case-by-case basis:</p> <p>(i) For all activities, having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. the Regional Policy Statement, particularly Objective 6-1 and Policy 6-2,</li> <li>B. a rare habitat or threatened habitat is an area of significant indigenous vegetation or a significant habitat of indigenous fauna,</li> <li>C. the significance of the area of habitat, in terms of its representativeness, rarity and distinctiveness, and ecological context, as assessed under Policy 13-5,</li> <li>D. the potential adverse effects of the proposed activity on significance,</li> <li>E. for activities regulated under ss13, 14 and 15 RMA, the matters set out in Policy 13-2(k) and relevant objectives and policies in Chapters 5, 14, 16 and 17, and</li> <li>F. for activities involving a discharge, the matters in Policy 14-9.</li> </ul> <p>(ii) For electricity transmission and renewable energy generation activities, providing for any national, regional or local benefits arising from the proposed activity.</p> <p>(b) Consent must generally not be granted for resource use activities in a rare habitat, threatened habitat or at-risk habitat assessed to be an area of significant indigenous vegetation or a significant habitat of indigenous fauna under Policy 13-5, unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) any more than minor adverse effects on that habitat's representativeness, rarity and distinctiveness, or ecological context assessed under Policy 13-5 are avoided.</li> <li>(ii) where any more than minor adverse effects cannot reasonably be avoided, they are remedied or mitigated at the point where the adverse effect occurs.</li> <li>(iii) where any more than minor adverse effects cannot reasonably be avoided, remedied or mitigated in accordance with (b)(i) and (ii), they are offset to result in a net indigenous biological diversity gain.</li> </ul> <p>(c) Consent may be granted for resource use activities in an at-risk habitat assessed not to be an area of significant indigenous vegetation or a significant habitat of indigenous fauna under Policy 13-5 when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) there will be no significant adverse effects on that habitat's representativeness, rarity and distinctiveness, or ecological context as assessed in accordance with Policy 13-5, or</li> <li>(ii) any significant adverse effects are avoided.</li> <li>(iii) where any significant adverse effects cannot reasonably be avoided, they are remedied or mitigated at the point where the adverse effect occurs.</li> <li>(iv) where significant adverse effects cannot reasonably be avoided, remedied or mitigated in accordance with (c)(ii) and (iii), they are offset to result in a net indigenous biological diversity gain.</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(d) An offset assessed in accordance with b(iii) or (c)(iv), must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) provide for a net indigenous biological diversity gain within the same habitat type, or where that habitat is not an area of significant indigenous vegetation or a significant habitat of indigenous fauna, provide for that gain in a rare habitat or threatened habitat type, and</li> <li>(ii) reasonably demonstrate that a net indigenous biological diversity gain has been achieved using methodology that is appropriate and commensurate to the scale and intensity of the residual adverse effect, and</li> <li>(iii) generally be in the same ecologically relevant locality as the affected habitat, and</li> <li>(iv) not be allowed where inappropriate for the ecosystem or habitat type by reason of its rarity, vulnerability or irreplaceability, and</li> <li>(v) have a significant likelihood of being achieved and maintained in the long term and preferably in perpetuity, and</li> <li>(vi) achieve conservation outcomes above and beyond that which would have been achieved if the offset had not taken place.</li> </ul>
Policy 13-5	<p>Criteria for assessing the significance of, and the effects of activities on, an area of habitat:</p> <p>(a) Rare habitats are areas of significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna under criterion (ii)(E) below. Threatened habitats are areas of significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna under criterion (i)(A) below. An area of rare habitat or threatened habitat may also be an area of significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitat of indigenous fauna under one or more of the other criteria below. An at-risk habitat may be recognised as being an area of significant indigenous vegetation or a significant habitat of indigenous fauna if one or more of the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) in terms of representativeness, that habitat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) comprises indigenous habitat type that is under-represented (20% or less of known or likely former cover), or</li> <li>(B) is an area of indigenous vegetation that is typical of the habitat type in terms of species composition, structure and diversity, or that is large relative to other areas of the same habitat type in the Ecological District or Ecological Region, or has functioning ecosystem processes.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> </li> <li>(ii) in terms of rarity and distinctiveness, that habitat supports an indigenous species or community that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) is classified as threatened (as determined by the New Zealand Threat Classification System and Lists), or</li> <li>(B) is distinctive to the Region, or</li> <li>(C) is at a natural distributional limit, or</li> <li>(D) has a naturally disjunct distribution that defines a floristic gap, or</li> <li>(E) was originally (i.e., prehuman) uncommon within New Zealand, and supports an indigenous species or community of indigenous species.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> </li> <li>(iii) in terms of ecological context, that habitat provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) connectivity (physical or process connections) between two or more areas of indigenous habitat, or</li> <li>(B) an ecological buffer (provides protection) to an adjacent area of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>indigenous habitat (terrestrial or aquatic) that is ecologically significant, or</p> <p>(C) part of an indigenous ecological sequence or connectivity between different habitat types across a gradient (e.g., altitudinal or hydrological), or</p> <p>(D) important breeding areas, seasonal food sources, or an important component of a migration path for indigenous species, or</p> <p>(E) habitat for indigenous species that are dependent on large and contiguous habitats.</p> <p>(b) The potential adverse effects of an activity on a rare habitat, threatened habitat or at-risk habitat must be determined by the degree to which the proposed activity will diminish any of the above characteristics of the habitat that make it significant, while also having regard to any additional ecological values and to the ecological sustainability of that habitat.</p>
Objective 14-1	<p>Management of discharges to land and water and land uses affecting groundwater and surface water quality</p> <p>The management of discharges onto or into land (including those that enter water) or directly into water and land use activities affecting groundwater and surface water quality in a manner that:</p> <p>(a) safeguards the life supporting capacity of water and recognises and provides for the Values and management objectives in Schedule B,</p> <p>(b) provides for the objectives and policies of Chapter 5 as they relate to surface water and groundwater quality, and</p> <p>(c) where a discharge is onto or into land, avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on surface water or groundwater.</p>
Policy 14-1	<p>Consent decision-making for discharges to water</p> <p>When making decisions on resource consent applications, and setting consent conditions, for discharges of water or contaminants into water, the Regional Council must specifically consider:</p> <p>(a) the objectives and Policies 5-1 to 5-5 and 5-9 of Chapter 5,</p> <p>and have regard to:</p> <p>(b) avoiding discharges which contain any persistent contaminants that are likely to accumulate in a water body or its bed,</p> <p>(c) the appropriateness of adopting the best practicable option to prevent or minimise adverse effects in circumstances where:</p> <p>(i) it is difficult to establish discharge parameters for a particular discharge that give effect to the management approaches for</p> <p>(ii) water quality and discharges set out in Chapter 5, or</p> <p>(iii) the potential adverse effects are likely to be minor, and the costs associated with adopting the best practicable option are small in comparison to the costs of investigating the likely effects on land and water, and</p> <p>(d) the objectives and policies of Chapters 2, 3, 6, 9 and 12 to the extent that they are relevant to the discharge.</p>
Policy 14-2	Consent decision-making for discharges to land

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications, and setting consent conditions, for discharges of contaminants onto or into land the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the objectives and policies of Chapter 5 regarding the management of groundwater quality and discharges,</li> <li>(b) where the discharge may enter surface water or have an adverse effect on surface water quality, the degree of compliance with the approach for managing surface water quality set out in Chapter 5,</li> <li>(c) avoiding as far as reasonably practicable any adverse effects on any sensitive receiving environment or potentially incompatible land uses, in particular any residential buildings, educational facilities, churches, marae, public areas, infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance identified in Policy 3-1, wetlands, surface water bodies and the coastal marine area,</li> <li>(d) the appropriateness of adopting the best practicable option to prevent or minimise adverse effects in circumstances where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) it is difficult to establish discharge parameters for a particular discharge that give effect to the management approaches for water quality and discharges set out in Chapter 5,</li> <li>(ii) the potential adverse effects are likely to be minor, and the costs associated with adopting the best practicable option are small in comparison to the costs of investigating the likely effects on land and water,</li> </ul> </li> <li>(c) avoiding discharges which contain any persistent contaminants that are likely to accumulate in the soil or groundwater, and</li> <li>(d) the objectives and policies of Chapters 2, 3, 6, 9 and 12 to the extent that they are relevant to the discharge.</li> </ul>
Policy 14-4	<p>Options for discharges to surface water and land</p> <p>When applying for consents and making decisions on consent applications for discharges of contaminants into water or onto or into land, the opportunity to utilise alternative discharge options, or a mix of discharge regimes, for the purpose of mitigating adverse effects, applying the best practicable option, must be considered, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) discharging contaminants onto or into land as an alternative to discharging contaminants into water,</li> <li>(b) withholding from discharging contaminants into surface water at times of low flow, and</li> <li>(c) adopting different treatment and discharge options for different receiving environments or at different times (including different flow regimes or levels in surface water bodies).</li> </ul>
Policy 14-9	<p>Consent decision making requirements from the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) This policy applies to any application for the following discharges (including a diffuse discharge by any person or animal): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a new discharge; or</li> <li>(ii) a change or increase in any discharge –</li> </ul> <p>of any contaminant into fresh water, or onto or into land in circumstances that may result in that contaminant (or, as a result of any natural process from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant) entering fresh water.</p> </li> <li>(b) When considering any application for a discharge the Regional Council must have regard to the following matters:</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the extent to which the discharge would avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water including on any ecosystem associated with fresh water; and</li> <li>(ii) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any more than minor adverse effect on fresh water, and on any ecosystem associated with fresh water, resulting from the discharge would be avoided.</li> </ul> <p>This clause of the policy does not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011 took effect on 1 July 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) When considering any application for a discharge the Regional Council must have regard to the following matters:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the extent to which the discharge would avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the health of people and communities as affected by their secondary contact with fresh water; and</li> <li>(ii) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any more than minor adverse effect on the health of people and communities as affected by their secondary contact with fresh water resulting from the discharge would be avoided.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>This clause of the policy does not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 took effect on 4 July 2014.</p>
Objective 15-1	<p>Air quality:</p> <p>The management of air quality in a manner that has regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintaining or enhancing ambient air quality in a manner that safeguards the health of the Region's community,</li> <li>(b) meeting the regional ambient air standards (Table 7.3) and National Environmental Standards (Table 7.1),</li> <li>(c) managing air quality so that it is not detrimental to amenity values, and</li> <li>(d) managing fine particle (PM<sub>10</sub>) levels to ensure that they are reduced in unacceptable airsheds and managed in other areas to ensure compliance with the national ambient air quality standard for PM<sub>10</sub>.</li> </ul>
Policy 15-2	<p>Consent decision-making for other discharges into air</p> <p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for discharges of contaminants into air, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the objectives and policies of Chapter 7 including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the degree of consistency with the approach set out in Policy 7-1 for implementing the National Environmental Standards for ambient air quality,</li> <li>(ii) the degree of compliance with the regional standards for ambient air quality set out in Policy 7-2, and</li> <li>(iii) for discharges of fine particles, the approaches for managing fine particles (PM<sub>10</sub>) in Policies 7-5, 7-6 and 7-7, and the likely contribution of the proposed discharge to cumulative adverse effects in an unacceptable airshed or degraded area as identified under these policies,</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) the guidelines in Section 15.3 for managing noxious, dangerous, offensive and</li> </ul>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>objectionable effects,</p> <p>(c) any national policy statements, national regulations, or nationally-accepted guidelines or codes of practice relevant to the activity, including the matters in Policy 14-9 for activities involving an ancillary discharge,</p> <p>(d) the location of the discharge in relation to, and any associated effects on, sensitive areas including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) residential buildings,</li> <li>(ii) public places and amenity areas where people congregate,</li> <li>(iii) education facilities,</li> <li>(iv) public roads,</li> <li>(v) surface water bodies,</li> <li>(vi) wāhi tapu, marae and other sites of significance to hapū and iwi,</li> <li>(vii) domestic, commercial and public water supply catchments and intakes,</li> <li>(viii) rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats, and</li> <li>(ix) sensitive crops or farming systems (including certified organically farmed properties and greenhouses),</li> </ul> <p>(e) effects on scenic, landscape, heritage and recreational values,</p> <p>(f) the appropriateness of adopting the best practicable option to prevent or minimise adverse effects in circumstances where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) numerical guidelines or standards establishing a level of protection for a receiving environment are not available or cannot easily be established,</li> <li>(iv) insufficient monitoring data is available to establish the existing air quality with sufficient certainty, or</li> <li>(v) the likely adverse effects are minor, and the costs associated with adopting the best practicable option are small in comparison to the costs of investigating the likely effects on air quality,</li> </ul> <p>(g) the need for contingency measures to avoid accidental discharges, including discharges arising from mechanical failure, and</p> <p>(h) adverse effects on aircraft safety from high velocity vertical discharges to air.</p>
Objective 16-1	<p>Regulation of takes, uses and diversions of water</p> <p>The regulation of takes, uses and diversions of water in a manner that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) recognises and provides for the Values and management objectives in Schedule B, and</li> <li>(b) provides for the objectives and policies of Chapter 5 as they relate to surface water and groundwater use and allocation.</li> </ul>
Policy 16-1	<p>Consent decision-making for takes and uses of surface water and groundwater</p> <p>When making decisions on resource consent applications under s104-104D RMA, and setting consent conditions, for takes and uses of surface water or groundwater the Regional Council must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) seek to avoid any adverse effects on other lawful activities, particularly on other surface water takes, including takes allowed by s14(3)(b) of the RMA, and groundwater takes from properly-constructed, efficient and fully-functioning bores (as described in Policies 16-4 and 16-5),</li> <li>(b) enable non-consumptive uses of water including the use and recycling of water, and</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(c) have regard to the objectives and policies of Chapters 2, 3, 5, 6, 9 and 12 to the extent that they are relevant to the activity.</p>
<p>Policy 16-2</p>	<p>Consideration of alternative water sources When making decisions on consent applications to take surface water, the opportunity to utilise alternative sources such as groundwater, water storage, water harvesting (including during periods of high flow in a river) and the recycling of water must be considered.</p>
<p>Policy 16-3</p>	<p>Consent decision-making for diversions and drainage When making decisions on resource consent applications, and setting consent conditions, for the diversion of water, including diversions associated with drainage, the Regional Council must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) manage effects on rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats in accordance with Chapter 6 and the relevant objective and policies in Chapter 13,</li> <li>(b) manage effects on the natural character of water bodies in accordance with Chapter 6,</li> <li>(c) seek to avoid any adverse effects on any other lawful activity, particularly on other surface water takes, including those allowed by s14(3)(b) of the RMA and groundwater takes from properly-constructed, efficient and fully-functioning bores (as described in Policies 16-4 and 16-5), and</li> <li>(d) have regard to the objectives and policies of Chapters 2, 3, 5, 9 and 12 to the extent that they are relevant to the activity.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy 16-4</p>	<p>Bore construction and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) New bores must be sited to ensure adequate separation from existing bores, and to avoid an over-concentration of bores in a particular area, wherever practicable, to avoid adverse effects on the reliability of supply from properly-constructed, efficient and fully-functioning existing bores.</li> <li>(b) New bores must generally be constructed, and bore logs and other records prepared, in accordance with the NZS 4411:2001 Environmental Standard for Drilling of Soil and Rock.</li> <li>(c) New bores must be designed to ensure a high degree of efficiency with respect to bore development, bore depth and diameter, and screen depth and length.</li> <li>(d) Bores must be used in a manner that prevents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) contaminants from entering the bore from the land surface</li> <li>(ii) the wastage of water in artesian situations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(e) Bores that are no longer required must be decommissioned in general accordance with the NZS 4411:2001 Environmental Standard for Drilling of Soil and Rock.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy 16-5</p>	<p>Effects of groundwater takes on other groundwater takes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Consent applications to take groundwater must include pumping tests and hydrogeological assessments in order to determine the likely impact on existing groundwater takes in the vicinity.</li> <li>(b) Consent conditions restricting the rate and duration of pumping must be imposed on new takes of groundwater where this is necessary to avoid significant drawdown impacts on existing groundwater takes from properly-constructed, efficient and fully-functioning bores in the vicinity. A groundwater take is considered to be from a properly-constructed, efficient and fully-functioning bore in circumstances where the bore penetrates the aquifer from which water is being drawn at a depth sufficient to enable water to be drawn all year (i.e., the bore depth is below the range of seasonal fluctuations in groundwater level), the pump and bore are adequately maintained, the</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>bore is of sufficient diameter and is screened to reasonably minimise drawdown, and the bore has a pump capable of drawing water from its base to the land surface.</p> <p>(c) Consent conditions specifying short-term restrictions on the rate and duration of pumping may also be imposed on new takes of groundwater where this is necessary to avoid significant drawdown impacts on existing bores that are not properly-constructed, efficient and fully-functioning, in order to allow sufficient time for such bores to be upgraded or replaced.</p> <p>(d) The Regional Council may encourage consent applicants to consider the option of providing water to neighbouring properties in circumstances where this would be more practical than meeting the requirements of (b) or (c).</p>
Policy 16-6	<p>Effects of groundwater takes on surface water bodies</p> <p>(a) An appropriate scientific method must be used to calculate the likely degree of connection between the groundwater and surface water at the location of the groundwater take.</p> <p>(b) Subject to (a), the potential adverse effects of groundwater takes on surface water depletion must be managed in accordance with Table 16.1.</p>
Policy 16-8	<p>Monitoring Requirements of Consent Holders</p> <p><i>Water</i><sup>^</sup> takes must generally be subject to the following monitoring requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the installation of a pulse-count capable <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> meter on all <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> takes that are allowed by way of a resource consent<sup>^</sup>, in order to monitor the amount of <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> taken</li> <li>b. the installation of a Regional Council compatible telemetry system on surface <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> takes greater than 750 m<sup>3</sup>/d, and on groundwater takes greater than 750 m<sup>3</sup>/d where the groundwater is highly interconnected with surface <i>water</i><sup>^</sup></li> <li>c. the installation of a Regional Council compatible telemetry system on other groundwater takes greater than 4,000 m<sup>3</sup>/d</li> <li>d. Appropriate water quality monitoring, including conductivity monitoring on groundwater takes located within 5 km of the coast, or on a nearby monitoring <i>bore</i><sup>*</sup></li> <li>e. the installation of a Regional Council compatible telemetry system on consented surface <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> takes where: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the amount of <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> taken, when assessed in combination with all other <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> takes upstream, exceeds 15% of the estimated one-day mean annual low flow, or</li> <li>ii. the amount of <i>water</i><sup>^</sup> taken from a <i>Water Management Sub-zone</i><sup>*</sup> as identified in <u>Schedule A</u> exceeds 15% of the one-day mean annual low flow for that <i>Sub-zone</i><sup>*</sup>.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Objective 17-1	<p>Regulation of structures and activities in artificial watercourses and in the beds of rivers and lakes, and damming</p> <p>The regulation of structures and activities in artificial watercourses and in the beds of rivers and lakes, and damming, in a manner that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) safeguards life supporting capacity, and recognises and provides for the Values and management objectives in Schedule B, and</li> <li>(b) has regard to the objectives and policies of Chapter 5 that relate to structures and activities in artificial watercourses and in the beds of rivers and lakes, and damming.</li> </ol>
Policy 17-1	<p>Consent decision-making for activities in, on, under or over the beds of rivers and lakes (including modified watercourses but excluding artificial watercourses)</p> <p>When making decisions on resource consent applications, and setting consent conditions, for activities in, on, under or over the bed of a</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>river or lake (including modified watercourses but excluding artificial watercourses) the Regional Council must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) have regard to the extent to which the activity is consistent with best management practices,</li> <li>(b) seek to avoid where reasonably practicable any adverse <i>effects</i> on any other lawful activity in, on, under or over the <i>bed</i> of the <i>river</i> or <i>lake</i>, including existing <i>structures</i>,</li> <li>(c) have regard to whether the activity is of a temporary nature or is associated with necessary maintenance work,</li> <li>(d) have regard to the objectives and policies of Chapters 2, 3, 5, 6, 9 and 12 to the extent that they are relevant to the activity, and</li> <li>(e) have regard to the matters in Policy 14-9.</li> </ul>
Policy 17-2	<p>Consent decision-making for activities in artificial watercourses</p> <p>When making decisions on resource consent applications, and setting consent conditions, for activities on land in an artificial watercourse the Regional Council must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) have regard to the purpose for which the <i>artificial watercourse</i> was established,</li> <li>(b) in circumstances where the <i>artificial watercourse</i> joins a <i>river</i> or <i>lake</i>, have regard to the policies relating to the <i>beds</i> of <i>rivers</i> and <i>lakes</i> in Section 5.4.4,</li> <li>(c) seek to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on any significant ecosystems intrinsic to the <i>artificial watercourse</i>,</li> <li>(d) manage the activity in accordance with (a), (c) and (d) of Policy 17-1, and</li> <li>(e) have regard to the matters in Policy 14-9.</li> </ul>

