

Notes for track changes. Words recommended to be added are shown in underline, words recommended to be removed are shown in ~~strike through~~. Words shown in grey are provisions which have not been reviewed as part of the Biodiversity or Heritage hearings or translations where the relevant english version is recommended to be changed but the translation does not yet reflect the recommended change. Recommendations made by the Biodiversity Officers Report are shown in Purple. Recommendations made by the Heritage Officers Report are shown in Green. Supplementary recommendations for Biodiversity are shown in Red. Supplementary recommendations for Heritage are shown in Blue. Recommendations as a result of the Planning Review are shown in orange. Recommendations as the result of the End of Hearing Report for Historic Heritage and Biodiversity are shown in Brown. Recommendations for clarity and consistency in accordance with Clause 16(2) of Schedule 1 to the RMA are shown with strike through and underline only without added colour.

7 Living Heritage

7.1 Scope and Background

7.1.1 Scope

This chapter addresses three matters:

- (1) **Indigenous biological diversity** – The maintenance of indigenous biological diversity, the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, and the division of responsibilities between the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities for managing indigenous biological diversity
- (2) **Landscapes and natural character** – The protection of outstanding landscapes and the management of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins
- (3) **Historic heritage** – The protection of historic ~~places and archaeological sites~~ heritage

Recommendation
HH 2 page 38

Chapter 4 - The Te Ao Maori – also contributes to the management of historic heritage, in particular sites of significance to Maori, including waahi tapu.

7.1.2 Indigenous Biological Diversity

As discussed in Chapter 1, the decline of indigenous biological diversity (“biodiversity”) is one of the four most critical issues addressed in this Plan.

Biodiversity in the Manawatu-Wanganui Region

The Manawatu-Wanganui Region now has only 23% of its original forest cover and 23% of its wetland habitat. The majority of the forest is found in the hillcountry and the ranges, with fragments scattered throughout ~~Region~~ the lower lying and coastal areas of the Region, where typically less than 10% of original habitat remains. Remaining natural habitat is small, fragmented and under pressure from pests and disturbance. Aquatic biodiversity is in a similar state of degradation with indigenous fish populations greatly reduced, poor habitat (loss of riparian margins in most areas and introduction of exotic fish and pest plants) and many barriers between coastal wetlands, streams and headwaters.

Recommendation
BIO 3 page 23



Much of the remaining indigenous biodiversity is in poor condition and health. Ecosystem processes are more often than not interrupted. The long-term viability of natural areas is further compromised by continued pressure from invasive species and surrounding land use. If such habitats and linkages between them are to survive they will require protection and ongoing management.

Future Approach

This Plan's approach to biodiversity management focuses primarily on habitats, rather than on individual species or genetic diversity. The Regional Council believes that by managing habitats it will most effectively sustain regional biodiversity into the future.

The Regional Council proposes to take a more active role around the coordination of biodiversity management within the Region. The Regional Council's overall biodiversity strategy is two-tiered, involving:

- (a) **Halting the decline** – Those habitats that are rare or threatened or at-risk (as shown in Schedule E of this Plan) will be given a high level of protection, through rules, from activities likely to cause any further loss or modification
- (b) **Active Management** – In addition, rare and threatened and at-risk habitats will be proactively managed through collaboration with landowners for work such as pest control and fencing, and provision of economic incentives such as grants and rates relief.

The protection and active management of sites on private land is crucial to maintaining indigenous biological diversity in the Region. Success in halting the biodiversity decline depends largely on the involvement and commitment of private landowners. This is a tall order for individuals, and the Regional Council recognises that the public good arising from maintaining indigenous biological diversity should not be solely at the expense of landowners. The Regional Council is therefore committed to seeking arrangements that adequately assist landowners and fairly apportion the costs of biodiversity management.

7.1.3

Landscapes and Natural Character

The protection of outstanding landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance.

A number of outstanding or unique regional landscapes and their associated values are identified in Schedule F. Although the issue of landscape change and competing pressures is best dealt with at a territorial level, some policies giving guidance on the appropriate balance between important infrastructure, including renewable energy, and other values, such as landscape, are provided in Chapter 3.

Preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins is also a matter of national importance. Natural character is a sliding scale and varies from a low degree of naturalness, such as urban environments, to a high degree of naturalness (for example, Tongariro National Park).

