



Regional plan review

What's happening now and where are we heading?

NEWSLETTER NO 2, JULY 2011

Introduction

This is the second of our regional plan updates. It includes:

- a brief summary of our workshop report, generated from last year's public workshops,
- what's happening now, and
- the process for developing a Regional Plan for public submissions by mid-late 2013.

Our workshop report

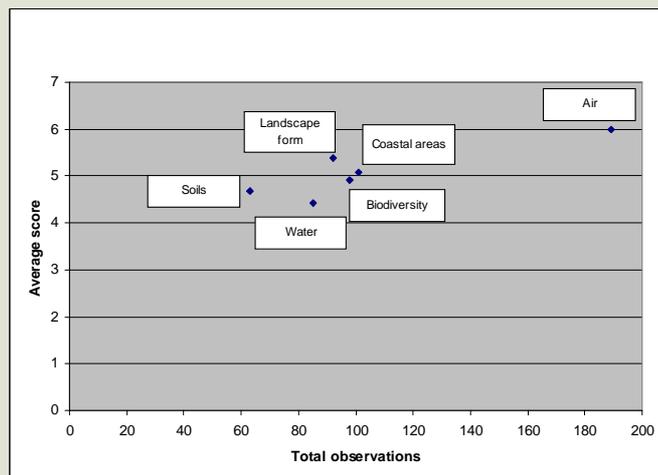
15 public workshops were held throughout the Wellington region from 7 July to 9 September last year, as well as workshops with a natural resource professionals group, school children, councils and mana whenua iwi. The results of those workshops are summarised in our workshop report – www.gw.govt.nz/workshop-report.

Highlights

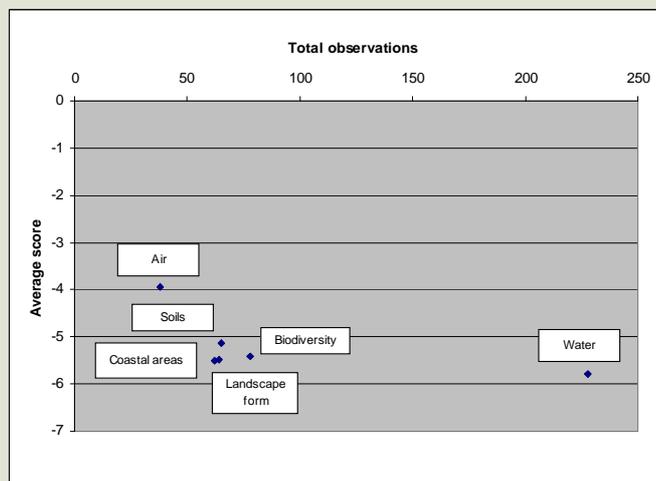
The workshops identified people's views on the state of natural resources, benefits and problems with natural resource management, how we (the council and the community) can improve natural resource management, and relationships.

State of our natural resources

The graphs (at right) show how people rated the state of natural resources. Graphs 1 and 2 show the natural resources that they considered being in the best condition (0 to 7 scale with a higher score meaning better), and the resources they considered to be in the worst condition (0 to -7 scale with a lower score being worse).



Graph 1: Natural resources considered by people to be in the best condition



Graph 2: Natural resources considered by people to be in the worst condition

Key issues by catchment

The workshop report summarises the key natural resource issues, and people's views on how natural resource management could be improved, on a catchment by catchment basis:

In **Eastern Wairarapa** (includes the results from workshops in Tinui and Martinborough) – biosecurity, landuse planning, sewerage systems, water quality, and landscape protection were important. Riparian strips and stormwater management were relatively less important. They supported having financial incentives to implement natural resource policies.



In **Ruamahanga** (includes the results from the Masterton workshop) – biosecurity, water quality, sewerage systems and flood control were important. Maintaining their economic viability at the same time as they managed their natural resources was relatively important to them. Landscapes and stormwater systems were relatively less important. Providing opportunities for learning about resource management was considered an important policy tool along with having efficient consenting processes.