## 3.2 Operative Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement; Regional Plans

### 3.2.1 Regional Policy Statement

The Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement was made operative on 24 April 2013. The RPS includes explanations to policies that should be read when assessing the relevance of the policy to the project.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 1	Discharges of odour, smoke and dust to air do not adversely affect amenity values and people's wellbeing
Objective 2	Human health is protected from unacceptable levels of fine particulate matter
Objective 8	Public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers is enhanced (objective 8 is shared for the coastal environment and fresh water)
Policy 57	<p>Integrating land use and transportation- consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, for subdivision, use or development, particular regard shall be given to the following matters, in making progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) whether traffic generated by the proposed development can be accommodated within the existing transport network and the impacts on the efficiency, reliability or safety of the network;</li> <li>(b) connectivity with, or provision of access to, public services or activities, key centres of employment activity or retail activity, open spaces or recreational areas;</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) whether there is good access to the strategic public transport network;</li> <li>(d) provision of safe and attractive environments for walking and cycling; and</li> <li>(e) whether new, or upgrades to existing, transport network infrastructure have been appropriately recognised and provided for</li> </ul>
Objective 10	The social, economic, cultural and environmental, benefits of regionally significant infrastructure are recognised and protected.
Policy 39	<p>Recognising the benefits from renewable energy and regionally significant infrastructure – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of energy generated from renewable energy resources and/or regionally significant infrastructure; and</li> <li>(b) protecting regionally significant infrastructure from incompatible subdivision, use and development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure; and</li> <li>(c) the need for renewable electricity generation facilities to locate where the renewable energy resources exist; and</li> <li>(d) significant wind and marine renewable energy resources within the region.</li> </ul>
Objective 12	<p>The quantity and quality of fresh water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) meet the range of uses and values for which water is required;</li> <li>(b) safeguard the life supporting capacity of water bodies; and</li> <li>(c) meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations</li> </ul>
Policy 40	<p>Safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health in water bodies – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan, particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) requiring that water quality, flows and water levels and aquatic habitats of surface water bodies are managed for the purpose of safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health;</li> <li>(b) requiring, as a minimum, water quality in the coastal marine area to be managed for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing aquatic ecosystem health; and</li> <li>(c) managing water bodies and the water quality of coastal water for other purposes identified in regional plans</li> </ul>
Policy 41	<p>Minimising the effects of earthworks and vegetation disturbance – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan, particular regard shall be given to controlling earthworks and vegetation disturbance to minimise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) erosion; and</li> <li>(b) silt and sediment runoff into water, or onto or into land that may enter water, so that healthy aquatic ecosystems are sustained</li> </ul>
Policy 42	<p>Minimising contamination in stormwater from development –</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, the adverse effects of stormwater run-off from subdivision and development shall be reduced by having particular regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) limiting the area of new impervious surfaces in the stormwater catchment;</li> <li>(b) using water permeable surfaces to reduce the volume of stormwater leaving a site;</li> <li>(c) restricting zinc or copper roofing materials, or requiring their effects to be mitigated;</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(d) collecting water from roofs for domestic or garden use while protecting public health;</li> <li>(e) using soakpits for the disposal of stormwater;</li> <li>(f) using roadside swales, filter strips and rain gardens;</li> <li>(g) using constructed wetland treatment areas;</li> <li>(h) using in situ treatment devices;</li> <li>(i) using stormwater attenuation techniques that reduce the velocity and quantity of stormwater discharges; and</li> <li>(j) using educational signs, as conditions on resource consents, that promote the values of water bodies and methods to protect them from the effects of stormwater discharges</li> </ul>
Objective 13	The region's rivers, lakes and wetlands support healthy functioning ecosystems
Policy 43	<p>Protecting aquatic ecological function of water bodies – consideration:</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) maintaining or enhancing the functioning of ecosystems in the water body;</li> <li>(b) maintaining or enhancing the ecological functions of riparian margins;</li> <li>(c) minimising the effect of the proposal on groundwater recharge areas that are connected to surface water bodies;</li> <li>(d) maintaining or enhancing the amenity and recreational values of rivers and lakes, including those with significant values listed in Table 15 of Appendix 1;</li> <li>(e) protecting the significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values of rivers and lakes, including those listed in Table 16 of Appendix 1;</li> <li>(f) maintaining natural flow regimes required to support aquatic ecosystem health;</li> <li>(g) maintaining fish passage;</li> <li>(h) protecting and reinstating riparian habitat, in particular riparian habitat that is important for fish spawning;</li> <li>(i) discouraging stock access to rivers, lakes and wetlands; and</li> <li>(j) discouraging the removal or destruction of indigenous wetland plants in wetlands.</li> </ul>
Objective 14	Fresh water available for use and development is allocated and used efficiently
Policy 44	<p>Managing water takes to ensure efficient use - consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent to take water, particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) whether the applicant has demonstrated that the volume of water sought is reasonable and justifiable for the intended use, including consideration of soil and crop type when water is taken for irrigation purposes;</li> <li>(b) requiring the consent holder to measure and report the actual amount of water taken; and</li> <li>(c) requiring the consent holder to adopt water conservation and demand management measures and demonstrate how water will be used efficiently.</li> </ul>
Policy 45	<p>Using water efficiently – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, particular regard shall be given to requiring water collection, water demand management options, and water reuse and/or water recycling measures, so that water is used efficiently</p>
Objective 15	Historic heritage is identified and protected from inappropriate modification, use and development

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 46	<p>Managing effects on historic heritage values – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to whether an activity may affect a place, site or area with historic heritage value, and in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the degree to which historic heritage values will be lost, damaged or destroyed;</li> <li>(b) the irreversibility of adverse effects on heritage values;</li> <li>(c) the opportunities to remedy or mitigate any previous damage to heritage values;</li> <li>(d) the degree to which previous changes that have heritage value in their own right are respected and retained;</li> <li>(e) the probability of damage to immediate or adjacent heritage values;</li> <li>(f) the magnitude or scale of any effect on heritage values;</li> <li>(g) the degree to which unique or special materials and/or craftsmanship are retained;</li> <li>(h) whether the activity will lead to cumulative adverse effects on historic heritage; and</li> <li>(i) whether the relationships between distinct elements of an historic place, site or area will be maintained</li> </ul>
Objective 16	<p>Indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values are maintained and restored to a healthy functioning state</p>
Policy 47	<p>Managing effects on indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to whether an activity may affect indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and in determining whether the proposed activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintaining connections within, or corridors between, habitats of indigenous flora and fauna, and/or enhancing the connectivity between fragmented indigenous habitats;</li> <li>(b) providing adequate buffering around areas of significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats from other land uses;</li> <li>(c) managing wetlands for the purpose of aquatic ecosystem health;</li> <li>(d) avoiding the cumulative adverse effects of the incremental loss of indigenous ecosystems and habitats;</li> <li>(e) providing seasonal or core habitat for indigenous species;</li> <li>(f) protecting the life supporting capacity of indigenous ecosystems and habitats;</li> <li>(g) remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the indigenous biodiversity values where avoiding adverse effects is not practicably achievable; and</li> <li>(h) the need for a precautionary approach when assessing the potential for adverse effects on indigenous ecosystems and habitats</li> </ul>
Policy 50	<p>Managing effects on outstanding natural features and landscapes – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to first, whether an activity may affect an outstanding natural feature and/or landscape, and second, whether or not an activity is inappropriate, having particular regard to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the degree to which the natural feature or landscape values will be modified, damaged or destroyed including:</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the duration and frequency of any effect, and/or</li> <li>(ii) the magnitude or scale of any effect;</li> <li>(b) the irreversibility of adverse effects on landscape values;</li> <li>(c) the resilience of the natural feature, place or area to change;</li> <li>(d) the opportunities to remedy or mitigate previous damage to natural feature or landscape values; and</li> <li>(e) whether the activity will lead to cumulative adverse effects on the natural feature or landscape values</li> </ul>
Objective 18	The region's special amenity landscapes are identified and those landscape values that contribute to amenity and the quality of the environment are maintained or enhanced
Objective 19	The risks and consequences to people, communities, their businesses, property and infrastructure from natural hazards and climate change effects are reduced
Policy 51	<p>Minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review to a district or regional plan, the risk and consequences of natural hazards on people, communities, their property and infrastructure shall be minimised, and/or in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the frequency and magnitude of the range of natural hazards that may adversely affect the proposal or development, including residual risk;</li> <li>(b) the potential for climate change and sea level rise to increase the frequency or magnitude of a hazard event;</li> <li>(c) whether the location of the development will foreseeably require hazard mitigation works in the future;</li> <li>(d) the potential for injury or loss of life, social disruption and emergency management and civil defence implications – such as access routes to and from the site;</li> <li>(e) any risks and consequences beyond the development site;</li> <li>(f) the impact of the proposed development on any natural features that act as a buffer, and where development should not interfere with their ability to reduce the risks of natural hazards;</li> <li>(g) avoiding inappropriate subdivision and development in areas at high risk from natural hazards;</li> <li>(h) the potential need for hazard adaptation and mitigation measures in moderate risk areas; and</li> <li>(i) the need to locate habitable floor areas and access routes above the 1:100 year flood level, in identified flood hazard areas</li> </ul>
Objective 20	Hazard mitigation measures, structural works and other activities do not increase the risk and consequences of natural hazard events
Policy 52	<p>Minimising adverse effects of hazard mitigation measures – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, for hazard mitigation measures, particular regard shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the need for structural protection works or hard engineering methods;</li> <li>(b) whether non-structural or soft engineering methods are a more appropriate option;</li> <li>(c) avoiding structural protection works or hard engineering methods unless it is necessary to protect existing development or property from unacceptable risk and the works form part of a</li> </ul>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>long-term hazard management strategy that represents the best practicable option for the future;</p> <p>(d) the cumulative effects of isolated structural protection works; and</p> <p>(e) residual risk remaining after mitigation works are in place, so that they reduce and do not increase the risks of natural hazards</p>
Objective 21	Communities are more resilient to natural hazards, including the impacts of climate change, and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events
Objective 25	The concept of kaitiakitanga is integrated into the sustainable management of the Wellington region’s natural and physical resources.
Objective 26	Mauri is sustained, particularly in relation to coastal and fresh waters.
Objective 27	Mahinga kai and natural resources used for customary purposes, are maintained and enhanced, and these resources are healthy and accessible to tangata whenua
Objective 28	The cultural relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga is maintained
Objective 29	Land management practices do not accelerate soil erosion
Policy 41	<p>Minimising the effects of earthworks and vegetation disturbance – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan, particular regard shall be given to controlling earthworks and vegetation disturbance to minimise:</p> <p>(a) erosion; and</p> <p>(b) silt and sediment runoff into water, or onto or into land that may enter water, so that healthy aquatic ecosystems are sustained</p>
Objective 30	Soils maintain those desirable physical, chemical and biological characteristics that enable them to retain their ecosystem function and range of uses
Policy 59	<p>Retaining highly productive agricultural land (Class I and II land) – consideration</p> <p>When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, particular regard shall be given to safeguarding productive capability on Class I and II land</p>

### 3.2.2 Plan Change 1 to the Wellington Region RPS

Plan Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (“RPS PC1”) was publicly notified on 19 August 2022. Submissions closed on 14 October 2022.

The relevant provisions from the “as-notified” version of Plan Change 1 are set out below.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective CC.1	<p>By 2050, the Wellington Region is a low-emission and climate-resilient region, where climate change mitigation and adaptation are an integral part of:</p> <p>(a) sustainable air, land, freshwater, and coastal management,</p> <p>(b) well-functioning urban environments and rural areas, and</p> <p>(c) well-planned infrastructure.</p>
Objective 12	<p>Natural and physical resources of the region are managed in a way that prioritises:</p> <p>(a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems</p>

	<p>(b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)</p> <p>(c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future; and</p> <p>Te Mana o te Wai encompasses six principles relating to the roles of tangata whenua and other New Zealanders in the management of freshwater, and these principles inform this RPS and its implementation. The six principles are:</p> <p>(a) Mana whakahaere: the power, authority, and obligations of tangata whenua to make decisions that maintain, protect, and sustain the health and well-being of, and their relationship with, freshwater</p> <p>(b) Kaitiakitanga: the obligation of tangata whenua to preserve, restore, enhance, and sustainably use freshwater for the benefit of present and future generations</p> <p>(c) Manaakitanga: the process by which tangata whenua show respect, generosity, and care for freshwater and for others</p> <p>(d) Governance: the responsibility of those with authority for making decisions about freshwater to do so in a way that prioritises the health and well-being of freshwater now and into the future</p> <p>(e) Stewardship: the obligation of all New Zealanders to manage freshwater in a way that ensures it sustains present and future generations, and</p> <p>(f) Care and respect: the responsibility of all New Zealanders to care for freshwater in providing for the health of the nation.</p> <p>And the Statements of Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa</p> <p><del>The quantity and quality of fresh water:</del></p> <p><del>(a) meet the range of uses and values for which water is required;</del></p> <p><del>(b) safeguard the life-supporting capacity of water bodies; and</del></p> <p><del>(c) meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.</del></p>
Objective 16	Indigenous ecosystems and habitats <u>with significant ecosystem functions and services and/or biodiversity values</u> are <del>maintained</del> <u>protected, enhanced,</u> and restored to a healthy functioning state.
Policy 15	<del>Minimising</del> Managing the effects of earthworks and vegetation disturbance – district and regional plans
Policy 40	<del>Maintaining</del> <u>Protecting and enhancing the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems</u> <del>aquatic ecosystem health in water bodies</del> – consideration
Policy 41	<del>Minimising</del> <u>Controlling</u> the effects of earthworks and vegetation disturbance – consideration
Policy 44	Managing water takes and use to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai <del>ensure efficient use</del> – consideration

### 3.2.3 Freshwater Plan

The freshwater plan was made operative on 17 December 1999.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 4.1.1	The relationship of tangata whenua and their culture and traditions with fresh water, and with ancestral sites, waahi tapu and other taonga within the beds of rivers and lakes, is recognised and provided for

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 4.1.2	The mauri of water bodies and river and lake beds is protected
Objective 4.1.6	Significant indigenous aquatic vegetation and significant habitats of fresh water fauna in water bodies are protected
Objective 4.1.7	The amenity and recreational values of wetlands, lakes, and rivers are maintained and, where appropriate, enhanced
Policy 4.2.9	To have regard to the following characteristics of wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, when considering the protection of their natural character from the adverse effects of subdivision, use, and development: ecosystems, habitats and species; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• water quality; and</li> <li>• the natural flow characteristics and hydraulic processes (such as sediment transport) of rivers or the pattern and range of water level fluctuations that occur naturally in wetlands or lakes; and</li> <li>• the topography and physical composition of river or lake beds and the course of the river</li> </ul>
Policy 4.2.13	To protect the nationally threatened indigenous aquatic plants identified in Part B of Appendix 3 and to protect nationally threatened freshwater fauna, in the water bodies identified in Part A of Appendix 3 by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• managing water quality so that Policies 5.2.1 to 5.2.7, whichever is (are) relevant, is (are) satisfied; and</li> <li>• managing the flows and levels of water bodies so that Policies 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.12, and 6.2.13, whichever is (are) relevant, is (are) satisfied; and</li> <li>• maintaining migratory and dispersal pathways for fish; and</li> <li>• avoiding adverse effects on habitats that are important to the life cycle and survival (including spawning areas) of fish and birds; and</li> <li>• promoting landowner and user knowledge of nationally threatened species, the sites where they are present, and how they can be protected</li> </ul>
Policy 4.2.16	To ensure there is no reduction in the quality of lawful public access along the beds of lakes and rivers unless exceptional circumstances arise that make restrictions necessary, including to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protect any characteristic of any site or feature which gives a water body its special value or any conservation value; or</li> <li>• provide for public health and safety; or</li> <li>• provide for security on private property; or</li> <li>• protect the rights of property owners, including the protection of crops and stock</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.7	To avoid any adverse effects on the structural integrity and effectiveness of lawful flood mitigation structures and works in river beds and on floodplains from the adverse effects of subdivision, use, and development

### 3.2.4 Air Quality Management Plan

The Regional Air Quality Management Plan became operative on 8 May 2000, with updates via Change 1 on 1 September 2003.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 4.1.1	High quality air in the Region is maintained and protected, degraded air is enhanced, and there is no significant deterioration in ambient air quality in any part of the Region.