The approach of the One Plan is to maintain the current degree of naturalness of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins by:

- continuing to provide a regional policy on natural character to guide decision-making



- protecting and managing biodiversity, important wetlands, rivers and lakes as described elsewhere in this Plan.

The natural character of rivers, lakes and their margins can be adversely affected by activities, in particular structures and flood mitigation measures such as stop-banks. It is important that preservation of the natural character of rivers, lakes and their margins, where this is reasonable, is considered when making decisions on relevant activities. The natural character of wetlands can best be provided for by proactively managing the top 100 wetlands in the Region (as provided for in the sections of this chapter dealing with biodiversity).

The natural character of the coastal marine area is covered in Chapter 9. The natural character of the coastal environment landward of mean high water spring, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins is dealt with in this chapter.

The coastal environment has seen some change in the last 10 years. There has been an increase in residential subdivision on both the western and eastern coastlines. Within a 1-km inland coastal strip, however, this development accounts for only 4% of the area. Although residential development is expected to continue, it is unlikely to affect the natural character of the coast at a regional scale for some time beyond the life of this Plan. Nevertheless, it is important and appropriate for local decision-making on land use, particularly residential subdivision, to continue to take into account the natural character of a particular area.

7.1.4

Historic Heritage

End of hearing report.
Recommendation SHH
8

Recommendation
HH 3 page 40

The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance. Historic heritage includes means those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures, including historic sites, structures, places and areas, and archaeological sites*, and sites of significance to Maori, including waahi tapu. Some activities that are controlled by the Regional Council can have an adverse impact on historic heritage qualities values. For example, earthworks some activities and disturbances in the beds of rivers and lakes can modify or destroy archaeological sites, and the discharge of sewage to land or water could have an adverse impact on the historic heritage qualities values of a particular site, structure, place or area. The Regional Council can control these activities to ensure that adverse impacts are avoided, remedied or mitigated minimised.

End of hearing report.
Recommendations
SHH 9, 17, 18 and 20

Supplementary
Recommendation
S HH 3a page 7

The Manawatu-Wanganui region has a long and recognised history and culture and contains special places such as the Tongariro National Park, Whanganui River, Lake Papaitonga, the wreck of the Hyderabad, historic towns such as Marton, Taihape, Bulls and Raetihi, and many important archaeological sites such as Willis Redoubt, Waiu Pa and Te Aputa Pa. The accurate identification of historic heritage sites, structures, places or areas including the identification of currently "unknown" or "undiscovered" sites, structures, places or areas is an issue in our region, as is their protection from potential threats including demolition, "demolition by neglect", fire and flood and earthworks.

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 18

End of hearing report.
Recommendations
SHH 9, and 18

Subdivision and land use can also have a negative effect on historic heritage values. This is particularly an issue in coastal areas which are rich in historic heritage sites, including waahi tapu and archaeological sites. Territorial Authorities can control subdivision and land development to ensure that adverse impacts are minimised-avoided, remedied or mitigated. is controlled by Territorial Authorities.

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 10



Guidance Note: In determining whether an activity is inappropriate “appropriate” decision makers may refer to the document New Zealand Historic Places Trust (3 August 2007) Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guide No. 1 Regional Policy Statements (p 12 – 13) which provides an a best practice example of the matters to be considered by local authorities. These matters include – respect values, diversity and community resources, sustainability, Maori heritage, research and documentation, respect for physical material, understanding significance, respect for contents, curtilage and setting.

Along with the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities, a number of other agencies have responsibilities towards the identification and/or management of historic heritage. These agencies include the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT), the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) and the Department of Conservation. In particular, the modification of archaeological sites is controlled by the NZHPT, and a person carrying out any activities that may damage, destroy or modify these sites must have authority from the NZHPT to do so. The NZAA owns and manages the national database of archaeological records, the Site Recording Scheme.¹

7.2 Significant Resource Management Issues

Issue 7-1: Indigenous biological diversity

Indigenous biological diversity is not being maintained in the Manawatu-Wanganui Region. Only a small proportion of the original extent of indigenous habitats remains as a result of historical land development practices. The diversity within remaining areas is declining owing to their isolation and/or as a consequence of a range of activities, most notably:

- (a) pest plants and animals
- (b) stock access
- (c) land drainage, which impacts upon wetlands
- (d) perched culverts and other barriers to fish migration
- (e) run-off and discharges causing poor water quality
- (f) vegetation clearance*.