In **Northern Wellington Harbour** (includes the results from workshops in Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt and Wainuiomata) – transport, air quality, water quality and the effects of rubbish and litter, and riparian strips were important. Stormwater management was important. Resource management information and regulations were relatively less important to them.



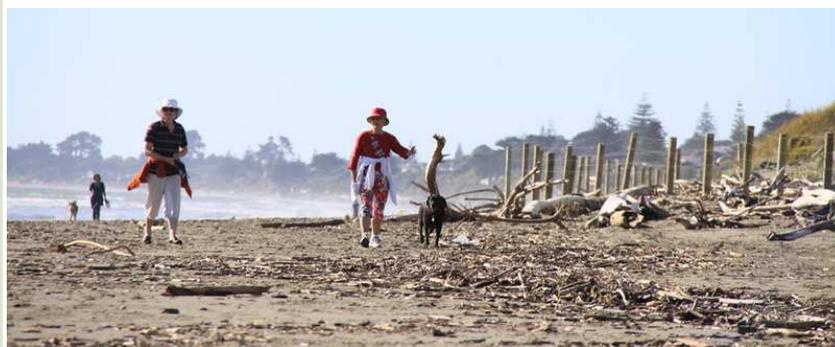
In **Southern Wellington Harbour** (includes the results from workshops in Berhampore, Karori, Rongotai, Wellington City and Thorndon) – transport, air quality, water quality and the effects of rubbish and litter were important. Stormwater management was important. Community gardens were relatively important as was having community care groups. Flood control was relatively unimportant.



In **Porirua Harbour** (includes the results from Johnsonville and Porirua East) – human health issues were important as were the core resources of water quality, biodiversity and harbour management. Stormwater management was important. Biosecurity was relatively unimportant. Providing opportunities for learning about resource management was considered an important policy tool, whereas enforcing rules was relatively unimportant.



On the **Kapiti Coast** (includes the results from Otaki, Paraparaumu and Paekakariki) – air quality, development of subdivisions and coastal hazards were important. Providing opportunities for learning about resource management and support for community care groups were considered important policy tools.



The full workshop report was presented to Greater Wellington's Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee. For the full results, see www.gw.govt.nz/workshop-report.

Regional Plan review - what's happening now?

The results from the workshops, policy work and science monitoring and investigations have helped to define five major themes that need to be addressed by the new regional plan, among a myriad of other natural resource issues,

- **Water quality – stormwater and urban land use**



- **Water quality – rural land use**



- **Water allocation**



- **Coastal management and**
- **Hazards**



Greater Wellington will be focussing on identifying policy approaches to address these and other issues in the next stage of engagement with natural resource users, territorial authorities, mana whenua iwi and the general public. In 2011 this involves:

- Meetings with key natural resource user groups and iwi
- Public workshops, between October and December
- Online survey, from October

Consultation with natural resource user groups and iwi will continue into 2012, and another round of workshops with the general public will also be held to examine policy options for the Regional Plan. Then the Te Upoko Taiao-Natural Resource Management Committee will deliberate on final policy options before a Proposed Regional Plan is released for public submissions in mid-late 2013. Our Regional Plan Timeline catchment map (overleaf) illustrates the various stages in the development of a Proposed Regional Plan.

Where can I go to find out more information?

For information on workshop results, background information about the regional plan review, and science and policy information, see:

www.gw.govt.nz/valuing-our-environment

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Give us feedback about the regional plan review

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Regional Plan Timeline

2010

Community engagement – public, iwi and council workshops, web survey

May 2011

Workshop report presented to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee

June – September 2011

Key stakeholder and iwi meetings to discuss natural resource issues

Late October – December 2011

Public workshops and web survey to discuss natural resource issues

2012

Key stakeholder and iwi meetings to examine policy options

2012

Public workshops and web survey to examine policy options

2013

Te Upoko Taiao deliberates on final policy options for Proposed Regional Plan

Mid-late 2013

Proposed Regional Plan released for public submissions