### 3.3 Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region (Appeals Version - Final 2022)

Decisions on the proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) were publicly notified on 31 July 2019, and the period for filing appeals with the Environment Court on the Decisions version of the PNRP closed on 18 September 2019.

The current version of the PNRP is the 'Appeals Version – final 2022'. This shows all changes to the provisions since the Decisions Version as black underline/strikethrough. The changes are as a result of consent orders, clause 16 amendments and/or additions/changes required by a national direction.

The Wellington Regional Council adopted the Regional Coastal Plan part of the PNRP under clause 18 of the First Schedule to the RMA on 25 August 2022 and has referred that part to the Minister of Conservation under clause 19 of the First Schedule to the RMA for any amendments by the Minister and then approval.

Once the Wellington Regional Council receives the Minister's approval, Council will then approve the part of the PNRP that is not the Regional Coastal Plan under clause 17 of the First Schedule to the RMA and set the date it will become operative under clause 20 of the First Schedule to the RMA.

The objectives and policies below are taken from the Appeals version available on the GWRC website.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective O1	Air, land, fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area are managed as integrated and connected resources; ki uta ki tai – mountains to the sea.
Objective 02	The importance and contribution of air, land <del>and water</del> <u>and ecosystems</u> to the social, economic and cultural well-being <u>and health of people and of the community</u> are recognised <u>in the management and, where applicable, allocation of those resources.</u>
Objective 03	Mauri particularly the mauri of fresh and coastal waters is sustained and, where it has been depleted, natural resources and processes are enhanced to replenish mauri.
Objective O4	The intrinsic values of fresh water and marine ecosystems are recognised and the life supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems is safeguarded.
Objective O5	Sufficient fresh water of a suitable quality is available, for: (a) the health needs of people, and (b) the reasonable needs of livestock
Objective O6	The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised, when managing water
Objective 09	The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable energy generation activities and the utilisation of mineral resources are recognised.
Objective O10	Regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities that meets the needs of present and future generations are enabled in appropriate places and ways.
Objective O12	The relationships of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga are recognised and provided for, including: (a) maintaining and improving opportunities for Māori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers, lakes and their margins and natural wetlands, and (b) maintaining and improving the availability of mahinga kai species, in terms of quantity, quality and diversity, to support Māori customary harvest, and (c) providing for the relationship of mana whenua with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa, and including by maintaining or improving Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa so that the huanga identified in Schedule B are provided for, and

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	(d) protecting sites with significant mana whenua values from use and development that will adversely affect their values and restoring those sites to a state where their characteristics and qualities sustain the identified values.
Objective O13	Kaitiakitanga is recognised and mana whenua actively participate in planning and decision-making in relation to the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources.
Objective O14	The natural character of the coastal marine area, natural wetlands, and rivers, lakes and their margins is preserved and protected from inappropriate use and development.
Objective O15	The hazard risk and residual hazard risk, from natural hazards and adverse effects of climate change on people, the community, <u>the environment</u> and infrastructure are acceptable.
Objective O16	Inappropriate use and development in high <del>risk</del> <u>hazard</u> areas is avoided.
Objective O17	The quality of groundwater, water in surface water bodies, and the coastal marine area is maintained or improved.
Objective O18	<p>Rivers, lakes, natural wetlands and coastal water are suitable for contact recreation and Māori customary use, including by:</p> <p>(a) maintaining water quality, or</p> <p>(b) improving water quality in:</p> <p>(i) significant contact recreation fresh water bodies and sites with significant mana whenua values <u>identified in Schedule C</u> and Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa <u>identified in Schedule B</u> to meet, as a minimum <u>and within reasonable timeframes</u>, the primary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.1, and</p> <p>(ii) coastal water and sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C and Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa identified in Schedule B to meet, as a minimum and within reasonable timeframes, the primary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.3, and</p> <p>(iii) all other rivers and lakes and natural wetlands to meet, as a minimum and within reasonable timeframes, the secondary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.2.</p> <p><u>Note</u></p> <p><u>For the purposes of this objective 'a reasonable timeframe' is a date for the applicable water body or coastal marine area inserted into this Plan through the plan change/s required by the RMA to implement the NPS-FM 2020, or 2050 if no other date is specified by 31 December 2026</u></p>

**Contact recreation and Māori customary use objectives**

Water body type	<i>E. coli</i> 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile <sup>1</sup>	Cyanobacteria		Māori customary use <sup>2</sup>	Toxicants and irritants <sup>2</sup>	Water clarity	Sediment cover <sup>1</sup>	Heterotrophic growths	Only applies to primary contact recreation freshwater water bodies identified in Schedule H1	
		Planktonic <sup>4</sup>	Benthic						Periphyton % weighted composite cover (PeriWCC)	Nuisance macrophytes % cover of channel water surface
Statistic <sup>2</sup>	95th percentile	80th percentile	N/A	N/A	N/A	50th percentile	N/A	N/A	Annual maximum	Maximum
Units	cfu/100ml	mm <sup>3</sup> /L	N/A	N/A	N/A	m	%	N/A	%	%
Rivers	≤ 540 at all flows below 3x median flow, September to April inclusive		Low risk of health effects from exposure	Fresh water is safe and supports Māori customary use by the achievement of the <i>huanga</i> identified by <i>mana whenua</i> .	Concentrations of toxicants or irritants do not pose a threat to water users	≥ 1.6m	≤ 25%	No bacterial or fungal slime growths visible to the naked eye as plumose growths or mats	< 30	≤ 30
Lakes	≤ 540 September to April inclusive	< 1.8mm <sup>3</sup> /L biovolume equivalent of potentially toxic cyanobacteria OR < 10mm <sup>3</sup> /L total biovolume of all cyanobacteria								

<sup>1</sup>For guidance on the *E. coli*, cyanobacteria and toxicants and irritants objectives in Table 3.1 refer to Table 3.3 of the Technical guidance document: Aquatic ecosystem health and contact recreation outcomes in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Wellington Regional Council, 2015, GWESCI-T-15/15.

<sup>2</sup>Derived using the Hazen method from a minimum of 30 data points collected over three years

<sup>3</sup>*E. coli* is a factor for some Māori customary use so *E. coli* levels may be important to meet this objective outside of the September to April period specified for *E. coli*

<sup>4</sup>For guidance refer to the default guideline values (recreation and aesthetics) of the Australia and New Zealand guidelines for fresh and marine water quality (2016).

<sup>5</sup>Only applies to naturally hard bottomed rivers and streams

<sup>6</sup>80<sup>th</sup> percentile derived using the Hazen method from a minimum of three years data

<sup>7</sup>Percentile derived using the Hazen method, all statistics to be assessed from a minimum of 30 data points collected over three years.

Table 3.2 Secondary contact and Māori customary use recreation objectives in freshwater bodies <sup>8</sup>				
Water body type	<i>E. coli</i> cfu/100mL median <sup>9</sup>	Cyanobacteria		Māori customary use
		Planktonic <sup>11</sup>	Benthic	
Rivers	≤ 1,000		Low risk of health effects from exposure	Fresh water supports <b>Māori customary use</b> by the achievement of the <b>huanga</b> identified by <b>mana whenua</b> .
Lakes		< 1.8 mm <sup>3</sup> /L biovolume equivalent of potentially toxic cyanobacteria OR < 10 mm <sup>3</sup> /L total biovolume of all cyanobacteria		
Natural wetlands	≤ 1,000			

Table 3.3 Contact recreation and Māori customary use objectives in coastal water <sup>10</sup>			
Coastal water type	Pathogens Indicator bacteria/100mL 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile <sup>11</sup>	Māori customary use	Shellfish quality
Estuaries <sup>12</sup>	≤ 540 <i>E. coli</i>	Coastal water supports <b>Māori customary use</b> by the achievement of the <b>huanga</b> identified by <b>mana whenua</b>	Concentrations of contaminants, including pathogens, are sufficiently low for shellfish to be safe to collect and consume where appropriate
Open coast and harbours <sup>13</sup>	≤ 500 enterococci		

<sup>8</sup> For guidance on the *E. coli*, cyanobacteria and toxicants and irritants objectives in Table 3.2 refer to Table 3.3 of the Technical guidance document: Aquatic ecosystem health and contact recreation outcomes in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Wellington Regional Council, 2015, GW/ESCI-T-15/45.

<sup>9</sup> Based on a minimum of 12 data points collected over three years

<sup>10</sup> For guidance on the pathogens and shellfish quality objectives in Table 3.3 refer to Table 3.6 of the Technical guidance document: Aquatic ecosystem health and contact recreation outcomes in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Wellington Regional Council, 2015, GW/ESCI-T-15/45.

<sup>11</sup> Derived using the Hazen method from a minimum of 30 data points collected over three years

<sup>12</sup> Excludes Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and includes Lake Onoke. Estuaries, including river mouth estuaries, should be treated as an estuary when they are dominated by saline water, in which case Table 3.3 applies, and as rivers when they are dominated by fresh water, in which case Table 3.1 or 3.2 applies.

<sup>13</sup> Includes Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson) and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour. Excludes the Lambton Harbour Area within the Commercial Port Area delineated in Maps 51, 52 and 53.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective O19	<p>Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area are safeguarded such that:</p> <p>(a) water quality, flows, water levels and aquatic and coastal habitats are managed to maintain biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, and</p> <p>(b) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is <u>meaningfully improved <del>over</del> so that the objective is met within a reasonable timeframe; and</u></p> <p>(c) restoration of aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai is encouraged.</p> <p><u>Note:</u></p> <p><u>For the purposes of this objective 'a reasonable timeframe' is a date for the applicable water body or coastal marine area inserted into this Plan through the plan change/s required by the RMA to implement the NPS-FM 2020, or 2050 if no other date is specified by 31 December 2026.</u></p>



Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai objectives

Table 3.4 Rivers and streams <sup>14</sup>																			
Attribute	Statistic <sup>15</sup>	N/A%Maximum	Periphyton biomass <sup>16</sup>	Periphyton cover Only applies where there is no periphyton biomass data	Invertebrates <sup>17</sup>	Fish	Mahinga kai species	Toxicants <sup>18</sup>	Periphyton % weighted composite cover (PeriWCC)		Macrobenthic Community Index		Quantitative Macrobenthic Community Index		Score on latest data		N/A	N/A	N/A
									All rivers	Significant rivers <sup>19</sup>	All rivers	Significant rivers <sup>20</sup>	All rivers	Significant rivers	All rivers	Significant rivers			
1	Steep, hard sedimentary	N/A	≤ 50	≤ 50%	210	210	25	26	238	248	248	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	Mid-gradient, coastal and hard sedimentary	N/A	≤ 120	≤ 50%	2105	2105	25.5	26.5	238	248	248	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	Mid-gradient, soft sedimentary	N/A	≤ 120	≤ 50%	2105	2105	25.5	26.5	238	248	248	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	Lowland, large, draining ranges	N/A	≤ 120	≤ 50%	2110	2110	25.5	26.5	238	248	248	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	Lowland, large, draining plains and eastern Waikato	N/A	≤ 120	≤ 50%	2100	2100	25	26	238	248	248	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6	Lowland, small	N/A	≤ 120	≤ 50%	2100	2100	25	26	238	248	248	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

<sup>14</sup> For guidance on the macrophyte, periphyton biomass, invertebrates and fish objectives, in Table 3.4 refer to Table 2.4 of the Technical guidance document: Aquatic ecosystem health and catch restoration outcomes in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Wellington Regional Council, 2015 (GN/ESQ/15/154).

<sup>15</sup> The periphyton biomass objective shall not be exceeded by more than 17% of samples in 'productive' rivers and 5% of samples in all other rivers, based on a minimum of three years of monthly samplings. Rivers are categorised as 'productive' according to types in the River Environment Classification (REC). Productive rivers are those that fall within the REC 'Dry Creek' categories (i.e., 'Warm-Dry (WD)' and 'Cool-Dry (CD)') and the REC 'Geology' categories that have naturally high levels of nutrient enrichment due to their catchment geology (i.e., 'Soft-Sedimentary (SS)', 'Volcanic Andes (VA)' and 'Volcanic Basalt (VB)'). Therefore, productive rivers are those that belong to the following REC defined types: (WD/SS, WD/VA, CD/SS, CD/VA, CD/VA).

<sup>16</sup> Mahinga kai biomass on a maximum of three years of annual samples collected during summer or autumn.

<sup>17</sup> Invertebrate biomass is measured as the number of invertebrates per square metre of stream bed.

<sup>18</sup> Invertebrate biomass is measured as the number of invertebrates per square metre of stream bed.

<sup>19</sup> Invertebrate biomass is measured as the number of invertebrates per square metre of stream bed.

<sup>20</sup> Invertebrate biomass is measured as the number of invertebrates per square metre of stream bed.

<sup>21</sup> Significant rivers are rivers or streams with high macroinvertebrate community health, identified in column 2 of Schedule 7 (Tables 4-6).

**Table 3.5 Lakes<sup>24</sup>**

Lake type	Macrophytes (invasive score)	Macrophytes (native score)	Phytoplankton Annual median	Phytoplankton Annual maximum	Nutrients		Total Phosphorus Annual median	Lake Bottom Dissolved Oxygen Annual minimum	Mid-hypolimnion Dissolved Oxygen <sup>25</sup> Annual minimum	Sediment	Fish	Maunga kai species
					Seasonally stratified and brackish	Polymeric						
<b>All lakes<sup>26</sup></b>	Submerged and emergent macrophyte communities are resilient and occupy at least one third of the lake bed that is naturally available for macrophytes, and are dominated by native species	Phytoplankton communities are balanced and there is a low frequency of nuisance blooms	Phytoplankton communities are balanced and there is a low frequency of nuisance blooms		Total nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations do not cause an imbalance in aquatic plant, invertebrate or fish communities					Anthropogenic sediment loads, suspended sediment concentrations, and sedimentation on the lake bed are such that aquatic ecosystem health is reflective of a good state.	Hedgerow fish communities are resilient and their structure composition and diversity are balanced reflective of a good state of aquatic ecosystem health	Maunga kai species, including tuonga species, are present in quantities, size and of a quality that is appropriate for the area and reflective of a healthy functioning ecosystem <sup>27</sup>
<b>Significant lakes<sup>28</sup></b>	0	275	52	510	§160	§300	§10	27.5	27.5			
<b>All other lakes<sup>21</sup></b>	The algae community is reflective of a good state of aquatic ecosystem health with a low frequency of nuisance blooms <sup>21</sup>	275	53	525	§350		§20	22.0	25.0			

<sup>24</sup> For evaluation see the macrophyte, phytoplankton, fish and invertebrate indicators in Table 3.6 below. Table 3.7 defines 'submerged vegetation' and 'aquatic vegetation' and 'lake vegetation' in the Proposed Marine Resource Plan. <sup>25</sup> Hypolimnion Dissolved Oxygen: conduct only applies to macrophyte rich lakes. <sup>26</sup> Phytoplankton Annual Median and Maximum: The maximum value of the annual maximum value of the phytoplankton annual maximum value. <sup>27</sup> Phytoplankton Annual Median and Maximum: The maximum value of the annual maximum value of the phytoplankton annual maximum value. <sup>28</sup> Phytoplankton Annual Median and Maximum: The maximum value of the annual maximum value of the phytoplankton annual maximum value.

**Table 3.7 Natural wetlands<sup>34</sup>**

Wetland type	Flora	Fauna	Mahinga kai species	Nutrient status	Hydrology
Bog	Indigenous plant communities are appropriate <sup>35</sup> to wetland type, are resilient and their structure, composition and diversity are within an acceptable range of that expected under natural conditions	Indigenous faunal communities (including those of birds, fish, lizards and invertebrates) are appropriate <sup>35</sup> to wetland type, are resilient and their structure composition and diversity are within an acceptable range of that expected under natural conditions	Mahinga kai species, including taonga species, are present in, or are migrating through, the wetland and are in quantities, size and of a quality that is appropriate to the area <sup>36</sup> and <u>reflective of a healthy functioning ecosystem</u> . Huangā of mahinga kai as identified by mana whenua are achieved.	Low or very low	Water table depth and hydrologic regime is appropriate to the wetland type
Fen				Low to moderate	
Seepage				Low to high	
Saltmarsh <sup>37</sup>				Moderate to high	
Swamp				Moderate to high	
Marsh				Moderate to high	

<sup>34</sup> For guidance on the flora, fauna, nutrient status and hydrology objectives in Table 3.7 refer to Table 2.13 of the Technical guidance document: Aquatic ecosystem health and contact recreation outcomes in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Wellington Regional Council, 2015, GW/ESCI-T-1545.

<sup>35</sup> Appropriate refers to communities naturally found in the different wetland types, and indigenous species that are native to the area (i.e. species expected present based on natural distribution and habitat).

<sup>36</sup> Appropriate for the area refers to those species expected present based on natural distribution and habitat. Appropriate for the area means consistent with what would be expected when the ecosystem is in a natural healthy condition.

<sup>37</sup> Refers to terrestrial component of saltmarshes, coastal saltmarsh is provided for by Table 3.8

**Table 3.8 Coastal waters<sup>38</sup>**

Coastal water type	Macroalgae	Seagrass and saltmarsh	Invertebrates	Mahinga kai species	Fish	Sedimentation rate	Mud content
Open coast		NA				NA	
Estuaries and harbours <sup>40</sup>	The algae community is <u>reflective of a good state of aquatic ecosystem health</u> <u>balanced</u> with a low frequency of nuisance blooms	Seagrass, saltmarsh and brackish water submerged macrophytes are resilient and diverse and their cover is sufficient to support invertebrate and fish communities	Invertebrate communities are resilient and their structure, composition and diversity are <u>balanced-reflective of a good state of aquatic ecosystem health</u>	Mahinga kai species, including taonga species, are present in quantities, sizes and of a quality that is appropriate for the area and <u>reflective of a healthy functioning ecosystem</u> <sup>39</sup> . Huangā of mahinga kai as identified by mana whenua are achieved.	Indigenous fish communities are resilient and their structure, composition and diversity are <u>reflective of a good state of aquatic ecosystem health</u> <u>balanced</u>	The sedimentation rate is within an acceptable range of that expected under natural conditions	The mud content and areal extent of soft mud habitats is within a range of that found under natural conditions

<sup>38</sup> For guidance on the flora, fauna, nutrient status and hydrology objectives in Table 3.8 refer to Table 2.16 of the Technical guidance document: Aquatic ecosystem health and contact recreation outcomes in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Wellington Regional Council, 2015, GW/ESCI-T-1545.