Issue 7-2: Landscapes and natural character

- (a) The Region’s landscapes are at risk from the effects of development, particularly the Tararua and Ruahine ranges. Developments with the potential for greatest impact include wind farms, residential subdivision and other major structures.
- (b) The natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins is at risk from the effects of land-use activities and development, particularly new river works, drainage and subdivision in areas with a high degree of naturalness.

¹ Guidance Note: In determining whether an activity is inappropriate “appropriate” decision makers may refer to the document New Zealand Historic Places Trust (3 August 2007) Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guide No. 1 Regional Policy Statements (p 12 – 13) which provides an a best practice example of the matters to be considered by local authorities. These matters include – respect values, diversity and community resources, sustainability, Maori heritage, research and documentation, respect for physical material, understanding significance, respect for contents, curtilage and setting.

Issue 7-3: Historic Heritage

Recommendation
HH 4 page 44

Historic heritage is at risk from the effects of land-use, including and development activities, particularly land disturbance*, activities in the beds of rivers and lakes, and discharges to land and water.

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 11



Objectives

Recommendation BIO 5 page 33 altered by end of hearing recommendation x

Recommended change to remove (a) – (c) as a result of pre-hearing meeting 24 October, reinstated in modified form as recommended by

Objective 7-1: Indigenous biological diversity

~~The existing level of~~ Indigenous biological diversity is maintained or enhanced. ~~by:~~ into the future by ensuring that:

- ~~(a) Protecting Rare and Threatened Habitats*;~~
- ~~(b) Maintaining At-Risk Habitats*; and~~
- ~~(c) Enhancing the function of the best representative examples of Rare and Threatened Habitats*, and At-Risk Habitats*;~~
- ~~(d) rare and threatened habitats*, as defined in Schedule E, are protected from activities that may cause any more than minor loss or modification to the representativeness, distinctiveness or ecological context of the rare and threatened habitat*, as assessed in accordance with Table 7.1.~~
- ~~(e) at-risk habitats*, as defined in Schedule E, are maintained by ensuring that activities do not cause any significant adverse effects on their to the representativeness, distinctiveness or ecological context of the at risk habitat*, as assessed in accordance with Table 7.1~~
- ~~(f) the best representative examples of rare and threatened habitats* and at-risk habitats* are proactively managed in order to improve their function.~~

This Objective relates to Issue 7-1.

Whāinga 7-1: He kanorau koiora taketake

Mea ake nei ka tiakina te taumata o nāianeī o te kanorau koiora taketake kia hua ai:

- (a) Ka whakamarumarutia ngā wāhi noho (e ai ki Schedule E) kua āhua onge, kua whakawetia hoki i ngā ngohe ka whakamate pea, ka whakarerekē rānei i te āhuatanga, te wehe kē, āhuatanga taupuhi kaiao rānei o ēnei wāhi
- (b) Ka tiakina ngā wāhi noho (e ai ki Schedule E) ka tāruke ki te mate kia hua ai e kore e puta i ngā ngohe pānga kōaro ki ō rātou āhuatanga, wehe kē rānei, āhuatanga taupuhi kaiao rānei, ā
- (c) Ka tino whakahaeretia ngā tauira tino pai rawa atu o ngā wāhi noho kua āhua onge, kua whakawetia hoki, ka tāruke ki te mate hoki, hei whakapai ake i ā rātou mahi.

Objective 7-2: Landscapes and natural character

- (a) The characteristics and values of the outstanding landscapes identified in Schedule F are protected as far as practicable.
- (b) Adverse effects, including cumulative adverse effects, on the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, and rivers, lakes and their margins are:
 - (i) avoided in areas with a high degree of naturalness
 - (ii) avoided, remedied or mitigated in other areas.



Whāinga 7-2: Ngā mata whenua me te āhuratanga māori

- (a) Ka whakamarumarutia ngā āhuratanga me ngā ūara o ngā mata whenua motuhake (e ai ki Schedule F) e tika ana.
- (b) Ko ngā pānga kōaro, ehara tonu ko ngā pānga kōaro hui katoa, ki te āhuratanga māori o te taiao takutai moana, ngā papa waiwai, ngā awa, ngā roto hoki, me ō rātou takiwā:
- (i) Ka parea i roto i ngā wāhi nui te āhua māori, ā
- (ii) Ka parea, ka whakatikaina, ka whakangāwaritia i wāhi kē.

