

Natural Resources Plan

Your environment, your future
Tō taiao, tō oranga



Work on publishing submissions on Proposed Natural Resources Plan progressing

Work on summarising submissions on the Proposed Plan is progressing quickly with publication of the Summary of Decisions Requested due after Waitangi Day, ahead of the further submission process. The Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region opened for submissions on the 31 July 2015 and closed on 25 September 2015. The Greater Wellington Regional Council received 429 submissions during the submissions period.

The period for making further submissions, during which eligible people can respond to points raised in submissions, will begin after Waitangi Day next year and will be open for 20 working days. We will notify all submitters directly of exactly when this will happen.

Copies of all of the original submissions will be available to view at Greater Wellington Regional Council offices, city and district council offices and on the Greater Wellington Regional Council website (<http://www.gw.govt.nz/>). We aim to have this up on the website in advance of the further submission period to enable people more time to read through the submissions.

Further submissions

The criteria for making a further submission are as follows:

Certain people may make further submissions if they meet the following (as set out in the Resource Management Act):

- any person representing a relevant aspect of the public interest,
- any person that has an interest in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington region greater than the interest that the general public has, and
- Greater Wellington Regional Council itself.

Submissions must be made on a prescribed form, which will be available on our website. Prehearing meetings and formal hearings will be held later in 2016. We will continue to keep you informed as the process progresses.

Hearing Panel

At its 30 September meeting the regional council appointed the panel to hear and decide submissions on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region. The panel comprises three members as follows:

- Mark St Clair – Chair (independent planning commissioner)
- Liz Burge (appointed member of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee)
- David McMahon (independent planning commissioner).

- Background information about the regional plan review: www.gw.govt.nz/your-environment
- State of the environment report cards: www.gw.govt.nz/ser
- You can email us at regional-plan@gw.govt.nz

Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee looks to develop “attributes”

The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee has been working closely with the community to find out what they value about their waterways. The committee used the discussions from eight community workshops to inform and confirm a set of values for the Ruamāhanga Whaitua which will underpin their future work.

The committee is now developing a set of ‘attributes’, measures which can be used to compare the current state of a particular value to what the community wants to achieve. The committee expects to produce its Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP) in early 2017. To see the final set of values and more information about the community discussions please see our website: www.gw.govt.nz/ruamahanga-whaitua-committee/

Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee asks the hard questions

Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee is coming to the end of the information gathering phase of its work, learning about the cultural, scientific, economic and geographical aspects of the catchment. It has now begun the process of seeking community views on how water is valued.

The questions the committee is asking are:

- What’s important to you about streams, the harbour and coast around here?
- How do you and your friends, family and whanau use streams, the harbour and coast around here?
- How would you like our streams, harbour and coast to be in the future?

The committee will be talking with the community early in 2016 about its answers to these questions to build an understanding of what’s important to it about local streams, harbour and coast.

For more information about what the committee has learnt so far, and about future engagement please see our website: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/te-awarua-o-porirua-whaitua-committee/>

About the Proposed Plan

For information on how specific activities are managed in the Proposed Plan please see information sheets on our website <http://www.gw.govt.nz/information-sheets-2/> and answers to a number of frequently asked questions <http://www.gw.govt.nz/quick-facts-about-the-proposed-natural-resources-plan/>