<sup>39</sup> Appropriate for the area refers to those species expected present based on natural distribution and habitat. Appropriate for the area means consistent with what would be expected when the ecosystem is in a natural healthy condition.

<sup>40</sup> Monitoring data should be analysed separately for closed periods and open periods for intermittently closed and open lakes or lagoons (ICOLLs), such as Lake Ōnoke.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective O21	Vegetated riparian margins are established, maintained or restored to enhance water quality, aquatic ecosystem health, mahinga kai and indigenous biodiversity of rivers, lakes, natural wetlands and the coastal marine area.
Objective O22	The extent and significant values of natural wetlands <u>is maintained or increased</u> , their values <u>are protected</u> , and their condition is restored. Where the significant values relate to biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, restoration is to a healthy functioning state as defined by Table 3.7.
Objective O23	<del>Use and development provides for the</del> <u>The passage of fish and kōura is maintained, and the passage of indigenous fish and kōura is restored or is improved, by instream structures, except where it is desirable to prevent the passage of some fish species in order to protect desired fish species, their life stages or their habitats.</u>
Objective O25	Outstanding water bodies <u>identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies)</u> and their significant values are protected and restored. Where the significant values relate to biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, restoration is to a healthy functioning state <u>including</u> as defined by Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.
Objective O27	Significant historic heritage <u>and its values</u> are protected from inappropriate modification, use and development.
Objective O28	Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are protected <u>from the adverse effects of use and development</u> , and where appropriate restored to a healthy functioning state including as defined by Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.
Objective O30	Ambient air quality is maintained or improved to the acceptable category or better in Schedule L1 (ambient air).
Objective O32	The adverse effects of odour, smoke and dust on amenity values and people's well-being are minimised.
Objective O33	Soils are healthy and retain a range of uses, and accelerated soil erosion is reduced.
Objective O34	The adverse effects on soil and water from land use activities are minimised, including to assist with achieving the outcomes and indicators of desired environmental states for water in Tables 3.1 to 3.8.
Objective O36	The runoff or leaching of contaminants to water from discharges to land is minimised, <u>including to assist with achieving the outcomes and indicators of desired environmental states for water in Tables 3.1 to 3.8.</u>
Objective O37	The amount of sediment-laden runoff entering water is minimised, <u>including to assist with achieving the outcomes and indicators of desired environmental states for water in Tables 3.1 to 3.8.</u>
Objective O41	The environment is protected from the adverse effects of discharges of hazardous substances and the creation of contaminated land is avoided.
Objective O42	Contaminated land is identified and the discharges of contaminants are managed to protect the environment.
Objective O43	The efficient allocation and efficient use of water is improved and maximised through time including through water harvesting.
Objective O44	Any further over-allocation of fresh water is avoided and existing over-allocation is phased out.
Policy P2	Cross-Boundary Matters