Objective 7-3: Historic Heritage

Historic heritage is protected from activities that would ~~significantly reduce~~ significantly reduce ~~have an adverse effect on~~ heritage qualities ~~values~~.

This Objective relates to Issue 7-3.

Whāinga 7-3: Ngā taonga tuku iho o mua

Ka whakamarumarutia ngā taonga tuku iho o mua i ngā ngohe whakaiti i ngā ūara taonga tuku iho.

7.3

Policies

7.3.1

Indigenous Biological Diversity

Policy 7-1: Responsibilities for maintaining indigenous biological diversity

In accordance with s 62(1)(i) RMA, local authority responsibilities for controlling land use activities for the purpose of maintaining indigenous biological diversity in the Manawatu-Wanganui Region are apportioned as follows:

- (a) **The Regional Council shall be responsible for:**
- (i) developing objectives, policies and methods for the purpose of establishing a region-wide approach for maintaining indigenous biological diversity
- (ii) developing rules controlling land use activities to protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna for the purpose of maintaining biological diversity.
- (b) **Territorial Authorities shall be responsible for:**
- ~~(i) Ensuring that implementing the objectives and policies of this chapter are taken into account when developing rules and making decisions on subdivision and land-use consent applications~~
- (ii) retaining schedules of notable trees and amenity trees in their district plans ~~and/or~~ such other measures as they see fit for the purpose of recognising amenity, intrinsic and cultural values associated with indigenous biological diversity, but not for the purpose of protecting significant vegetation and habitat as described in (a)(ii) above.
- (c) **Both the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities shall be responsible for:**

Recommendation
HH 5 page 47

End of hearing report.
Recommendations
SHH 12 and 17

Recommendation
BIO 6 page 40

Further changes to
this recommendation
are as a result of
caucusing of experts
and correction to
original
recommendation.



- (i) Recognising and providing for matters described in s6(c) of the RMA and having particular regard to matters identified in s(7)(d) RMA when exercising functions and powers under the RMA, outside the specific responsibilities allocated above, including when making decisions on resource consent applications.

This Policy relates to Issue 7-1 and Objective 7-1.

Policy 7-1A: Regulation of Activities affecting indigenous biological diversity

(aa) Rare habitats*, Threatened Habitats* and At-Risk Habitats* identified in accordance with Schedule E shall be recognised as significant areas of indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.

(a) The Regional Council shall protect Rare Habitats* and Threatened Habitats*, and maintain and enhance At-Risk Habitats* by regulating the following activities through its regional plan and decisions on resource consents:

- (i) Vegetation clearance* and land disturbance* within these habitats; and
- (ii) Discharges of contaminants to land or water, diversions of water including for the purpose of drainage, and takes of water with potential adverse effects on these habitats.

(b) When regulating the activities described in subsection (a), the Regional Council shall:

- (i) Allow activities undertaken for the purpose of pest control or habitat maintenance or enhancement;
- (ii) Recognise and Provide for the establishment of infrastructure of regional or national importance as identified in Policy 3-1; and
- (iii) Allow the maintenance* and upgrade* of existing structures, including infrastructure*.

(c) When exercising functions and powers as set out in Policy 7-1 above, Territorial Authorities shall:

- (i) Allow activities undertaken for the purpose of pest control or habitat maintenance or enhancement;
- (ii) Provide for the establishment of infrastructure of regional or national importance as identified in Policy 3-1; and
- (iii) Allow the maintenance* and upgrade* of existing structures, including infrastructure*.

This Policy relates to Issue 7-1 and Objective 7-1.

Policy 7-2: Activities in Rare and Threatened Habitats

- ~~(a) Rare and threatened habitats* are identified in accordance with Schedule E.~~
- ~~(b) Rare and threatened habitats* shall be protected by generally not allowing any of the following activities unless the provisions of subsection (c) or (d) or (e) apply:~~

This recommended policy is a result of the Planning Review. It combines Policy 7-2(a) - (c) and Policy 7-3(a) and (b). It has additions as a result of recommendation x of the end of hearing report.

