

Report 02.369

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Report to: Wellington Regional Council
From: Hugo Vitalis, Policy Analyst, Council Secretariat

Upper Ruamahanga River Management Scheme - Confirmation of Differential Special Order

1. Purpose

To consider confirmation of the Special Order establishing separate rating classifications for three new river management schemes thereby altering the existing Upper Ruamahanga River Management Scheme.

2. Background

At its special meeting on 23 April 2002 the Council resolved to alter the differential Works and Services Rate made under Section 34 of the Rating Powers Act known as the Upper Ruamahanga River Management Scheme.

The Special Order divides the existing Scheme into three schemes, to be known as the Upper Ruamahanga, Middle Ruamahanga and Lower Ruamahanga River Management Schemes, in order to improve the scheme's performance as well as rating equity (see **Report 02.187**).

2.1 *Public Notification*

The Council's intention to confirm the Special Order must be advertised twice in a newspaper in circulation within the region. The first public notice must appear no less than 60 days before the confirmation of the Special Order and the second notice no more than 14 days or less than 7 days before the confirmation of the Special Order.

2.2 *Submissions*

Under section 716B of the Local Government Act 1974, submissions must be received up until the time the Special Order is confirmed.

3 **Comment**

3.1 *Public Notice*

As required by the Special Order procedure, the proposed changes have been publicly on 26 April 2002 and 17 June 2002 in *The Dominion*, *Evening Post* and *Wairarapa Times-Age*. Copies of the rolls and maps of the proposed schemes have been available for public inspection at the Council's offices in Wellington and Masterton.

3.2 *Submissions*

Under section 716B of the Local Government Act 1974, submissions must be received up until the time the Special Order is confirmed. At the time of writing, no submissions have been received on the proposed differential rating systems. However, any submissions subsequently received will be tabled for consideration at the meeting.

4. **Recommendations**

That the Wellington Regional Council hereby resolve, by way of Special Order, pursuant to Sections 34, 80 and 84 of the Rating Powers Act 1988, Section 716B of the Local Government Act 1974, and all relevant enabling provisions, as follows:

- (1) *That the systems of differential rating set out below be introduced with effect from 1 July 2002.*
- (2) *That the systems of differential rating shall apply to the Catchment Board Separate Rates, to be known as the Upper Ruamahanga, Middle Ruamahanga, and Lower Ruamahanga River Management Rates, made and levied by the Wellington Regional Council pursuant to section 40 of the Rating Powers Act 1988, on a land area basis on all rateable property in that part of the Wellington Region determined by the Council to be the rural area of benefit from flood protection on the upper Ruamahanga River, such that the rates made and levied in respect of any specified category of property shall vary from the rates made and levied in respect of any other specified category of property as set out in this Special Order.*
- (3) *That in accordance with section 84(1)(c) of the Rating Powers Act 1988, the following statement is made on the introduction of the differential system:*

A. *Matters taken into account in preparing the proposed introduction of the system of differential rating:*

The Council has, in consultation with the Upper Ruamahanga, Middle Ruamahanga, and Lower Ruamahanga Steering Committees (which include ratepayer representatives) redesigned the rates funding of the Upper Ruamahanga River Management Schemes.

The Council has taken into account the following matters in preparing the system of differential rates:

- *The benefits that are likely to accrue directly and indirectly to any property from the degrees of flood protection and reduced erosion given to each property by the maintenance of existing flood protection structures and erosion mitigation measures,*
- *The characteristics or use of any property or any actions of its occupier that either contribute to, or alleviate the need for flood protection or erosion mitigation measures,*
- *The likelihood, frequency, depth and severity of flooding and erosion,*
- *The likelihood, frequency and extent of damage to land and improvements to land,*
- *The improvement to drainage,*
- *The need for water management generally,*
- *The establishment or preservation of economic units of land,*
- *The protection or establishment of water, sewerage, drainage, electrical, gas, and other services and amenities, and*
- *The protection or establishment of communications, and of any other property, service, or amenity with or benefiting the land.*

B. The proposed types or groups of property for differential rating and their proportions of benefit are:

For the Upper Ruamahanga River Management Scheme

<i>Class</i>	<i>Proportion</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Land receiving a high degree of relief from flooding and erosion threats.</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Land receiving a moderate degree of relief from erosion and flooding threats.</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Land receiving a moderate degree of relief from the threat of erosion.</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Land receiving a low degree of relief from erosion and flooding threats.</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Land receiving a low degree of relief from the threat of erosion.</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Land receiving relief from flooding only.</i>
<i>S</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>Dwellings, commercial buildings, or commercial enterprises and their immediate surroundings, which without the current flood protection measures would be at an increased risk of being surrounded or entered by floodwaters.</i>

For the Middle Ruamahanga River Management Scheme

<i>Class</i>	<i>Proportion</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>A</i>	6	<i>Land receiving a high degree of relief from flooding and erosion threats.</i>
<i>B</i>	5	<i>Land receiving a moderate degree of relief from erosion and flooding threats.</i>
<i>C</i>	4	<i>Land receiving a moderate degree of relief from the threat of erosion.</i>
<i>D</i>	3	<i>Land receiving a low degree of relief from erosion and flooding threats.</i>
<i>E</i>	2	<i>Land receiving a low degree of relief from the threat of erosion.</i>
<i>F</i>	1	<i>Land receiving relief from flooding only.</i>
<i>S</i>	62	<i>Dwellings, commercial buildings, or commercial enterprises and their immediate surroundings, which without the current flood protection measures would be at an increased risk of being surrounded or entered by floodwaters.</i>

For the Lower Ruamahanga River Management Scheme

<i>Class</i>	<i>Proportion</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>A</i>	7	<i>Land receiving a high degree of relief from flooding and erosion threats.</i>
<i>B</i>	6	<i>Land receiving a moderate degree of relief from erosion and flooding threats.</i>
<i>C</i>	5	<i>Land receiving a moderate degree of relief from the threat of erosion.</i>
<i>D</i>	4	<i>Land receiving a low degree of relief from erosion and flooding threats.</i>
<i>E</i>	3	<i>Land receiving a low degree of relief from the threat of erosion.</i>
<i>F</i>	2	<i>Land receiving relief from flooding only.</i>
<i>Sa</i>	173	<i>Dwellings, commercial buildings, or commercial enterprises and their immediate surroundings, which without the current flood protection measures would be at a high risk of being surrounded or entered by floodwaters.</i>

Sb

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Dwellings, commercial buildings, or commercial enterprises and their immediate surroundings, which without the current flood protection measures would be at a moderate risk of being surrounded or entered by floodwaters.

Report prepared by

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