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>The effects of use and development across jurisdictional boundaries shall be managed by having particular regard to any relevant provisions contained in any bordering territorial authorities' proposed and/or operative district plan when assessing a resource consent for an activity and/or the effects of an activity that spans mean high water springs or other jurisdictional boundaries, including the beds of lakes and rivers.</p>
Policy P3	<p>Precautionary approach Use and development shall be managed with a precautionary approach where there is limited information regarding the effects and any adverse effects are potentially significant.</p>
Policy P6	<p>Uses of land and water The cultural, social and economic benefits of using land and water for: (a) aquaculture, and (a) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and (b) industrial processes and commercial uses associated with the potable water supply network, and (c) community and domestic water supply, and <del>(e) electricity generation, and</del> (d) food production and harvesting (including aquaculture), and (e) gravel extraction from rivers for flood protection and control purposes, and (f) irrigation and stock water, and (g) firefighting (emergency or training purposes), and (h) contact recreation and Māori customary use, and (i) transportation, including along, across, and access to, water bodies, and (j) enabling urban development where it maintains the quality of the natural environment, and (k) waste management facilities. shall be recognised.</p>
Policy P7	<p><u>Beneficial Activities</u> The following activities are recognised as beneficial and generally appropriate: (a) activities for the purpose of restoring natural character, aquatic ecosystem health, mahinga kai, outstanding water bodies, sites with significant mana whenua values, and sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and (b) activities that restore natural features such as beaches, dunes or wetlands that can buffer development from natural hazards, and (c) day-lighting of piped streams, and (d) removal of aquatic weeds, and pest plants and animal pests, and (e) the establishment of river crossings (culverts and bridges) or fences and fence structures that will result in the exclusion of regular livestock access from a water body, and (f) the retirement, fencing and planting and management of riparian margins, and (g) the retirement of erosion prone land from livestock access, and (h) maintenance, and use and upgrade of existing structures in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and the beds of rivers and lakes (noting that Policy P35 will apply with respect to fish passage), and (i) removal of dangerous or derelict structures in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and beds of lakes and rivers, and (j) structures necessary to provide for monitoring resource use or the state of the environment in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p><u>beds of lakes and rivers, and</u>  <u>(k) activities necessary to maintain safe navigation, and</u>  <u>(l) artworks that support and enhance public open space.</u></p>
Policy P11	<p>Benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable electricity generation facilities  <u>When considering proposals that relate to the provision of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, or renewable energy generation activities, particular regard will be given to the benefits of those activities.</u></p>
Policy P13	<p>Providing for Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable electricity generation activities</p> <p>The use, development, operation, maintenance, and upgrade of Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are provided for, <u>in appropriate places and ways. This includes by having particular regard to:</u></p> <p><u>(a) the strategic integration of infrastructure and land use, and</u>  <u>(b) the location of existing infrastructure and structures, and</u>  <u>(c) the need for renewable energy generation activities to locate where the renewable energy resources exist, and</u>  <u>(d) the functional need and operational requirements associated with developing, operating, maintaining and upgrading Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities.</u></p>
Policy P15	<p>Incompatible activities adjacent to Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable electricity generation activities and significant mineral resources</p> <p>Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable energy generation activities and significant mineral resources shall be protected from incompatible use and development occurring under, over or adjacent to it, by locating and designing any use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate any reverse sensitivity effects.</p> <p><i>Note</i></p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, this policy only applies to an activity that requires resource consent seeking to locate in proximity to Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable electricity generation activities or significant mineral resources.</p>
Policy P18	<p>Mauri</p> <p>The mauri of fresh and coastal waters shall be recognised as being important to Māori and is sustained and enhanced, including by:</p> <p>(a) managing the individual and cumulative adverse effects of activities that may impact on mauri in the manner set out in the rest of the Plan, and  (b) providing for those activities that sustain and enhance mauri, and  (c) recognising and providing for the role of kaitiaki in sustaining mauri.</p>
Policy P20	<p>Māori values</p> <p>The cultural relationship of Māori with air, land and water shall be recognised and the adverse effects on this relationship and their values shall be minimised.</p>
Policy P21	<p>Kaitiakitanga shall be recognised and provided for by involving mana whenua in the assessment and decision-making processes associated with use and development of natural and physical resources including;</p> <p>(a) managing activities in sites with significant mana whenua values listed in Schedule C (mana whenua) in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>Māori as exercised by mana whenua, and</p> <p>(b) the identification and inclusion of mana whenua attributes and values in the kaitiaki information and monitoring strategy in accordance with Method M2, and</p> <p>(c) identification of mana whenua values and attributes and their application through tikanga and kaupapa Māori in the maintenance and enhancement of mana whenua relationships with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa.</p>
Policy P23	<p><u>Identification of outstanding/high natural character and outstanding natural features and landscapes</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Identify in the Plan areas of outstanding and high natural character in the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area) and in wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins.</u></p> <p>(b) <u>Identify in the Plan outstanding natural features and landscapes within the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area) and in wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins.</u></p> <p>(c) <u>Until areas of high and outstanding natural character and outstanding natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment are mapped in this Plan, as assessment may be required as to whether an activity is within:</u></p> <p>(i) <u>An area of high or outstanding natural character</u></p> <p>(ii) <u>An outstanding natural feature or landscape.</u></p> <p><u>The need for such an assessment will depend on the level or scale of potential effects and the sensitivity of the receiving environment and shall take into account Policies 3 and 24 of the Regional Policy Statement. Any assessment shall be commensurate with the scale and significance of the effects that the use or development may have on the environment.</u></p> <p><u>Note</u> Refer to Method M31.</p>
Policy P24	<p><u>Preserving and protecting natural character from inappropriate use and development</u></p> <p><u>To preserve natural character and protect it from inappropriate use and development by:</u></p> <p>(a) <u>avoiding adverse effects of activities on the natural character of areas within the coastal environment that have outstanding natural character, and</u></p> <p>(b) <u>avoiding significant adverse effects and avoid remedy and mitigate other adverse effects of activities on the natural character of areas within the coastal environment that do not have outstanding natural character, and</u></p> <p>(c) <u>outside the coastal environment, avoiding and, where avoidance is not practicable, remedying or mitigating adverse effects of activities on the natural character of wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins that have outstanding natural character, provided that the outstanding natural character of the area taken as a whole is retained, and</u></p> <p>(d) <u>outside the coastal environment, avoiding and, where avoidance is not practicable, remedying or mitigating significant adverse effects of activities on the natural character of wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins that have high natural character, provided that the high natural character of the area taken as a whole is retained, and</u></p> <p>(e) <u>outside the coastal environment, avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects of activities on the natural character of wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins that are not addressed under (c) or (d) of Policy P24.</u></p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy P25	<p>High Hazard Areas</p> <p>Use and development, including hazard mitigation methods, in on or over high hazard risk areas shall be avoided except where managed to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) they have a functional need or operational requirement or there is no practicable alternative to be so located, and</li> <li>(b) an overall increase in risk of social, environmental and economic harm is avoided, and</li> <li>(c) the hazard risk to the development and/or residual hazard risk to the development after hazard mitigation measures, assessed using a risk-based approach, is acceptable or as low as reasonably practicable, recognising that in some instances an increase in risk to the development may be appropriate, and</li> <li>(d) the development does not cause or exacerbate hazard risk in other areas, and unless effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated in accordance with a hazard risk management strategy, and</li> <li>(e) adverse effects on natural processes (coastal, riverine and lake processes) are avoided, remedied, or mitigated, and</li> <li>(f) natural cycles of erosion and accretion and the potential for natural features to fluctuate in position over time, including movements due to climate change and sea level rise over at least the next 100 years, are taken into account.</li> </ul>
Policy P27	<p>Hazard mitigation measures</p> <p>Hard hazard engineering mitigation and protection methods shall be discouraged avoided except where it is necessary to protect existing development from unacceptable hazard risk, assessed using the risk based approach, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) existing, or upgrades to, infrastructure including Regionally Significant Infrastructure, or</li> <li>(b) new Regionally Significant Infrastructure, or</li> <li>(c) significant existing development, and in respect of (a), (b) and (c):</li> <li>(d) there is no reasonable or practicable alternatives to mitigate hazard risk and residual hazard risk, and</li> <li>(e) the mitigation and protection methods are suitably located and designed, and where appropriate certified by a qualified, professional engineer, and</li> <li>(f) the use of soft engineering options are incorporated and used, where appropriate, and either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(g) any adverse effects are no more than minor, or</li> <li>(h) where the environmental effects are more than minor the works form part of a hazard risk management strategy.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Policy P28	<p>Particular regard shall be given to the potential for climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) to threaten biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, or</li> <li>(b) to cause or exacerbate natural hazard events over at least the next 100 years that could adversely affect use and development including as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) coastal erosion and inundation (storm surge), and</li> <li>(d) river and lake flooding and erosion, aggradation, decreased minimum flows, and</li> <li>(e) stormwater ponding and impeded drainage, and</li> <li>(f) relative sea level rise, using reliable scientific data for the Wellington region.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Policy P30	<p>Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</p> <p>Manage the adverse effects of use and development on biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai to:</p> <p>Hydrology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintain or where practicable restore natural flow characteristics and</li> </ul>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>hydrodynamic processes, and the natural pattern and range of water level fluctuations in rivers, lakes and natural wetlands, and Water quality</p> <p>(b) maintain or improve water quality including to assist with achieving the objectives in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8 of Objective O19, and Aquatic habitat diversity and quality</p> <p>(c) maintain or where practicable restore aquatic habitat diversity and quality, including:</p> <p>(i) the form, frequency and pattern of pools, runs, and riffles in rivers, and</p> <p>(ii) the natural form of rivers, lakes, natural wetlands and the coastal marine area, and</p> <p>(d) where practicable restore the connections between fragmented aquatic habitats, and Critical habitat for indigenous aquatic species and indigenous birds</p> <p>(e) maintain or where practicable restore habitats that are important to the life cycle and survival of indigenous aquatic species and the habitats of indigenous birds in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and the beds of lakes and rivers and their margins that are used for breeding, roosting, feeding, and migration, and Critical life cycle periods</p> <p>(f) avoid, minimise or remedy adverse effects on aquatic species at times which will most affect the breeding, spawning, and dispersal or migration of those species, including timing the activity, or the adverse effects of the activity, to avoid times of the year when adverse effects may be more significant, and</p> <p>Riparian habitats</p> <p>(g) maintain or where practicable restore riparian habitats, and Pests</p> <p>(h) avoid the introduction, and restrict the spread, of aquatic pest plants and animals</p>
Policy P31	<p>Adverse effects on biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health, and mahinga kai</p> <p>Adverse effects on biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be managed by:</p> <p>(a) in the first instance, activities that risk causing adverse effects on the values of a Schedule F ecosystem or habitat, other than activities carried out in accordance with a wetland restoration management plan, shall avoid these ecosystems and habitats. If the ecosystem or habitat cannot be avoided, the adverse effects of activities shall be managed by (b) to (g) below.</p> <p>(b) avoiding adverse effects where practicable, and</p> <p>(c) where adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimising them where practicable, and</p> <p>(d) where adverse effects cannot be avoided and/or minimised, they are remedied, except as provided for in (a) to (g), and</p> <p>(e) where more than minor residual adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimised, or remedied, biodiversity offsetting is provided where possible, and</p> <p>(f) if biodiversity offsetting of more than minor residual adverse effects is not possible, biodiversity compensation is provided, and</p> <p>(g) the activity itself is avoided if biodiversity compensation cannot be undertaken in a way that is appropriate as set out in Schedule G3, including Clause 2 of that Schedule.</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>In relation to activities within the beds of lakes, rivers and natural wetlands, (e) to (g) only apply to activities which meet the exceptions in Policy P110.</p> <p>A precautionary approach shall be used when assessing the potential for adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Schedule F.</p> <p><i>Notes</i></p> <p>Policy P38 applies to the management of adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values within the coastal environment.</p> <p>Proposals for biodiversity mitigation under (b) to (d) above, and biodiversity offsetting, and biodiversity compensation will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G1 (biodiversity mitigation), and Schedule G2 (biodiversity offsetting), and Schedule G3 (biodiversity compensation).</p>
Policy P32	<p><b>Fish passage</b></p> <p>The construction or creation of new barriers impeding the efficient and safe passage of fish and kōura species at all their life stages shall be avoided, except where this is required for the protection of indigenous fish and kōura populations.</p> <p><i>Note</i></p> <p>Advice can be sought from the statutory agencies responsible for the species. Sports fish, including trout, are managed by the Wellington Fish and Game Council and indigenous fish are managed by the Department of Conservation.</p>
Policy P33	<p><b>Restoring fish passage</b></p> <p>Remediation to provide for the efficient and safe passage of indigenous fish and kōura is promoted, and regard shall be had to requiring this when extending, altering or reconstructing instream structures, where this is appropriate for the management and protection of indigenous fish and kōura populations</p>
Policy P34	<p><b>Values of wetlands</b></p> <p>Activities in and adjacent to natural wetlands shall be managed to maintain and, where appropriate, restore their condition and their values including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) as habitat for indigenous flora and fauna, and</li> <li>(b) for their significance to mana whenua, and</li> <li>(c) for their role in the hydrological cycle including flood protection, and</li> <li>(d) for nutrient attenuation and sediment trapping, and</li> <li>(e) as a fisheries resource, and</li> <li>(f) for recreation, and</li> <li>(g) for education and scientific research.</li> </ul>
Policy P35	<p><b>Restoration of wetlands</b></p> <p>The restoration of natural wetlands and the construction of artificial wetlands to meet the water quality, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai objectives set out in Tables 3.7 and 3.8, to provide habitat for indigenous flora and fauna, to carry out the physical and ecological functions of natural</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>wetlands, <u>and to provide for amenity values where this aligns with restoration appropriate to the area and wetland type</u> shall be encouraged and supported.</p>
<p>Policy P37</p>	<p>Adverse effects on outstanding water bodies</p> <p>The adverse effects of use and development on outstanding water bodies and their significant values identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies) shall be avoided, <u>unless there is a functional need for operation, maintenance or upgrade of existing regionally significant infrastructure in which case</u> <u>adverse effects of activities shall be managed by:</u></p> <p>(a) <u>avoiding adverse effects where practicable, and</u>            (b) <u>where adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimising them, and</u>            (c) <u>where adverse effects cannot be minimised, they are remedied where practicable, and</u>            (d) <u>where residual adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimised, or remedied, offsetting is provided where possible.</u></p> <p><u>Proposals for biodiversity mitigation and biodiversity offsetting will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G1 (biodiversity mitigation), and Schedule G2 (biodiversity offsetting). A precautionary approach shall be used when assessing the potential for adverse effects on outstanding water bodies.</u></p> <p><u>Where more than minor adverse effects on outstanding water bodies cannot be avoided, minimised, remedied or redressed through biodiversity offsets, the activity is inappropriate.</u></p>
<p>Policy P42</p>	<p>Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values</p> <p>Protect <u>in accordance with Policy P31 and Policies P38-P41</u>and, <u>where appropriate</u>, restore the following ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values:</p> <p>(a) the rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), and            (b) the habitats for indigenous birds identified in Schedule F2 (bird habitats), and            (c) <u>significant natural wetlands, including the significant natural wetlands identified in Schedule F3 (identified <del>significant natural</del> wetlands), and</u>            (d) the ecosystems and habitat-types with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and Schedule F5 (coastal habitats).</p> <p>Note</p> <p>All natural wetlands in the Wellington Region are considered to be <u>significant natural wetlands ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values</u> as they meet at least two of the criteria listed in Policy 23 of the Regional Policy Statement 2013 for identifying indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values; being representativeness and rarity.</p>
<p>Policy P44</p>	<p>Policy P44: Managing effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values from activities outside these ecosystems and habitats</p> <p>In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>biodiversity values in accordance with Policy P42, particular regard shall be given to managing the adverse effects of use and development in areas outside of these ecosystems and habitats on physical, chemical and biological processes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintain ecological connections within and between these habitats, or</li> <li>(b) provide for the enhancement of ecological connectivity between fragmented habitats through biodiversity offsets, and</li> <li>(c) provide adequate buffers around ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and</li> <li>(d) avoid cumulative adverse effects on, and the incremental loss of significant indigenous biodiversity values.</li> </ul>
Policy P46	<p>Wetland restoration management plans</p> <p>Restoration activities that have more than minor adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity) are appropriate if they are undertaken as part of a wetland restoration management plan.</p>
Policy P47	<p>Protection and restoration of sites with significant mana whenua values</p> <p>Sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) shall be protected and restored by a mix of the following regulatory and non-regulatory methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) managing use and development through rules in the plan, and</li> <li>(b) working in partnership with key stakeholders through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) increasing landowner and community understanding of significant values within Schedule C sites, and</li> <li>(ii) working with mana whenua, landowners, and other interested parties as appropriate, to develop and implement restoration programmes for Schedule C sites, and</li> <li>(iii) the Wellington Regional Council and iwi authorities implementing kaupapa Maori monitoring of Schedule C sites.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Policy P48	<p>Managing adverse effects on sites with significant mana whenua values</p> <p>Sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C shall be protected and restored by managing use and development in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) in the first instance, avoid locating activities within sites listed in Schedule C, and</li> <li>(b) require any more than minor adverse effects of activities on the significant mana whenua values of the site to be evaluated through a cultural impact assessment undertaken by the relevant mana whenua as identified in Schedule C, and</li> <li>(c) significant adverse effects of an activity on the significant values of the site shall be avoided, and</li> <li>(d) other adverse effects shall be managed in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Maori responding to recommendations in the cultural impact assessment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) avoid more than minor adverse effects on the significant values of the site, and</li> <li>(ii) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimising them, and</li> <li>(iii) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be avoided and/or minimised, they are remedied, and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(e) where more than minor adverse effects on significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) cannot be avoided, minimised, or remedied, the activity is inappropriate. Offsetting of effects on sites with significant mana whenua values is inappropriate, except where provided for in Policy P49, and</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(f) the relevant mana whenua as identified in Schedule C shall be considered to be an affected party under RMA s95E for all activities which require resource consent within a Schedule C site where the adverse effects are minor or more than minor, unless the application is publicly notified.</p>
<p>Policy P49</p>	<p>Offsetting residual adverse effects on sites of significance to mana whenua</p> <p>Residual adverse effects that are not otherwise avoided, minimised or remedied in accordance with the management hierarchy in Policy P48 may be offset where the relevant mana whenua as identified in Schedule C:</p> <p>(a) considers the offsetting of residual adverse effects is appropriate in the particular circumstances, and</p> <p>(b) have:</p> <p>(i) an offsetting policy in place that applies to the area and values to be affected by the proposed development, or</p> <p>(ii) prepared a cultural impact assessment that includes specific direction for the offsetting of effects of the proposed activity on the site of significance, and</p> <p>(iii) expressly confirms that the offset proposed is consistent with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the offsetting policy in Policy P49(b)(i) (where applicable), and</li> <li>2. the cultural impact assessment in Policy P49(b)(ii),</li> </ol> <p>and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. the offsetting principles set out in Schedule G3.</li> </ol> <p>Where offsetting is proposed for a site of significance that is associated with multiple mana whenua, there must be an agreed position between all groups that offsetting is appropriate and that (b) has been met.</p>
<p>Policy P52</p>	<p>Policy P52: Protecting natural features and landscapes from inappropriate use and development</p> <p>To protect natural features and landscapes (including seascapes) of the coastal environment, rivers, lakes and their margins and natural wetlands and their values, from inappropriate use and development by:</p> <p>(a) avoiding adverse effects of activities on the natural attributes and characteristics of outstanding natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment, and</p> <p>(b) avoiding significant adverse effects of activities on the natural attributes and characteristics of natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment and avoid, remedy and mitigate other adverse effects of activities on other natural features and natural landscapes in the coastal environment, and</p> <p>(c) outside the coastal environment, avoiding and, where avoidance is not practicable, remedying or mitigating adverse effects of activities on the natural attributes and characteristics of outstanding natural features and landscapes, provided that the values of the natural features or landscapes that contribute to its outstanding status are retained.</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy P55	<p>Managing ambient air quality</p> <p>Ambient air quality shall be managed to protect human health and safety by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) maintaining the acceptable category or better identified in Schedule L1 (ambient air) for the specific contaminants, and</li> <li>(b) improving unacceptable or poor ambient air quality to at least the acceptable category or better identified in Schedule L1 (ambient air), and</li> <li>(c) managing the discharge of other contaminants so that the adverse effects on human health, including cumulative adverse effects, are minimised.</li> </ul>
Policy P58	<p>Managing air amenity</p> <p>Air quality amenity in urban, rural and the coastal marine areas shall be managed to minimise offensive or objectionable odour, smoke and <u>dust</u>, particulate matter, fumes, ash and visible emissions.</p>
Policy P65	<p>National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management requirements for discharge consents</p> <p>When considering any application for a discharge the consent authority shall have regard to the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the extent to which the discharge would avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water including on any ecosystem associated with fresh water, and</li> <li>(b) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any more than minor adverse effects on fresh water, and on any ecosystem associated with fresh water, resulting from the discharge would be avoided, and</li> <li>(c) the extent to which the discharge would avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the health of people and communities as affected by their contact with fresh water, and</li> <li>(d) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any more than minor adverse effects on the health of people and communities as affected by their contact with fresh water resulting from the discharge would be avoided.</li> </ul> <p>This policy applies to the following discharges (including a diffuse discharge by any person or animal):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a new discharge, or</li> <li>(b) a change or increase in any discharge</li> </ul> <p>of any contaminant into fresh water, or onto or into land in circumstances that may result in that contaminant (or, as a result of any natural process from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant) entering fresh water.</p> <p>Sections (a) and (b) of this policy do not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011 took effect on 1 July 2011. Sections (c) and (d) of this policy do not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 took effect (1 August 2014).</p>
Policy P66	<p><u>Discharges of contaminants to water or land will be minimised by adopting through the following hierarchy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>(a) avoiding the production of the contaminant,</u></li> <li><u>(b) reducing the amount of contaminants, including by reusing, recovering or recycling contaminants,</u></li> <li><u>(c) minimising the volume or amount of the discharge,</u></li> <li><u>(d) discharging to land is promoted over discharging direct to water.</u></li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p><u>including using land-based treatment, constructed wetlands or other systems to treat contaminants prior to discharge.</u></p> <p><u>Note</u></p> <p><u>In determining if it is appropriate to discharge to land as required by clause (d), consideration must be given to the requirements of Policy P68.</u></p>
Policy P67	<p>Human drinking water supplies</p> <p>The adverse effects from discharges to land and water on the quality of community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies shall be avoided to the extent <u>necessary to implement regulations for human drinking water. The drinking water supply operator will be consulted with as appropriate, taking into consideration emerging contaminants and industry best practice.</u></p>
Policy P83	<p>Minimising adverse effects of stormwater discharges</p> <p>The adverse effects of stormwater discharges shall be minimised, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) using good management practice, and</li> <li>(b) taking a source control and treatment train approach to new activities and land uses, and</li> <li>(c) implementing water sensitive urban design in new subdivision and development, and</li> <li>(d) progressively improving existing stormwater, wastewater, road and other public infrastructure, including during routine maintenance and upgrade; and</li> <li><u>(e) managing localised adverse effects, including by addressing particular attributes appropriate to the receiving environment.</u></li> </ul>
Policy P84	<p>Managing land use impacts on stormwater</p> <p>Land use, subdivision and development, including stormwater discharges, shall be managed so that runoff volumes and peak flows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) avoid or minimise scour and erosion of stream beds, banks and coastal margins, and</li> <li>(b) do not increase risk to human health or safety, or increase the risk of inundation, erosion or damage to property or infrastructure, including by retaining, as far as practicable, pre-development hydrological conditions in new subdivision and development.</li> </ul>
Policy P86	<p>Second-stage local authority and state highway network consents</p> <p>When an application for resource consent is made with a stormwater management strategy, the adverse effects of discharges from a local authority and state highway stormwater networks shall be minimised by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) identifying in the stormwater management strategy priorities for progressive improvement, and timeframes to achieve this improvement, in accordance with any relevant objectives identified in the Plan, and</li> <li>(b) where appropriate, developing catchment-specific stormwater management plans or other methods to identify and prioritise actions in accordance with any relevant objectives identified in the Plan, and</li> <li>(c) progressively implementing the stormwater management strategy and any actions identified under (b), and</li> <li>(d) for new stormwater networks, managing the adverse quality and quantity effects of post-development stormwater discharges in</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>accordance with good management practice and Policies P73 and P79, and</p> <p>(e) progressively reducing the impact of untreated wastewater on fresh and coastal water in accordance with Policies P76 and P77, and</p> <p>(f) progressively improving existing stormwater, wastewater, road and other public infrastructure, including through routine maintenance and upgrade.</p>
Policy P100	<p>Discharges of hazardous substances</p> <p>The adverse effects of the discharge of hazardous substances (excluding a discharge subject to Policy P89) to land, fresh water, including groundwater, coastal water or air shall be avoided, <u>or mitigated or remedied where avoidance is not practicable.</u></p>
Policy P107	<p><u>Land use activities, erosion and associated discharges</u></p> <p>Earthworks, vegetation clearance and plantation forestry harvesting activities that have the potential to result in significant accelerated soil erosion, or to lead to off-site discharges of silt and sediment to surface water bodies, shall use measures, including good management practice, to:</p> <p>(a) minimise the risk of accelerated soil erosion, and</p> <p>(b) control silt and sediment runoff, and</p> <p>(c) ensure the site is stabilised and vegetation cover is restored.</p>
Policy P109	<p>Management of riparian margins</p> <p>Maintain or restore water quality, aquatic ecosystem health, mahinga kai and natural character, and reduce the amount of contaminants entering surface water bodies, through the management of riparian margins including:</p> <p>(a) the exclusion or restricted access of livestock likely to affect riparian margins or water quality,</p> <p>(b) appropriate set-back distances from surface water bodies for some land use activities including earthworks, vegetation clearance, cultivation and break-feeding,</p> <p>(c) encouraging the planting of appropriate riparian vegetation, and</p> <p>(d) the control of pest plants and animals.</p>
Policy P110	<p>Loss of extent and values of the beds of lakes and rivers, and natural wetlands</p> <p>The loss of extent and values of the beds of lakes and rivers and natural wetlands, including as a result of reclamation and drainage, is avoided, except where:</p> <p>(a) in a natural inland wetland:</p> <p>(i) the loss of extent or values arises from any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the customary harvest of food or resources undertaken in accordance with tikanga Māori, or</li> <li>2. restoration activities, or</li> <li>3. scientific research, or</li> <li>4. the sustainable harvest of sphagnum moss, or</li> </ol>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>5. the construction or maintenance of wetland utility structures, or</p> <p>6. the maintenance or operation of specified infrastructure, or other infrastructure, or</p> <p>7. natural hazard works, and</p> <p>8. where the activity involves reclamation or drainage there are no other practicable alternative methods of providing for the activity,</p> <p>or</p> <p>(ii) for specified infrastructure:</p> <p>1. the activity, including any reclamation and drainage, is necessary for the construction or upgrade of specified infrastructure, and</p> <p>2. the specified infrastructure will provide significant national or regional benefits, and</p> <p>3. there is a functional need for the specified infrastructure in that location,</p> <p>(b) in a river:</p> <p>(i) there is a functional need for the activity in that location; and</p> <p>(ii) any reclamation or drainage is:</p> <p>1. partial reclamation of a river bank for the purposes of flood protection or erosion control, or</p> <p>2. for the purposes of the development, operation, maintenance and upgrade of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, or</p> <p>3. associated with the creation of a new river bed and does not involve piping of the river, or</p> <p>4. for the purpose of forming a reasonable crossing point, or</p> <p>5. associated with the extraction of significant mineral resources from existing quarries, or</p> <p>6. partial reclamation of a river bank for the purposes of local roads, and</p> <p>7. in respect of (1) to (6) there are no other practicable alternative methods of providing for the activity, or</p> <p>(c) in a lake the reclamation or drainage is:</p> <p>(i) necessary to enable the development, operation, maintenance and upgrade of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, or</p> <p>(ii) for the purpose of forming a reasonable cross point, and</p> <p>(iii) in respect of (ii) there are no other practicable alternative methods of providing for the activity.</p> <p><i>Note</i></p> <p>The effects of any activity that requires a resource consent under this policy will be managed through applying the effects management hierarchy as set out in Policies P31, P37, P38, or P48.</p>
Policy P115	<p>Integrating <u>management of groundwater and surface water</u></p> <p>The connectivity of groundwater and surface water shall be managed as described in <u>Table 4.1</u> (groundwater connectivity) and groundwater shall be allocated from one of two sources:</p> <p>(a) <u>Category A groundwater and Category B (stream depletion)</u> within the core allocation for surface water, or</p> <p>(b) <u>Category B groundwater (excluding Category B (stream depletion)) and Category C groundwater</u> within the core allocation for groundwater.</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy P117	<p>National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management requirements for water takes, damming and diversion</p> <p>When considering any application the consent authority shall have regard to the following matters:</p> <p>(a) the extent to which the change would adversely affect safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of fresh water and of any associated ecosystem, and</p> <p>(b) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water and of any associated ecosystem resulting from the change would be avoided.</p> <p>This policy applies to:</p> <p>(c) any new activity, and</p> <p>(d) any change in the character, intensity or scale of any established activity that involves any taking, using, damming or diverting of fresh water or draining of any wetland which is likely to result in any more than minor adverse change in the natural variability of flows or level of any fresh water, compared to that which immediately preceded the commencement of the new activity or the change in the established activity (or in the case of a change in an intermittent or seasonal activity, compared to that on the last occasion on which the activity was carried-out).</p> <p>This policy does not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011 took effect on 1 July 2011.</p>
Policy P118	<p>Water takes at minimum flows and minimum water levels</p> <p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or minimum water levels in the whitua chapters (chapters 7-11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows or minimum water levels:</p> <p>(a) for firefighting, an individual's reasonable domestic needs and the reasonable needs of a person's animals for drinking water as provided for by section 14(3)(b) and 14(3)(e) of the RMA, or</p> <p>(b) for the take and use of water permitted by rules in the Plan, or</p> <p>(c) as authorised by any existing resource consent, or</p> <p>(ii) the water used by industry from a community drinking water supply for a period of seven years from the date 31 July 2015, and</p> <p>(v) Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows or minimum water levels, and (vi) Category B groundwater and Category C groundwater in accordance with Table 4.1.</p> <p>(d) where an application is for the replacement of an existing resource consent to take surface water for the same (or less) volume for the following purposes: (i) the health needs of people as part of group drinking water supply or community drinking water supply, or</p> <p>(ii) water races for the purpose of supplying water for the health needs of people and animal drinking water, or</p> <p>(ii) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize where an application is for the replacement of an existing resource consent), for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow or minimum water level cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</li> <li>• the amount of water needed shall be determined following consideration of the extent and type of crop(s) and the risk of crop death in drought situations, and</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<p>(e) for the replacement of an existing resource consent for the same or less volume of Category A groundwater where the replacement consent includes conditions that require that the take is reduced to 50% of the consented volume when flows are at or below minimum flow or minimum levels except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (i) a greater reduction will be required where the existing resource consent required a greater level of restriction than 50%, and</li> </ul> <p>(ii) unless another date is specified in the applicable whitua chapter of this Plan, from 1 July 2029, for a directly connected Category A groundwater<sup>3</sup> take within the Ruamāhanga Whitua:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a full cease take restriction will apply, except for takes specified in clause (d) above.</li> <li>• takes specified in clause (d) above will be assessed as if they were surface water takes, provided the take is reduced by at least 50% and that the level of restriction is no less than the level of restriction specified in the existing resource consent.</li> </ul> <p>(f) for the replacement of an existing resource consent for the same or less volume of Category B groundwater, where there is a stream depletion effect identified in Table 4.1 as potentially being subject to restrictions, in which case, a consent:</p> <p>(i) may include conditions that require the take to be reduced commensurate with the level of surface water connectivity (as identified in Table 4.1), such that the higher the level of stream depletion effect the greater the level or reduction required at and below minimum flow or minimum water levels, and (ii) may be limited to a term not extending beyond 2030 with particular regard to the Whitua Implementation Programme</p> <p>(g) for any consent for Category B groundwater or Category C groundwater not subject to (f) above.</p> <p>Note: For the avoidance of doubt, the exceptions provided in this policy to the minimum flow or minimum water levels do not apply to new resource consent applications to take and use surface water, Category A groundwater or Category B groundwater where there is a stream depletion effect identified in Table 4.1.</p>
Policy P119	Take and use of water as minimum flows and minimum water levels are approached When flows or water levels approach minimum flow or minimum water levels the take and use of water shall be reduced, including as identified in Schedule Q.
Policy P121	Core allocation for rivers The maximum allocation amounts for rivers (and their tributaries) and Category A groundwater and Category B groundwater (stream depletion) not listed in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is: (a) for rivers with mean flows of greater than 5m <sup>3</sup> /sec, 50% of the mean annual low flow, or (b) for rivers with mean flows of less than or equal to 5m <sup>3</sup> /sec, 30% of the mean annual low flow.
Policy P122	Priorities for allocating water The take and use of water for the health needs of people by community drinking water supply or a group drinking water supply shall be a priority over other uses.
Policy P124	Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow In addition to core allocation, supplementary allocation is available above median flow in the following amounts: (a) for rivers (and their tributaries) listed in Table 1 of Schedule U, up to 50% of the portion of flow in the river above the median flow at the point of abstraction, or

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	(b) for rivers (and their tributaries) listed in Table 2 of Schedule U, up to 10% of the total amount of flow in the river at the point of abstraction, or (c) for rivers and their tributaries not listed in either Table 1 or 2 of Schedule U up to 10% of the total amount of flow in the river at the point of abstraction provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O19.
Policy P125	Reasonable and efficient use The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule P (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made operative to meet the measures, and (b) maximising the efficient use of water when designing systems to convey or apply water, and (c) industry guidelines, and (d) water use records.
Policy P129	Flow variability The take and use of water shall provide for variable river flows, including flushing flows, to maintain aquatic ecosystem health and sediment transport
Policy P133	Site dewatering Localised land subsidence <u>resulting from dewatering that affects structures shall be avoided and any more than minor adverse effects of dewatering on the following shall be avoided, remedied or mitigated:</u> (a) the ecosystem functioning of connected water bodies, and (b) the reliability of supply for existing surface and ground water users, and (c) the quality of surface or groundwater, and (d) the contamination of land and water.
Policy P136	Minimum flows and <u>minimum</u> water levels The damming or diversion of water from a surface water body shall not reduce flows or water levels below minimum flows or <u>minimum</u> water levels identified in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7-11).