Policy 7-2(a) - (c) has been incorporated into Policy 7-1A above. Clauses (d) and (e) (including changes as a result of pre-hearing meetings and caucusing) has been incorporated into recommended Policy 7-12-6



Recommendation
BIO 7 page 48

- ~~(i) — vegetation clearance* or land disturbance* within these areas~~
- ~~(ii) — discharges of contaminants to land or water, or drainage or diversion or takes of water, within or near these areas.~~
- ~~(c) — The activities described in subsection (b) will be allowed where they are for the purpose of pest control or habitat maintenance or enhancement.~~
- ~~(d) — The activities described in subsection (b) may be allowed where the activity is for the purpose of providing or maintaining infrastructure of regional or national importance as identified in Policy 3-1 and~~
 - ~~(i) — There will be no significant adverse effect on the factors which contribute to the significance of the area as assessed in accordance with table 7.1, and~~
 - ~~(ii) — Any more than minor adverse effects are avoided as far as practicable, and~~
 - ~~(iii) — Any more than minor (but less than significant) adverse effects are adequately remedied or mitigated, including through the use of financial contributions to adequately compensate or offset the adverse effects, and~~
 - ~~(iv) — The remedy, mitigation or financial contribution identified in (ii) above results in a net biodiversity conservation gain to the habitat type in the Region Ecological District or Ecological Region.~~
- ~~(e) — The activities described in subsection (b) may be allowed for other purposes where there are no more than minor adverse effects on the representativeness, rarity and distinctiveness or ecological context of the rare and threatened habitat*, as assessed in accordance with Schedule E Table 7.1.~~

Policy 7-3: Activities in at-risk habitats

Recommendation
BIO 8 page 53

Policy 7-3(a) - (c) has been incorporated into Policy 7-1A above. Clause (d) (including changes as a result of pre-hearing meetings and caucusing) has been incorporated into recommended Policy 12-5

- ~~(a) — At-risk habitats* are identified in accordance with Schedule E.~~
- ~~(b) — At-risk habitats* shall be maintained by regulating the following activities, and by making consent decisions in accordance with subsections (c) and (d):~~
 - ~~(i) — vegetation clearance* and land disturbance* within these areas~~
 - ~~(ii) — discharges of contaminants to land or water, and drainage and diversion and takes of water, within or near these areas.~~
- ~~(c) — The activities described in subsection (b) will be allowed where they are for the purpose of pest control or habitat maintenance or enhancement~~
- ~~(d) — Where the activities described in subsection (b) are carried out for other purposes, consent decisions will be made on a case by case basis, having regard to an assessment of the ecological significance of the site based upon the site's representativeness, rarity and distinctiveness, and ecological context as assessed in accordance with Table 7.1 Schedule E. Consents will generally be granted in circumstances where:~~
 - ~~(i) — there will be no significant adverse effects on the factors which contribute to the significance of the area as assessed in accordance with Schedule E, or~~
 - ~~(ii) — any significant adverse effects can be adequately avoided, remedied or mitigated, or~~
 - ~~(iii) — financial contributions can be used to adequately compensate for or offset significant adverse effects.~~



Recommendation
BIO 9 page 59

Policy 7-4: Proactive management of **representative** habitats

- (a) The Regional Council ~~will~~ **shall** aim to maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity ~~improve the health and function of the best representative examples of rare and threatened habitats* and at risk habitats*~~ by working in partnership with relevant landowners and other parties with a legal interest in the land to establish a plan and incentive programme for the voluntary proactive management of ~~each of these areas~~ identified sites by 2016.
- (b) For the purposes of subsection (a), separate programmes will be established for wetlands, bush remnants, native fish communities and coastal ecosystems.
- (c) The management plans under subsection (a) will generally address the following matters as a minimum:
- (i) fencing and prevention of stock access
 - (ii) pest control
 - (iii) planting
 - (iv) agreed land uses
 - (v) work and materials to be provided by the Regional Council or a third party
 - (vi) financial assistance to be provided by the Regional Council or a third party
 - (vii) monitoring
 - (viii) legal options for ensuring longevity of the measures implemented.

This Policy relates to Issue 7-1 and Objective 7-1.

Policy 7-5: Fostering an ethic of stewardship

The Regional Council ~~will aim to~~ **shall** equip landowners and others with the information they need to act as good stewards for biodiversity, and to act responsibly and proactively. These initiatives will be additional to the council-led programmes under Policy 7-4.

This Policy relates to Issue 7-1 and Objective 7-1.

