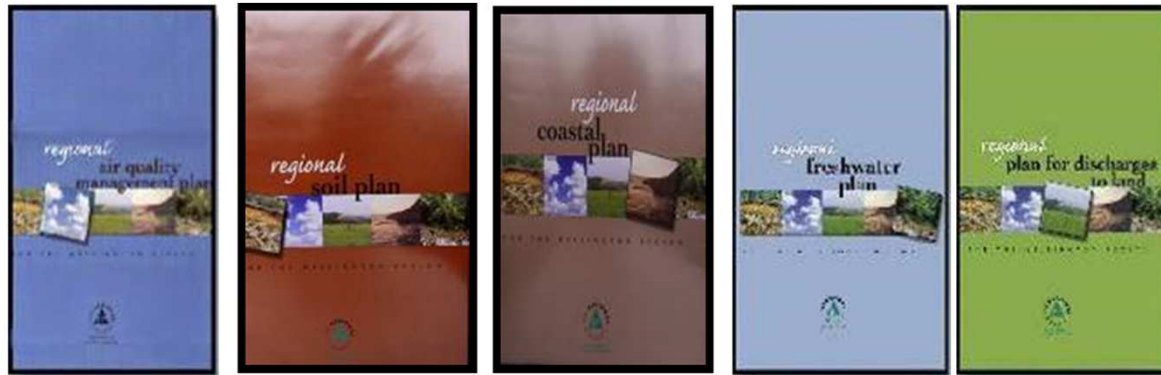


Overview of the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

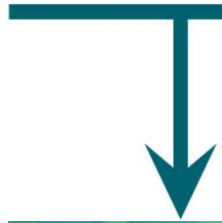
What is a regional plan?

- Sustainable management of natural resources
- Regulatory and non-regulatory
- Consents required for certain activities

Current regional plans



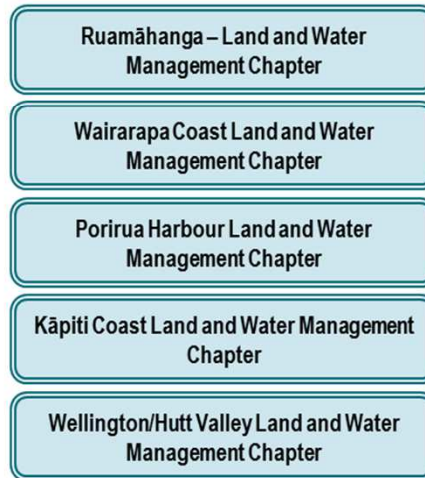
Process 1
Give effect to RPS
air, soil, hazards,
heritage, coastal,
land and water



Second generation regional plan



Process 2
Implement the NPS-FW
(catchment-based)
whaitua



Whaitua implementation plan (WIP)



Proposed NRP process

- Public notification 31 July 2015:
 - 40 working day submission period to 25 September
 - Summary of submissions out December
 - Further submissions...
- Hearing
 - Pre-hearing meetings early 2016
 - Officers s42A reports and circulation of evidence mid 2016
 - Hearing late 2016/early 2017

Structure of proposed Plan

- Interpretation
- Objectives
- Policies
- Rules
- Other methods
- **Whaitua chapters**
- Schedules
- Maps

Give effect to objectives

Regional objectives

- Overall flavour
 - Overarching: mauri, intrinsic values, benefits to community of using land and water
 - Specific: improve the health of estuaries, reducing sediment reaching water
- Whaitua implementation programmes:
 - Need to meet objectives
 - Can be more specific for the whaitua

O23: maintain or improve water quality

- Maintain or improve water quality:
 - Improve over time to meet proposed Plan objectives
 - Regulatory and non-regulatory controls on rural and urban activities
 - Targeted programmes to improve water quality in priority catchments
- Water quality limits, targets and timeframes = whaitua process

O24: Contact recreation and Māori customary use

- Maintain water quality and improve where:
 - Beaches and significant rivers not suitable for swimming
 - All fresh water ways to a minimum of ‘secondary contact’
- Sites for improvement:
 - Beaches: Onepoto arm at Rowing Club, Plimmerton, Titahi Bay
 - Streams: Pauatahanui Stream and Porirua Stream

O25: Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

- Describes what safeguard ecosystem health and mahinga kai looks like
- Rivers, lakes, wetlands, groundwater and coastal water
- Improvement where objectives aren't met:
 - Regionally: Controls on point source discharges
- Sites for improvement:
 - Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour: sedimentation rate, mud content and toxicant concentration, habitat, macroalgae

Urban water quality

- Stormwater: Two-step process for TA networks
 1. Short-term consents
 - Monitor and ID issues and priorities for improvement
 2. Then, long-term consents
 - Manage to water quality objectives developed through whaitua process
 - Implement plans to improve water quality
 - Integrate asset management and planning processes
- Wastewater
 - Progressive improvement
 - Responding to Māori and community values
 - Reduce cross contamination

Rural water quality

- No specific nutrient limits or leaching loads
- PNRP actions to maintain or improve water quality:
 - Riparian setbacks for cultivation and break-feeding
 - Livestock exclusion in intensively farmed areas (2015-2022)
 - Control activities on steep slopes
 - Priority catchment programmes to advance good management practice
- Setting objectives and limits through the whaitua process

Significant sites

- Protect river/lake and coastal sites with:
 - outstanding values
 - significant historic heritage values,
 - significant mana whenua values, and
 - significant indigenous biodiversity values
- Recognise relationships with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa
- Regulatory/non-regulatory approach
 - Stock exclusion by 2018/19 – Council assistance

Beds of lakes and rivers

- Reclamation or drainage is generally inappropriate
- But, may be appropriate where:
 - significant benefits to the community and there is no practical alternative, and
 - adverse effects are avoided, remedied, mitigated or offset, or
 - it is an ephemeral flow path (no defined stream bed)

Questions?