## 4 District plans

### 4.1 Kāpiti Coast District Plan

The Kāpiti Coast District Plan was made operative in June 2021.

#### 4.1.1 Planning Maps, Zoning and Notations

Map reference	Notation	Specifics	Comment
Planning Map 03 – Zones and Precincts	Rural Production Zone PREC49 – Precinct 49 – Rural Plains Precinct Main Roads	Small part of Ō2NL route just north of Otaki where it leaves current SH1 east of Taylors Rd	All of route Rural Production Zone and PREC49
Planning Map 22 – Zones and Precincts	Rural Production Zone PREC24 – Precinct 24 – Rural Hills Precinct PREC49 – Precinct 49 – Rural Plains Precinct Main Roads	Covers the remainder of Ō2NL route from where it leaves current SH1 east of Taylors Rd to the HDC boundary	All of route Rural Production Zone; southern part of route in PREC49 and northern part in PREC24.
Planning Map 03 – Historical, Cultural, Infrastructure, Districtwide	Strategic Arterial Route (SH1) Noise corridor (either side of SH1)	Small part of Ō2NL route just north of Otaki where it leaves current SH1 east of Taylors Rd	No other notations.
Planning Map 22 – Historical, Cultural, Infrastructure, Districtwide	Strategic Arterial Route (SH1) Noise corridor (either side of SH1)	Covers the remainder of Ō2NL route from where it leaves current SH1 east of Taylors Rd to the HDC boundary	Noise corridor on existing SH1 ceases near South Manakau Rd. No other notations.
Planning Map 03 – Designations & Miscellaneous	Main Roads (SH1) Designation (SH1) – NZTA-001	Small part of Ō2NL route just north of Otaki where it leaves current SH1 east of Taylors Rd	No other notations.
Planning Map 22 – Designations & Miscellaneous	Main Roads (SH1) Designation (SH1) – NZTA-001	Covers the remainder of Ō2NL route from where it leaves current SH1 east of Taylors Rd to the HDC boundary	Designation of existing SH1 ceases near South Manakau Rd. No other notations.
Planning Map 03 – Natural Features	Main Roads (SH1)		No natural features identified.
Planning Map 22 – Natural Features	Main Roads (SH1) Special Amenity Landscape Ecological Sites x2	Special Amenity Area is included in Schedule 5 – Special Amenity Landscapes as SAL 15 – Pukehou described as a prominent outlier of the Tararuas on the northern edge of the District – located east/south of the Ō2NL route. Two small areas shown as 'ecological sites'.	There are no rules in the district plan relating to Special Amenity Areas. Two small areas shown as 'ecological sites' but however these are not identified in Schedule 1 – Ecological Sites.
Planning Map 03 – Natural Hazards	Main Roads (SH1)		No natural hazards identified.
Planning Map 22 – Natural Hazards	Main Roads (SH1)		No natural hazards identified.
Schedule 1 – Ecological Sites			No ecological sites identified as discussed above.
Schedule 5 - Special Amenity Landscapes	SAL 15 - Pukehou		As discussed above.

#### 4.1.2 Objectives and Policies

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
Objective DO-01 (formerly 2.1)	Tāngata Whenua	To work in partnership with the tāngata whenua of the District in order to maintain kaitiakitanga of the District's resources and ensure that decisions affecting the natural environment in the District are made in accordance with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi).
Objective DO-02 (formerly 2.2)	Ecology and Biodiversity	To improve indigenous biological diversity and ecological resilience through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) protecting areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna;</li> <li>b) encouraging restoration of the ecological integrity of indigenous ecosystems;</li> <li>c) enhancing the health of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems; and</li> <li>d) enhancing the mauri of waterbodies.</li> </ul>
Objective DO-05 (formerly 2.5)	Natural Hazards	To ensure the safety and resilience of people and communities by avoiding exposure to increased levels of risk from natural hazards, while recognising the importance of natural processes and systems.
Objective DO-06 (formerly 2.6)	Rural Productivity	To sustain the productive potential of land in the District, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) retaining land which is suitable for a range of primary production activities;</li> <li>b) achieving added economic and social value derived from primary production activities through ancillary on-site processing and marketing;</li> <li>c) enabling activities that utilise the productive potential of the land in the rural environment;</li> <li>d) reducing conflict between land uses in the rural environment and adjoining areas; and</li> <li>e) avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the efficient operation of existing primary production activities from sensitive activities establishing on adjoining sites;</li> </ul> <p>while safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems by avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the environment.</p>
Objective DO-07 (formerly 2.7)	Historic Heritage	To protect historic heritage in the District for the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the Kāpiti Coast community and future generations, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. supporting the contribution of historic heritage features and their values to the identity, character and amenity of places and landscapes;</li> <li>2. recognising and protecting tāngata whenua historic heritage, including waahi tapu and other places and areas significant to Māori; and</li> <li>3. providing for appropriate use and development of natural and physical resources with historic heritage values, while ensuring any adverse environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</li> </ol>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
Objective DO-09 (formerly 2.9)	Landscapes, Features and Landforms	To protect the District's identified outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development; and <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. maintain or enhance the landscape values of special amenity landscapes and identified significant landforms; and</li> <li>2. avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of earthworks on natural features and landforms.</li> </ol>
Objective DO-011 (formerly 2.11)	Character and Amenity Values	To maintain and enhance the unique character and amenity values of the District's distinct communities so that residents and visitors enjoy: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. relaxed, unique and distinct village identities and predominantly low-density residential areas characterised by the presence of mature vegetation, a variety of built forms, the retention of landforms and unique community identities;</li> <li>2. vibrant, lively town centres supported by higher density residential and mixed use areas;</li> <li>3. neighbourhood centres, village communities and employment areas characterised by high levels of amenity, accessibility and convenience;</li> <li>4. productive rural areas, characterised by openness, natural landforms, areas and corridors of indigenous vegetation, and primary production activities; and</li> <li>5. well managed interfaces between different types of land use areas (e.g. between living, working and rural areas and between potentially conflicting land uses, so as to minimise adverse effects.</li> </ol>
Objective DO-013 (formerly 2.13)	Infrastructure	To recognise the importance and national, regional and local benefits of infrastructure and ensure the efficient development, maintenance and operation of an adequate level of social and physical infrastructure and services throughout the District that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) meets the needs of the community and the region; and</li> <li>2) builds stronger community resilience, while avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the environment.</li> </ol>
Objective Do-014 (formerly 2.14)	Access and Transport	To ensure that the transport system in the District: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) integrates with land use and urban form and maximises accessibility;</li> <li>2) improves the efficiency of travel and maximises mode choice to enable people to act sustainably as well as improving the resilience and health of communities;</li> <li>3) contributes to a strong economy;</li> <li>4) avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on land uses;</li> <li>5) does not have its function and operation unreasonably compromised by other activities;</li> <li>6) is safe, fit for purpose, cost effective and provides good connectivity for all communities; and</li> <li>7) provides for the integrated movement of people, goods and services.</li> </ol>
DO-015	Economic Vitality	To promote sustainable and on-going economic development of the local economy, including the rural sector, with improved number and quality of jobs and investment through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. encouraging business activities in appropriate locations within the District, principally through differentiating and managing various types of business activities both on the basis of the activity, and the potential local and strategic effects of their operation;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. reinforcing a compact, well designed and sustainable regional form supported by an integrated transport network;</li> <li>c. enabling opportunities to make the economy more resilient and diverse;</li> <li>d. providing opportunities for the growth of a low carbon economy, including clean technology;</li> <li>e. minimising reverse sensitivity effects on business activities, including primary production activities; and</li> <li>f. enhancing the amenity of Working Zones;</li> </ul> <p>while:</p> <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ensuring that economic growth and development is able to be efficiently serviced by infrastructure;</li> <li>b. encouraging commercial consolidation and the co-location of community services and facilities primarily within the Paraparaumu Sub-Regional Centre and Town Centres; and</li> <li>c. managing contamination, pollution, odour, noise and glare, associated with business activities, including primary production activities.</li> </ul>
Objective DO-017 (formerly 2.17)	Open Spaces/Active Communities	<p>To have a rich and diverse network of open space areas that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) is developed, used and maintained in a manner that does not give rise to significant adverse effects on the natural and physical environment;</li> <li>2) protects the District's cultural, ecological and amenity values, while allowing for the enhancement of the quality of open space areas;</li> <li>3) supports the identity, health, cohesion and resilience of the District's communities; and</li> <li>4) ensures that the present and future recreational and open space needs of the District are met.</li> </ul>
Policy NE-P1 (formerly 3.1)	Protection	<p>Protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna (including ecological sites identified in Schedule 3.1, key indigenous tree species in Schedule 3.2, key indigenous trees in Schedule 3.2A, and rare and threatened vegetation species in Schedule 3.3 of this Plan). Protect outstanding natural features and landscapes (identified in Schedule 3.4 of this Plan), geological features (identified in Schedule 3.6 of this Plan), and the values associated with these areas and features, from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p>
Policy NE-P3 (formerly 3.3)	Biodiversity Off-Setting	<p>Consider biodiversity offsets proposed as part of resource consent applications where it is anticipated that there will be significant residual adverse biodiversity effects from the proposed activities on significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna after appropriate avoidance, minimisation, remediation and mitigation measures have occurred, in order to achieve no net loss and preferably a net gain in indigenous biodiversity values, having particular regard to the principles for biodiversity offsets in Schedule 3.7 of this Plan.</p>
Policy ECO-P2 (formerly 3.8)	Management Approach to Biodiversity Protection	<p>Adverse effects, including cumulative effects, from subdivision, use and development on significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna including aquatic ecosystems will be avoided, or where it cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated in order to maintain the values and characteristics of the significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna, including by:</p>



REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		<p>a) avoiding where practicable the modification of significant indigenous vegetation, in particular all indigenous vegetation within ecological sites;</p> <p>b) managing land use activities resulting in increased sediment and contaminant levels of surface water, including storm water, to reduce the likelihood of aquatic ecosystems being detrimentally affected;</p> <p>c) creating and maintaining appropriate buffers around ecological sites, key indigenous trees and rare and threatened vegetation species, significant habitats of indigenous fauna including aquatic ecosystems to ensure that wider ecological processes are considered when making decisions about applications for subdivision and land use consent;</p> <p>d) preventing where practicable the introduction or spread of exotic weed species and pest animals both terrestrial and aquatic;</p> <p>e) enabling pest and weed management and passive recreational activities within ecological sites including the associated construction and maintenance of tracks (where the biodiversity gains from pest control will outweigh the loss of significant indigenous vegetation from track construction) and the construction and maintenance of fences at the margins of ecological sites;</p> <p>f) providing for appropriate trimming of indigenous vegetation while avoiding inappropriate trimming of significant indigenous vegetation.</p> <p>g) ensuring that subdivision which creates lots which are entirely within an ecological site or which necessitate modification of any key indigenous tree species or rare and threatened vegetation species protects the values and characteristics of those areas.</p> <p>h) ensuring that subdivision which creates boundaries that cut through any ecological site, or any key indigenous tree species or rare and threatened vegetation species, protects the values and characteristics of those areas.</p>
Policy ECO-P3 (formerly 3.8A)	Maintenance of indigenous biodiversity	Subdivision, land use and development shall be undertaken in a manner to maintain indigenous biodiversity within large areas of contiguous indigenous vegetation and riparian and coastal vegetation.
Policy ECO-P4 (formerly 3.9)	Enhancement	Where a subdivision or development is undertaken on land containing rare and threatened vegetation species, or an ecological site, enhancement of the ecological site or rare and threatened vegetation species will be encouraged.
Policy ECO-P5 (formerly 3.10)	Tangata Whenua	To enable tangata whenua to maintain and enhance their traditional relationship with the natural environment, while: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) supporting the enhancement of the mauri of aquatic environments; and</li> <li>b) having particular regard to the exercise of kaitiakitanga by tangata whenua in the management of the District's resources.</li> </ul>
Policy NFL-P1 (formerly 3.12)	Protecting Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes	Outstanding natural features and landscapes will be protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development which has the potential to adversely affect and erode the values of features and landscapes identified in Natural Environment Schedule 3.4 of this Plan.
Policy NFL-P2 (formerly 3.13)	Special Amenity Landscapes	Subdivision, use and development in special amenity landscapes will be located, designed and of scale and character that maintains or enhances the values of the landscape areas identified in Schedule 3.5 of this Plan and taking into account existing land uses including primary production.