Policy 7-6: Pest plants and animals

- (a) To the extent that they relate to the maintenance of biodiversity, the plant and animal pest management functions of the Regional Council ~~will~~ **shall** primarily target pests threatening rare habitats* and threatened habitats* and at-risk habitats*.
- (b) When exercising functions and powers as set out in Policy 7-1 above, making decisions about subdivisions and land-use activities, territorial authorities shall take into account the risks of introducing plant or animal pests into rare and threatened habitats*, at-risk habitats* and nearby areas shall be taken into account.

This Policy relates to Issue 7-1 and Objective 7-1.



Table 7.1 Criteria used for assessing ecological significance

This table is now linked to decision making policies in Chapter 12 and is recommended to be move there as recommended Policy 12-7

Criteria	Explanation
Representativeness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site comprises habitat type that is under-represented (20% or less of known or likely former cover). LENZ land environments, national spatial databases and predictive models will be used to assess representativeness.
Rarity and Distinctiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site supports one or more indigenous species that are classified as threatened (as determined by the current New Zealand Threat Classification System and Lists); or The site supports an indigenous species, or community of indigenous species, that is distinctive to the Manawatu-Wanganui Region; or The site supports an indigenous species, or community of indigenous species, that is at a natural distributional limit; or The site supports an indigenous species, or community of indigenous species, that forms a natural disjunct defining a floristic gap; or The site supports an indigenous species, or community of indigenous species, that is uncommon within the area; or The site comprises indigenous vegetation or habitat (which can include physical substrate) that was originally (pre-human) uncommon in New Zealand.
Ecological Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site provides connectivity (physical or process connections) between two or more areas of indigenous habitat; or The site provides an ecological buffer (provides protection) to an adjacent ecological significant habitat, including aquatic habitat; or The site is an area of indigenous habitat that forms part of an indigenous ecological sequence (connectivity between different habitat types across a gradient (e.g. altitudinal or hydrological)); or The site provides important breeding areas, seasonal food sources, or is an important component of a migration path; or The site is an area of indigenous vegetation that provides habitat for indigenous species that are dependent on large and contiguous habitat; or The site is an area of indigenous vegetation that is large relative to other sites in the area, comprises indigenous species diversity typical of its habitat type and exhibits functioning ecosystem processes.
Previously Assessed Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any site assessed at a previous time, or by a previous agency, on criteria in keeping with the policies, objectives and criteria of this plan, to be of ecological significance; or Any site that is legally protected by the Queen Elizabeth II Trust, the Nature Heritage Trust, Nga Whenua Rahui, Territorial Local Authority Reserve or Covenant, or Department of Conservation Covenant unless it can be proven to not meet any of the other criteria in this table.



7.3.2 Landscapes and Natural Character

Policy 7-7: Outstanding landscapes

The landscapes listed in Schedule F shall be recognised as outstanding. All subdivision, use and development affecting these areas shall be managed in a manner which:

- (a) avoids or minimises to the extent reasonable any adverse effects on the characteristics and values specified in Schedule F for each landscape
- (b) takes into account and avoids any cumulative adverse effects
- (c) takes into account the policies in Chapter 3 when assessing activities involving renewable energy and infrastructure of regional importance.

Policy 7-8: Natural character

The natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins shall be preserved and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development, by encouraging the natural character of these areas to be restored where appropriate and by making decisions on resource consent applications that take into account whether the activity:

- (d) is compatible with the existing level of modification to the environment
- (e) is necessarily located in or near the wetland, river or lake and whether any alternatives exist
- (f) is of an appropriate form, scale and design to blend with the existing landforms, geological features and vegetation
- (g) does not significantly disrupt natural processes or existing ecosystems.

Policy 7-9: Public access

- (a) Activities within or near rivers and lakes shall be established and operated in a manner which readily provides for public access, and public access may be restricted only where necessary for safety, cultural or conservation purposes.
- (b) Public access for recreational purposes shall recognise the need to protect rare and threatened habitats* and at-risk habitats*.

7.3.3 Historic Heritage

Policy 7-10: Historic heritage

Historic heritage is recognised as a matter of national importance and all resource-use activities controlled by the Regional Council **and Territorial Authorities** shall be managed in a manner which protects historic heritage **and archaeological qualities values** and avoids, remedies or mitigates any adverse effects, including cumulative adverse effects, on historic heritage, as far as practicable.

[This Policy relates to Issue 7-3 and Objective 7-3.](#)

Policy 7-11 Historic Heritage Identification.