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
Policy EW-P1 (formerly 3.14)	Earthworks	<p>Earthworks activities excluding extractive industries, the removal and replacement of underground storage tanks, and earthworks defined and regulated by the NESPF All earthworks activities will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) be managed to protect geological features identified in Schedule 3.6 from disturbance; and</li> <li>b) be sympathetically located and of a scale that protects the values of outstanding natural features and landscapes identified in Schedule 3.4; and</li> <li>c) avoid or mitigate erosion and off-site silt and sediment runoff to the Council's reticulated stormwater system and waterbodies; and</li> <li>d) be managed to ensure adverse effects on natural landforms, residential amenity values and rural character values are remedied or mitigated.</li> </ul>
Policy RPROZ-P2 (formerly Policy 7.2)	Rural Character	<p><i>Subdivision, use and development</i> in the Rural Zones will be undertaken in a manner that maintains or enhances the District's rural character, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the general sense of openness;</li> <li>b) natural landforms;</li> <li>c) overall low density of <i>development</i>; and</li> <li>d) the predominance of <i>primary production activities</i>.</li> </ul>
Policy RPROZ-P10 (formerly 7.13)	Rural Plains Precinct	<p>Subdivision, use and development in the Rural Plains Precinct will be undertaken in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) supports the primary production activity focus of the Rural Zones while protecting the openness and expansive character values of the Rural Plains Zone;</li> <li>b) avoids loss of the life sustaining and productive potential of the land resource;</li> <li>c) allows for clustered development in appropriate areas;</li> <li>d) retains an overall low density, vegetated character and minimal level of non-rural activity;</li> <li>e) provides sites which are capable of accommodating a primary residential building which is not at risk from identified natural hazards; and</li> <li>f) provides for buildings ancillary to primary production activities.</li> </ul>
Policy RPROZ-P11 (formerly Policy 7.14)	Rural Hills Precinct	<p>Subdivision, use and development in the Rural Hills Precinct will be undertaken in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) supports the primary production activity focus of the Rural Zones</li> <li>b) retains low overall lot density, and avoids, remedies or mitigated potential adverse effects which arising from any proposed subdivision of land; and</li> <li>c) provides sites which are capable of accommodating a primary residential building which is not subject or likely to be subject to identified natural hazards.</li> </ul>
Policy NH-P2 (formerly 9.2)	Risk Based Approach	<p>A risk based, all hazards approach will be taken to subdivision, land use, and development within areas subject to the following natural hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) flood hazards;</li> <li>b) earthquake hazards; and</li> <li>c) fire hazards.</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		Hazard categories will be developed for flood and seismic hazards to guide decision making and help minimise potential harm to people and damage to property due to these hazards, while allowing appropriate use.
Policy NH-P3 (formerly 9.3)	Managing Activities in Natural Hazard Prone Areas	In areas identified on the District Plan Maps, new subdivision, use and development will be managed in a way that avoids increasing risks from natural hazards. Subdivision, use and development will be allowed only where it can be shown that any potential increase in risk exposure on or beyond the land itself has been avoided, remedied or mitigated.
Policy NH-P4 (formerly 9.4)	Precautionary Approach	A precautionary approach will be taken to the management of risks from hazards that may impact on subdivision, use and development, where there is uncertainty about the potential effects and where the effects are potentially significantly adverse.
Policy NH-Flood-P12 (formerly 9.12)	High Flood Hazard Areas	Development in the river corridor, stream corridor, overflow path, and residual overflow path areas will be avoided unless the 1% AEP hazard can be mitigated on-site to avoid damage to property or harm to people, and the following criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) no increase in flood flow or level on adjoining properties or other parts of the floodplain;</li> <li>b) no reduction in storage capacity on-site; and</li> </ul> all flow corridors or overflow paths are kept clear to allow flood waters to flow freely at all times.
Policy HH-P4 (formerly 10.4)	Protection of Historic Heritage	Subdivision, development and land use affecting the District's historic heritage will be managed in a way that protects historic heritage values from adverse effects.
Policy SASM-P1 (formerly 10.8)	Waahi Tapu	Waahi tapu and other places and areas of significance to Māori and their surroundings will be protected from inappropriate subdivision, development, land disturbance or change in land use, which may affect the physical features and non-physical values of the place or area. The Council will work in partnership with the relevant iwi authority for the ongoing and long term management and protection of waahi tapu. Relevant iwi authorities will be consulted on all resource consent applications affecting waahi tapu and other places and areas of significance to Maori identified in the Schedule of Historic Heritage.
Policy HH-P7 (formerly 10.9)	Unidentified Historic Heritage	A precautionary approach will be taken to protecting unidentified historic heritage. Where no archaeological authority is in place and previously unidentified historic heritage is discovered, then work will be immediately stopped until the significance is assessed and adverse effects can be appropriately avoided or mitigated. The Accidental Discovery Protocol, as set out in Schedule 10.2, will be followed in all development.  The Council will maintain publicly available information to highlight areas where there is a higher risk of unidentified historic heritage being encountered.
Policy INF-GEN-P1 (formerly 11.1)	Recognition - Infrastructure Benefits	The national, regional or local importance and benefits of sustainable, secure and efficient provision of the following infrastructure will be recognised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) facilities for the generation of electricity;</li> <li>b) activities, <i>buildings, structures, lines and masts</i> associated with the operation, maintenance and upgrade of the National Grid, local electricity distribution and transmission networks, and connections between local community suppliers and the electricity distribution and transmission networks;</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		<p>c) pipelines and gas facilities used for the transmission and distribution of natural and manufactured gas or petroleum;</p> <p>d) road and rail networks as mapped in the Regional Land Transport Strategy or Regional Land Transport Plan and Council's <i>transport network hierarchy</i> in Schedule 11.2;</p> <p>e) telecommunication and radio communication facilities; and</p> <p>f) public or community infrastructure associated with water supply, sanitation and waste facilities, the stormwater network and drainage, provided these services are developed within a water conservation framework and minimise environmental impacts.</p> <p>Note: The policy gives <i>effect</i> to the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission, 2008, the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation, 2011 and the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region.</p>
<p>Policy INF-GEN-P2 (formerly 11.2)</p>	<p>Reverse Sensitivity</p>	<p>Reverse sensitivity effects on infrastructure from subdivision, land use and development will be avoided, as far as reasonably practicable, by ensuring that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Infrastructure corridors are identified and effects upon those corridors from subdivision, land use and development are considered in all resource management decision-making;</li> <li>2. change to existing activities does not increase their incompatibility with existing Infrastructure;</li> <li>3. the establishment of, or changes to, sensitive activities are avoided, and in compatible buildings and structures within the National Grid Yard and subdivision within the National Grid Subdivision Corridor are appropriately managed, to ensure that the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid is not compromised;</li> <li>4. safe separation distances are maintained near gas transmission pipelines and telecommunications facilities;</li> <li>5. any new planting does not prevent the operation of existing Infrastructure;</li> <li>6. all parties are aware of constraints under other regulations, including the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003, NZS/AS 2885 Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum, NZS5258:2993 Gas Distribution Network, and the New Zealand Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34:2001); and</li> <li>7. suitable standards are in place adjacent to the transport network (including railways).</li> </ol>
<p>Policy INF-GEN-P3 (formerly 11.3)</p>	<p>Protecting the Mauri of Natural Systems</p>	<p>Natural systems are recognised as taonga and will be protected from any adverse environmental effects arising from the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of infrastructure that affect the mauri of these systems in accordance with local tikanga.</p>
<p>Policy INF-GEN-P4 (formerly 11.4)</p>	<p>Managing Adverse Effects</p>	<p>Any adverse environmental effects arising from the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of infrastructure will be avoided, remedied or mitigated as far as reasonably practicable by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) ensuring significant adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated through route, site and method selection;</li> <li>b) minimising the effects of infrastructure on the amenity values of the surrounding area and areas of outstanding or high natural character, in</li> </ol>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		<p>particular visual effects with respect to scale, and the sensitivity of the environment in which they are located;</p> <p>c) considering all water bodies to be valued assets and protecting the mauri of fresh and coastal water resources;</p> <p>d) where appropriate, ensuring opportunities to enhance indigenous biodiversity as part of infrastructure design are identified and implemented;</p> <p>e) requiring adaptive management measures (including monitoring and remediation) where uncertainty may exist around impacts over time;</p> <p>f) considering the use of offsetting measures or environmental compensation (including measures or compensation which benefit the local environment and community affected) where a 'residual effect' cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated; and</p> <p>g) ensuring the above considerations are provided to accomplish best practice at the time of application and construction.</p>
<p>Policy INF-GEN-P9 (formerly 11.9)</p>	<p>Proximity to Planning Features (excluding the National Grid)</p>	<p>New network infrastructure will be managed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoid inappropriate new works in areas of hazard risk as identified on District Plan maps:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. well defined fault avoidance area;</li> <li>ii. well defined extension fault avoidance area; and</li> <li>iii. river corridor, stream corridor and overflow path;</li> </ol> </li> <li>b. avoid inappropriate aboveground new works on outstanding natural features and landscapes and areas of outstanding or high natural character as identified on District Plan maps; and</li> <li>c. avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the following features and areas identified on District Plan Maps:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Open Space (Conservation and Scenic) Zone;</li> <li>ii. special amenity landscapes;</li> <li>iii. ecological sites;</li> <li>iv. geological features; and</li> <li>v. historic heritage features.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p>Policy INF-PNU-P16 (formerly 11.15)</p>	<p>Assessment Criteria</p>	<p>The following assessment criteria shall be applied, where applicable, when considering resource consent applications and notices of requirement for the development, construction and upgrading of network utility activities:</p> <p><b>General</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the extent to which the proposed network utility benefits the local community, the wider region and nation;</li> <li>2. the degree, extent and effects of the non-compliance with the permitted activity standards;</li> <li>3. the risks to public health and safety;</li> <li>4. any adverse effects on traffic and pedestrian safety including sight lines and visibility of traffic signage;</li> <li>5. whether the size and scale of the proposal is generally compatible with other development in the area;</li> <li>6. the design and external appearance, including:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the maximum height (above original ground level) and diameter of any mast;</li> <li>b. the maximum height (above original ground level), area or diameter of any antenna;</li> <li>c. the use of external colour and material to minimise the visual contrast with the surrounding environment:</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. whether potential adverse visual effects can be mitigated by sensitive siting and design or appropriate planting and/or screening;</li> <li>e. proposed mitigation measures incorporated into the location, design, construction and operation of the network utility project, and the identification of any residual adverse effects on the environment; and</li> <li>f. whether alternative locations, routes or methods are physically or technically practicable to safeguard the environment;</li> </ul>
		7 the extent to which the design mitigates the risk of damage from natural hazards to ensure security of supply and maintain levels of service;
		8 any potential interference with public use and enjoyment of the land;
		9 amenity effects, including noise, vibration, odour, dust, earthworks and lighting;
		10 visual effects, including impacts on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. landscape values,</li> <li>b. the residential and recreational use of land in the vicinity of the proposed utility;</li> <li>c. the existing character, landscape, streetscape and amenity values of the locality;</li> <li>d. the extent to which the proposal will be visible from key public places, public viewing points, the coast, significant recreational areas, and Kāpiti Island;</li> </ul>
		11 in respect of historic heritage identified in Schedules 7, 8 and 9, whether the significance of the feature is affected by the construction or placement of the network utility structure, mast or antenna;
		12 where proposed within an outstanding natural features and landscapes, ecological site or within the Natural Open Space Zone, with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the visibility of the subject site and the network utility structure(s) in relation to neighbouring views and whether the structure(s) will be seen against a landscape backdrop or the sky;</li> <li>b. the potential to colocate the structure with any similar existing structures or other buildings; and</li> <li>c. the potential for the subject site to be screened where appropriate;</li> </ul>
		13 whether the network utility structure damages habitats or ecosystems or causes a loss of vegetation, and the rehabilitation of the subject site following any construction or future maintenance period;
		14 the nature and extent of the activity and the degree to which it may disturb natural landforms or vegetation, create soil instability or lead to adverse ecological effects on natural habitats;
		15 the extent to which affected parties have been consulted; and
		16 cumulative effects.

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
<p>Policy INF-MENU-P18 (formerly 11.17)</p>	<p>Stormwater Quantity and Quality</p>	<p>The adverse effects of stormwater runoff from subdivision and development, in particular cumulative effects, will be minimised. The following assessment criteria will be applied when considering resource consent applications for subdivision and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) whether there is capacity in Council's existing infrastructure;</li> <li>b) the extent to which the capacity and environmental values of watercourses or drains and the associated catchment areas will be compromised;</li> <li>c) the extent to which development styles and stormwater management methods mimic natural, pre-development runoff patterns;</li> <li>d) the extent to which riparian vegetation is protected and enhanced;</li> <li>e) whether minimal vegetation loss in riparian areas associated with development is achieved;</li> <li>f) the extent to which water quality is ensured to enhance and maintain aquatic ecosystem health;</li> <li>g) the extent to which a healthy aquatic system is maintained, including maintenance of sufficient flows and avoidance of unnatural fluctuations in flows;</li> <li>h) the extent to which degraded, piped or channelled streams are restored and realigned into a more natural pattern;</li> <li>i) where practicable, the extent to which low impact design, including onsite disposal of stormwater, soft engineering or bioengineering solutions and swales within the legal road are used;</li> <li>j) the extent to which straightening and piping of streams is avoided; and</li> <li>k) the extent to which the adverse effects of stormwater runoff, in particular cumulative effects, from subdivision and development will be minimised.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy TR-P4 (formerly 11.33)</p>	<p>Effects of Transport on Landuse/ Development</p>	<p>The potential adverse effects of development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of the transport network on land use and development will be avoided, remedied or mitigated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) ensuring that new habitable buildings and future noise sensitive activities within close proximity to roads identified as a transportation noise effect route and the rail corridor as identified on the District Plan Maps are protected from the adverse effects of road traffic and rail noise;</li> <li>b) avoiding the significant adverse effects of earthworks associated with the transport network;</li> <li>c) ensuring that development of the transport network will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. minimise degradation of amenity values;</li> <li>ii. avoid unacceptable levels of noise and vibration, including from strategic arterial routes;</li> <li>iii. minimise disruption or destruction of plant and wildlife habitats;</li> <li>iv. seek to avoid adverse effects on historic heritage, and where avoidance is not practicable, any adverse effects are remedied or mitigated;</li> <li>v. minimise community severance and other social effects;</li> <li>vi. minimise loss of productive land and loss of private property;</li> <li>vii. minimise pollution of water resources (e.g., stormwater quality and quantity, increased siltation of water bodies due to road construction, disruption of water bodies through the use of culverts and piping which can affect fish migration);</li> <li>viii. avoid unacceptable levels of emissions to air; and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

REFERENCE	TOPIC	PROVISION
		ix. minimise adverse effects on pedestrian and cyclist safety and amenity including availability and safety of walkways, footpaths, cycle lanes, tracks, level and impacts of weather protection (including shade).
Policy P3 - Noise	Transport Network Development	The design and development of new transport networks or any changes to the transport network will ensure that the adverse effects of transport on the inhabitants of existing residential buildings and noise sensitive activities are minimised or mitigated.

## 4.2 Horowhenua District Plan

The Horowhenua District Plan (“HDP”) was made operative in June 2015. The operative HDP includes operative Plan Variations 1 – 3 and Plan Changes 1 and 2.

Horowhenua District Council decisions on Plan Change 4 (Tara-Ika) were publicly notified on 04 July 2022 and appeals closed on 15 August 2022. Appeals on a range of matters have been lodged. Therefore, the provisions cannot yet be given full weight in the statutory assessment of the Project. The relevant objectives and policies from PC4 are set out in section 4.2.2 below.

### 4.2.1 Planning Maps, Zoning and Notations

Map reference	Notation	Specifics	Comment
Planning Map 7	<p>Northern Section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural Zone</li> <li>Versatile Land (LUC Class I &amp; II soil)</li> <li>Designation D1 (NIMT); D2 (SH1)</li> </ul> <p>Southern Section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural</li> <li>Versatile Land (LUC Class I &amp; II soil)</li> <li>Greenbelt Residential Deferred</li> <li>Flood Hazard area</li> <li>Designation D4 (SH57)</li> <li>Road – Queen Street East; Tararua Rd; Kimberley Rd; Arapaepae Rd; McLeavey Rd; Muhunua East Rd; Kuku East Rd</li> </ul>	<p>Northern Section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Short section of Ō2NL route from SH1, over NIMT railway to just west/south of Sorenson Rd</li> </ul> <p>Southern Section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From just north of Queens St, through Tara-Ika development area, across Ohau River to south of Kuku East Rd</li> </ul>	<p>Northern Section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very small part of route also covered by Planning Map 25.</li> <li>All of route versatile land.</li> </ul> <p>Southern Section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small parts covered by Planning Maps 30, 32 and 35</li> <li>All of route rural zone except through Tara-Ika</li> <li>Versatile land near Kimberley Rd; where traverses Arapaepae Rd; Muhunua East Rd to Ohau River</li> <li>Flood hazard area associated with Ohau River – Material Supply Site within this area</li> </ul>
Planning Map 8	<p>Rural Zone</p> <p>Versatile Land (LUC Class I &amp; II soil)</p> <p>Flood Hazard Area</p> <p>Greenbelt Residential Deferred</p> <p>Designation D4 (SH57)</p>	<p>Section of Ō2NL route from just west/south of Sorenson Rd, east to SH57, south to mid-way along Tara-Ika</p> <p>Greenbelt Residential Deferred</p>	<p>Very small part of route also covered by Planning Map 25, 28 and 30.</p> <p>All of route versatile land.</p> <p>Very small area near McDonald Rd flood hazard area.</p>



Map reference	Notation	Specifics	Comment
	Road – Arapaepae Rd; McDonald Rd; Waihou Rd; Queen Street East		
Planning Map 10	Rural Zone Versatile Land (LUC Class I & II soil) Flood Hazard area Notable Tress NT17; NT19 – 101 Manakau North Rd (very close to route) Designation D2 (SH1) Road – North Manakau Rd; Manakau Heights Dr; South Manakau Rd	Section of Ō2NL route from south of Kuku East Rd to HDC boundary south of Manakau	All of route rural zone, with northern part of route through Versatile Land. Flood hazard area associated with area south of South Manakau Rd (Waiuiti Stream). Small part of area east of Manakau in Planning Map 37.
Planning Map 25	Rural Zone Versatile Land (LUC Class I & II soil) Designation D1 (NIMT); D2 (SH1)	Small part of Ō2NL route in Planning Map 25 just west/south of Sorenson Rd.	As per above comments regarding Planning Maps 7 & 8.
Planning Map 28	Rural Zone Versatile Land (LUC Class I & II soil) Designation D2 (SH1); D4 (SH57)	Small part of Ō2NL route in Planning Map 28 just north of Queen Street East	As per above comments regarding Planning Map 8.
Planning Map 29	Industrial Zone Rural Zone Designation D1 (NIMT); D2 (SH1) Road - SH1; Tararua Rd	Tararua Rd & SH1 intersection – Rural Zone south of Tararua Rd/east of SH1; Industrial Zone north of Tararua Rd; west of SH1	
Planning Map 30	Greenbelt Residential Deferred Designation D4 (SH57) Road – Queen Street East; Tararua Rd	Ō2NL route goes through the Tara-Ika development area	All of route in Greenbelt Residential Deferred Zone (subject to Plan Change 4)
Planning Map 31	Rural Zone Versatile Land (LUC Class I & II soil) (northern part)	Very small part of Ō2NL route just north of Queen Street East and west of Wakefield Rd	Very small part of Ō2NL route <u>could</u> be in Planning Map 28 just north of Queen Street East if the Q5 option is chosen
Planning Map 32	Rural Greenbelt Residential Deferred Designation D4 (SH57) Road – Tararua Rd	Small part of Ō2NL route from just north of Tararua Rd (Tara-Ika development area, south towards Arapaepae Rd	Area north of Tararua Rd Greenbelt Residential Deferred; route south of Tararua Rd Rural Zone
Planning Map 37	Rural Versatile Land (LUC Class I & II soil) (northern part) Designation D2 (SH1) Road – Manakau North Rd; Manakau Heights Drive	Small part of Ō2NL route from just north of Manakau North Rd to just south of South Manakau Rd	All of the route is Rural Zone; northern part over Versatile Land

Map reference	Notation	Specifics	Comment
Planning Map 39	Landscape Domains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Levin Koputaroa Domain</li> <li>Levin Ohau Domain</li> <li>Kuku Domain</li> <li>Manakau Downlands Domain</li> <li>Hill Country Domain</li> </ul>	Levin Koputaroa Domain - Ō2NL route from SH1 (in north) to Tararua Rd. Levin Ohau Domain - Ō2NL route from Tararua Rd south to Ohau River. Kuku Domain - Ō2NL route from Ohau River south to North Manakau. Manakau Downlands Domain - Ō2NL route from North Manakau to south of South Manakau Rd Hill Country Domain - Ō2NL route from south of South Manakau Rd to KCDC boundary	Landscape domains are primarily relevant when assessing subdivision applications and selected landuse consents. Nevertheless, these relevant domains are considered in Technical Assessment D - Landscape, Visual and Natural Character.
Planning Map 41	Outstanding Natural Features & Landscape	Nil	There are no ONFLs on Planning Map 41 affected by the O2NL route
Schedule 12 Group 1 – Priority Water Bodies	Planning Maps 7 and 8 – Ohau River from the sea to Tararua Forest Park	Values - Natural/ Ecological, Natural Hazards, Recreational/Access, Cultural	
Group 2 – Priority Water Bodies	Planning Maps 17 – 21 – Waikawa Stream from sea to 2km upstream	Values - Natural/ Ecological, Recreational/Access	

#### 4.2.2 Objectives and Policies

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Objective 1.1.1	To provide Tāngata Whenua with opportunities to actively participate in resource management processes (including decision making) on matters that have the potential to affect their cultural values and well-being.
Objective 1.2.1	To recognise and provide for the relationship of the Tāngata Whenua of Horowhenua, and their culture and traditions (including mauri), with their ancestral lands, coastal areas, waterways, heritage landscapes and cultural sites, wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other taonga
Policy 1.2.3	Ensure that where relevant, the interests of Tāngata Whenua are taken into account when considering the sustainable use and development of the land, waterways, coastal areas, resources and other taonga.
Policy 1.2.4	Recognise and protect the cultural and spiritual values and characteristics of the coastal environment and waterways of special value to Tāngata Whenua.
Policy 1.2.5	Recognise the desire of Tāngata Whenua to maintain and enhance their traditional relationship with the natural environment.
Objective 1.3.1	To protect areas and sites of cultural significance, wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other taonga from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use, and development of resources.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 1.3.3	Avoid or appropriately mitigate any adverse effects of activities that could destroy or damage the cultural values associated with an area or site of cultural significance identified in the District Plan.
Policy 1.3.5	Recognise and take into account any adverse effects which would degrade the cultural values of areas and sites of cultural significance, wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other taonga when assessing proposals for the subdivision, use and development of resources.
Objective 2.1.1	Effects of Subdivision and Subsequent Use and Development: To ensure that subdivision and land development maintains and enhances the character and amenity values of the rural environment, and that the subsequent development resulting from subdivision such as on-site servicing and other infrastructure provision does not adversely affect the environment including the efficient and effective operation of existing transportation and infrastructure networks.
Policy 2.1.9	Avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of subdivision, use and development of land on areas or features of landscape, biodiversity, historic heritage or cultural value.
Policy 2.1.11	Provide for the protection and restoration of natural habitats or wetland areas on sites to be subdivided through formal protection, rehabilitation and planting of appropriate species.
Policy 2.1.20	Ensure that new activities locating in the rural area are of a nature, scale, intensity and location consistent with maintaining the character of the rural area and to be undertaken in a manner which avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on rural character, including rural productive values and potential reverse sensitivity effects.
Objective 2.2.1	Fragmentation and Soil Resource: To safeguard the life supporting capacity of soils to enable a wide range of primary production activities and provide a resource for future generations while recognising the finite nature of the versatile land resource.
Policy 2.2.3	Avoid further fragmentation of land in the predominant areas of the District containing versatile land to protect this finite resource and to safeguard the life-supporting capacity of the soil from the cumulative effects of subdivision below the minimum lot standard.
Policy 2.2.5	Ensure that land use activities on versatile land are undertaken in a manner that safeguards the life-supporting capacity of the soil and recognises the finite nature of the land resource.
Policy 2.2.7	Fragmentation of the versatile rural land resource for purposes not directly related to maintaining or enhancing the primary productive potential of the rural land resource should be minimised and, where possible avoided.
Policy 2.2.9	Subdivision, use and development which has the potential to inhibit the efficient use and development of versatile land for primary production should be minimised and, where possible avoided.
Objective 2.4.1	To enable primary production activities and other rural based land uses to function efficiently and effectively in the Rural Zone, while avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of activities, including reverse sensitivity effects caused by new activities on existing activities, in a way that maintains and enhances the character and amenity values of the rural environment.
Policy 2.4.13	Avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects upon residential properties or road safety caused by lighting or glare from any source.
Policy 2.4.17	Maintain overall day and night time noise conditions at levels compatible with the amenity and activity present in the rural environment.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 2.4.18	Ensure that effects of increased traffic or changed traffic type or change to road access do not compromise the safe and efficient operation of any road or adversely affect the safe and convenient movement of people on public roads.
Objective 3.1.1	Ensure that the District's Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development and that regard is had to other landscapes having high amenity.
Policy 3.1.3	Subdivision, use and development affecting domains with high landscape amenity shall be controlled to specified levels and enabled beyond this where undertaken in a manner that gives particular regard to the maintenance and enhancement of the amenity values of that landscape.
Policy 3.1.6	Have regard to any positive effects associated with landscape and biodiversity restoration.
Policy 3.1.7	Have regard to the potential adverse effects on the landscape values of an Outstanding Natural Feature or Landscape from development on a nearby landscape with high amenity.
Objective 3.2.1	To protect the areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
Policy 3.2.2	Manage the effects of subdivision, use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects on areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and the intrinsic values of ecosystems.
Policy 3.2.3	Encourage subdivision, land use and development that maintains and enhances indigenous biological diversity through the protection and enhancement of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
Objective 3.3.1	To protect the natural character of lakes, rivers and other water bodies and their margins, from inappropriate use, and development.
Policy 3.3.3	Manage the design, location and scale of subdivision and/or land development and use adjoining lakes, rivers, wetlands and other water bodies so they retain their special values and natural character.
Policy 3.3.4	<p>Ensure subdivision, use and development protects the natural character of lakes, rivers, wetlands and other water bodies and maintain and enhance their special values by having regard to the following matters in assessing proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· extent to which natural processes, elements and patterns that determine the area's natural character are sustained, and/or restored and rehabilitated;</li> <li>· degree of change to landform and relief;</li> <li>· degree of protection of vegetation cover and patterns, including use of a buffer;</li> <li>· compatibility with existing level of modification to the environment;</li> <li>• functional necessity to be located in or near the water body and no reasonably practicable alternative locations exist;</li> <li>· ability to mitigate any potential adverse effects of subdivision, use, and development; and</li> <li>· provision of public amenity and access to land acquired by Council for reserve purposes.</li> </ul>
Policy 3.3.5	Ensure the adverse effects on the natural character and special values of lakes, rivers, wetlands and other water bodies are avoided or mitigated through establishing setbacks for activities and buildings that may cause adverse effects.
Objective 4.2.1	<p>Public Access to Water Bodies:</p> <p>Maintain and enhance public access to and along the coast, rivers, lakes and streams, at appropriate locations while preserving the natural character, cultural values and other values</p>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	of these water bodies and their margins, and where the need for the protection of sites and areas of significance to Tangata Whenua is taken into account.
Objective 6.1.1	Sustainable management of the District's natural and physical resources used and developed for urban purposes; and Achievement of an appropriate mix of infrastructure services, and a range of urban activities to enable the District's settlements to function as vibrant attractive communities.
Policy 6.1.15	Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of new development and activities on the safe and efficient functioning of the existing and future roading networks.
Policy 6.2.4	Ensure that development is of a high quality and that adverse effects on the State Highways are avoided.
Objective 7.3.1	Effects of Subdivision and Subsequent Land Use and Development: To ensure areas within the Greenbelt Residential Zone are developed in an efficient and sustainable development pattern responding to the natural and physical resources of the area
Policy 7.3.3	The form and pattern of development and subdivision seeks to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ensure the location, density and orientation of developable areas are compatible with the character and amenity values of the location; including implementing any design guide contained within a Schedule to this Plan;</li> <li>· In reticulated areas, ensure the coordinated and integrated provision of infrastructure; and in unreticulated areas, ensure either the sustainable on-site provision of water supply, wastewater disposal and stormwater management or, where appropriate, the provision of provision of private infrastructure;</li> <li>· Ensure a connected transport infrastructure for different modes of transport;</li> <li>· Provide a connected and accessible network of open space;</li> <li>· Protect and enhance natural features, areas of ecological value and sites of historic heritage importance;</li> <li>· Avoid or mitigate the risk of natural hazards through design or otherwise;</li> <li>· Minimise amenity conflicts with adjoining land uses; and</li> <li>· Provide opportunities for energy efficiency through road layout and lot orientation.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.3.4	Manage subdivision and development to connect with the existing infrastructure and transportation network, according to the capacity limitations of that network and the potential requirements for upgrading its capacity.
Policy 7.3.5	Ensure that staging of development in the Greenbelt Residential Zone is efficient, consistent with and supported by adequate infrastructure and that development is otherwise deferred until the required upgrading of infrastructure has occurred.
Policy 7.3.6	Manage subdivision, use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of these activities on the efficient and safe operation of infrastructure and network utilities, including the National Grid.
Objective 8.1.1	Risks and Adverse Effects of Natural Hazards: The adverse effects of natural hazards on people, property, the environment and the well-being of communities are avoided or mitigated.
Policy 8.1.4	Control the location and design of land use, structures and subdivision in identified areas at significant risk from flood events, as identified in Policy 8.1.3, to avoid or mitigate the adverse effects on people, property and the environment.
Policy 8.1.5	Avoid the establishment of any new structure or activity, or any increase in the scale of any existing structure or activity, within the identified areas at significant risk from flood events, as identified in Policy 8.1.3, unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· flood hazard avoidance is achieved or the 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 years) flood hazard is mitigated, or</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· the non-habitable structure or activity is on production land, or</li> <li>· there is a functional necessity to locate the structure or activity within such an area, in which case the structure or activity may be allowed.</li> </ul>
Policy 8.1.6	Flood hazard avoidance must be preferred to flood hazard mitigation.
Policy 8.1.7	<p>Ensure any development undertaken within identified flood areas, as identified in Policy 8.1.3, adopts specifically designed measures to avoid or mitigate the hazard risks by ensuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Occupied structures have a finished floor or ground level, which includes a reasonable freeboard above the 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 years) flood level.</li> <li>• In a 0.5% AEP (1 in 200 years) flood event, the inundation of access between habitable structures and a safe area where evacuation may be carried out (preferably that will not be flooded) must be no greater than 0.5 metres above finished ground level with a maximum water velocity of 1.0 m/s, or some other combination of water depth and velocity that can be shown to result in no greater risk to human life, infrastructure or property.</li> <li>• Adverse effects on the effectiveness of existing flood hazard avoidance or mitigation measures, including works and structures within River and Drainage Schemes, natural landforms that protect against inundation, and overland stormwater flow paths, are avoided.</li> <li>• Adverse effects on existing structures and activities are avoided or mitigated.</li> <li>• Regard is had to the likelihood and consequences of the proposed flood hazard mitigation measures failing.</li> <li>• Regard is had to the consequential effects of ensuring occupied structures have a finished floor or ground level, including but not limited to landscape and natural character, urban design, and the displacement of floodwaters onto adjoining properties.</li> <li>• Regard is had to the proposed ownership of, and responsibility for maintenance of, the flood hazard mitigation measures including the appropriateness and certainty of the maintenance regime.</li> </ul>
Policy 8.1.8	Avoid, where practicable, the siting of new critical infrastructure and services within areas of significant risk from natural hazard events.
Policy 8.1.9	Ensure that all structures and activities are constructed so as to minimise material damage from seismic events.
Policy 8.1.13	Manage the effects of natural hazards caused by long-term shifts in climate and changes in sea-level in setting minimum floor levels, designing flood avoidance or mitigation measures.
Objective 8.2.1	<p>Worsening the Risks or Severity of Natural Hazards:</p> <p>Land use and development that does not significantly worsen the risk of occurrence or the severity of natural hazards or compromise the effective functioning or integrity of natural hazard protection or mitigation works.</p>
Policy 8.2.2	Ensure that the use and development of land does not accelerate or worsen any material damage to that land, or displacing to other land or structure resulting from erosion, subsidence, slippage, debris flow, or surface water flooding.
Policy 8.2.3	Avoid structures and activities that are likely to reduce the effectiveness of existing works, structures, natural landforms or other measures which serve to mitigate the effects of natural hazard events.
Objective 9.2.1	To avoid, or mitigate the risk of adverse effects from the subdivision, use, redevelopment or remediation of contaminated and potentially contaminated land on human health and the environment.
Policy 9.2.3	Require development sites that have a history of land use that could have resulted in contamination of the soil to undertake a preliminary site investigation to confirm whether further investigation, remediation or management is required, to ensure that the land is suitable for the intended exposure to humans and the environment.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 9.2.4	Ensure that when land affected by soil contamination is used, subdivided, and/or redeveloped, the land is managed or remediated in a way that prevents or mitigates adverse effects and manages the risk to human health and/or the environment to a level that is appropriate for the intended use.
Policy 9.2.5	Require management measures for contaminated land, which may include remediation, containment, or disposal of contaminated soil, to ensure that any contamination is appropriate for the proposed future use of the land.
Objective 10.1.1	Maintenance of land transport networks to efficiently and safely move people and goods through and within the District to meet the current and future needs of the District.
Policy 10.1.3	Ensure that all proposed new or extended roads are necessary to provide safe and convenient access for the community; and Ensure that they provide the most efficient form of transport to serve community needs in terms of the alternative forms of transport and routes available and the relative environmental costs and benefits of those alternatives.
Policy 10.1.4	Encourage the development of pedestrian paths and cycleways, as well as convenient and accessible cycle parking, to support the opportunity to use non-vehicular transportation modes throughout the District.
Policy 10.1.5	Maintain and upgrade the existing roads in the District and provide for new roads and related facilities where these are important to meet the current and future needs of the District.
Policy 10.1.6	Require all new public and private roads to be designed and constructed to meet consistent minimum standards relating to safety and efficiency of vehicle movement and particularly in respect of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Road width and alignment which should be sufficient for two vehicle lanes except where traffic volumes are insufficient;</li> <li>· The formation and surface sealing of all roads, access ways, and private ways to standards appropriate to the volume of vehicle traffic expected to be carried;</li> <li>· Provision for necessary public utility facilities within roads; and</li> <li>· Safe design and construction of roads, road access points, including alignment, gradient, vehicle parking, manoeuvring, and turning requirements.</li> </ul>
Policy 10.1.7	Ensure that the design and construction of all land transport routes and facilities incorporate measures to enhance the personal safety, security, and convenience of users including vehicle users, public passenger transport services, pedestrians, cyclists, children, and people with disabilities.
Policy 10.1.8	Require all public roads, private roads, accessways, cycle ways, and pedestrian footpaths in urban areas to be provided with overhead lighting.
Policy 10.1.13	To ensure that State Highways are a safe and efficient network.
Objective 10.2.1	Managing Effects of Transport Infrastructure To provide for a land transport network that is safe, convenient and efficient, and which avoids, remedies or mitigates the adverse effects to maintain the health and safety of people and communities, and the amenity and character of the environment.
Policy 10.2.2	Require all extensions and upgrades to the land transport infrastructure, including roads, to avoid, remedy, or mitigate any adverse effects on the natural and physical resources, sensitive areas, and amenity and landscape values of the District.
Policy 10.2.3	Avoid adverse amenity impacts by ensuring that new roads are designed to, at least, minimum standards and visually complement the character of any surrounding area.
Objective 10.3.1	Adverse Effects of Land Use Activities, Subdivision and Development on Land Transport Infrastructure: Protection of the safety and efficiency of the land transport network from the adverse effects of land use activities, subdivision and development.

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 10.3.12	Ensure that land use activities, subdivision and development adjoining State Highways, other arterial roads and the North Island Main Trunk Railway, avoid, remedy or mitigates any reverse sensitivity effects by protecting themselves from noise and vibration, particularly in bedrooms.
Objective 12.1.1	<p>Network Utilities:</p> <p>To protect and provide for the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of network utilities, while avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the environment.</p>
Policy 12.1.2	Enable the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of essential network utilities.
Policy 12.1.3	Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse environmental effects arising from the establishment, construction, operation, maintenance and upgrading of network utilities.
Policy 12.1.4	Provide additional protection for sensitive areas such as Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes, domains of high landscape amenity, heritage and cultural sites and buildings, Notable Trees, coast, lakes, river and other waterways from the adverse environmental effects of network utilities.
Policy 12.1.5	Ensure the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of network utilities does not compromise the health and safety of the community.
Policy 12.1.6	Consider the locational, technical and operational requirements of network utilities and the contribution they make to the functioning and well-being of the community in assessing their location, design and appearance.
Policy 12.1.8	Encourage the co-location or multiple use of network utilities where this is efficient and practicable in order to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment.
Objective 13.2.1	<p>Protection of Historic Heritage</p> <p>To protect significant historic heritage that reflects the culture and history of the Horowhenua District from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p>
Policy 13.2.5	Avoid or appropriately mitigate any adverse effects of activities that could destroy or diminish the heritage values associated with buildings and sites included in the Historic Heritage Schedule.
Objective 14.1.1	To address resource management issues which cross administrative boundaries in a coordinated and integrated manner.
Policy 14.1.2	Cooperate with other neighbouring territorial authorities and the Regional Council to address resource management issues in an integrated manner.
Proposed Plan Change 4 (Tara-Ika)	
Objective 6A.1	<p>To achieve an integrated, efficient, and connected development that reflects cultural values and local identity, represents good urban design, is supported by a well-connected, safe and efficient transport network that supports a range of transport modes and has the facilities, social infrastructure, and amenities necessary to contribute to the health, safety, and wellbeing of residents. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Encourage housing at a range of densities;</li> <li>- Provision for a local-scale commercial centre;</li> <li>- Access to quality public open space;</li> <li>- Safe and efficient walking and cycling options;</li> <li>- Design that reflects Muaūpoko cultural values and local history and identity;</li> <li>- Protection of culturally significant sites;</li> <li>- Environmentally sensitive design;</li> </ul>



REFERENCE	PROVISION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Within the Arapaepae Road Special Treatment Overlay, development that is appropriate for the site in terms of scale, access, and compatibility with surrounding land uses;</li> <li>- Within the Arapaepae Road Special Treatment Overlay, the health and wellbeing of occupants is appropriately protected.</li> </ul>
Policy 6A.1.1	<p>Subdivision, infrastructure and land development in Tara-Ika must be consistent with the outcomes sought by Structure Plan 013. Subdivision and land development that does not provide Primary Structure Plan Features in the manner shown on Structure Plan 013 will only be considered where an alternative is proposed that will achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The same or similar level of connectivity within Tara-Ika;</li> <li>- The same or similar level of connectivity between Tara-Ika and the existing urban area of Levin/Taitoko;</li> <li>- Protection of opportunities for land adjacent to Tara-Ika to be connected to Tara-Ika in the future;</li> <li>- Public recreation space of an equivalent functionality as that shown on the Structure Plan and that is within walking distance of a similar number of properties as shown on the Structure Plan;</li> <li>- A streetscape that maintains an appropriate expression of street hierarchy and consistency of treatment along any Arterial or Collector Road;</li> </ul>
Policy 6A.1.3	<p>Subdivision, land development and open space reserves in Tara-Ika will acknowledge, protect, and celebrate Muaūpoko values, history, and local identity in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use of Muaūpoko names, among others, for streets and reserves;</li> <li>- Protection of culturally significant sites and their values;</li> <li>- Prioritise use of locally sourced indigenous plants in street and reserve planting</li> <li>- Muaūpoko Accidental Discovery and Tikanga Protocol to be observed during site works.</li> </ul>
Policy 6A.1.10	<p>Require ecological areas, transport corridors, stormwater reserves and open space reserves to be designed and managed in a way that protects and enhances habitat for Muaūpoko taonga.</p>
Objective 6A.2	<p>Efficient delivery of infrastructure within Tara-Ika will enable development while protecting environmental and cultural values and achieving a high level of residential amenity.</p>
Policy 6A.2.2	<p>Require subdivision and development to be managed, designed and staged to align with the coordinated provision and upgrading of the infrastructure network (including the transport network and stormwater network), public open space, streetscape and local service facilities within Tara-Ika, as illustrated on Structure Plan 013.</p>
Policy 6A.2.3	<p>Avoid subdivision and development that compromises the ability to provide efficient and effective infrastructure networks including for the wider Tara-Ika Growth Area</p>
Objective 6A.3	<p>Stormwater management in Tara-Ika will be resilient, culturally sensitive, and environmentally sustainable, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resilient to natural hazards and the likely effects of climate change;</li> <li>- Incorporating Water Sensitive Design;</li> <li>- Minimise adverse effects on downstream environments and ecosystems by retaining all stormwater onsite in a 1 in 100 year annual return interval rainfall event (with allowance for climate change);</li> <li>- Avoiding natural areas and ecosystems that are sensitive to modifications to changes in groundwater and surface water levels and flows</li> </ul>

REFERENCE	PROVISION
Policy 6A.3.1	Require an integrated approach to managing stormwater from Tara-Ika to ensure the quality and quantity of runoff does not have an adverse effect on Punahau (Lake Horowhenua), the Koputaroa Stream, or other downstream environments.
Policy 6A.3.2	<p>Require all stormwater to be retained and disposed of within the Tara-Ika Growth Area for up to a 1 in 100 year annual return interval rainfall event (with allowance for climate change and allowance for catchment predevelopment flow continuity), and treated and managed utilising the best practicable option to mitigate the effects of stormwater by including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) limiting the extent of impervious areas;</li> <li>(ii) incorporating on-site treatment and disposal of stormwater into subdivision and development design;</li> <li>(iii) provision of catchment-wide facilities like wetlands and basins that are efficient and effective from both a construction and maintenance perspective;</li> <li>(iv) maintaining predevelopment flows to the natural downstream ecosystems</li> </ul>