- (a) Territorial Authorities shall develop and maintain a schedule or database of known historic heritage for their district, and the schedule or database shall be included in the District Plan.

Recommendation
HH 6 page 53

End of hearing report.
Recommendations
SHH 13 and 17

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 14



End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 14, 17 and 18

Supplementary
Recommendation
S HH 6 page 14

- (b) The Regional Council shall develop and maintain a schedule or database of known historic heritage for the coastal marine area , and the schedule or database shall be included in the Regional Plan.
- (c) Places and areas for inclusion in the Historic Heritage schedules or databases shall be identified include a statement of the qualities that contribute to each site, structure, place or area, including but not limited to using the following qualities criteria:
 - (i) Physical Values – archaeological, architectural, technological, scientific, rarity, representativeness, integrity, vulnerability, context or group.
 - (ii) Historic Values – People, events, patterns.
 - (iii) Cultural Values – identity, public esteem, commemorative, education, tangata whenua, statutory recognition, tangata whenua (including sites of significance to Maori as identified in accordance with the relevant methods in Chapter 4, namely 'Memoranda of Partnership', 'Code of Practice for Waahi Tapu Protection and Discovery', 'Regional Iwi Environmental Projects', and 'Iwi Management Plans').

7.4

(Methods

The main non-regulatory methods the Regional Council will pursue are outlined below as action plan summaries.

Recommendation
BIO 13 page 68

Recommendation
BIO 14 page 70

<u>Project Name/Method</u> <u>7-1</u>	Wetlands – Biodiversity
<u>Project</u> Description	<p>The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect and restore priority wetlands throughout the Region. Resources will be directed towards the most significant sites.</p> <p>Wetland owners will be provided advice and financial/project management assistance to carry out enhancement and protection measures including fencing, planting, and pest (plant and animal) control. The Regional Council will seek funding from third parties to assist with this project, and encourage the establishment of covenants.</p> <p>Monitoring of the effectiveness of the protection and enhancement works will be undertaken.</p> <p>The project will include publicity to increase public awareness about the importance of wetlands and indigenous biological diversity.</p>
Who	Regional Council, <u>Landowners</u> , <u>other relevant consent holders</u> , <u>Federated Farmers</u> , Territorial Authorities, Department of Conservation, non-government agencies including NZ Fish and Game, QEII Trust, NZ Wetland Trust, NZ Landcare Trust and relevant funding agencies including the He Tini Awa Trust, Biodiversity Condition Fund, Nga Whenua Rahui and Ducks Unlimited.
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5.
Targets	The top 100 wetlands in the Region are actively managed, including protection and/or <u>enhancement</u> restoration measures, within 10 years of this Plan becoming operative.

<u>Project Name/Method</u> <u>7-2</u>	Bush Remnants – Biodiversity
<u>Project</u> Description	The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect



<u>Project Name/Method</u> <u>7-2</u>	Bush Remnants – Biodiversity
	<p>and enhance priority bush remnants throughout the Region. Resources will be directed towards the most significant sites.</p> <p>Bush remnant owners will be provided with advice and financial/project management assistance to carry out enhancement and protection measures including fencing, planting, and pest (plant and animal) control. The Regional Council will seek funding from third parties to assist with this project, and encourage the establishment of covenants.</p> <p>Monitoring of the effectiveness of the protection and enhancement works will be undertaken.</p> <p>The project will include publicity to increase public awareness about the importance of bush remnants and indigenous biological diversity.</p>
Who	Regional Council, <u>Landowners</u> , <u>Federated Farmers</u> , Territorial Authorities, Department of Conservation, non-government agencies including QEII Trust and NZ Landcare Trust, and relevant funding agencies including the He Tini Awa Trust, Biodiversity Condition Fund and Nga Whenua Rahui.
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 <u>and Policy 7-5</u> .
Targets	The top 200 bush remnants in the Region are being actively managed, including protection and/or enhancement measures, within 10 years of this Plan becoming operative.

<u>Project Name/Method</u> <u>7-3</u>	Sites of Significance – Aquatic
<u>Project</u> Description	<p>The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect and enhance water <u>bodiesways</u> and parts of water <u>bodiesways</u> that serve an important role in the lifecycle of the Region's rare and threatened native fish. Resources will be directed towards the most significant sites.</p> <p><u>Waterway Owners of land adjacent to water bodies</u> will be provided advice and financial/project management assistance to carry out enhancement and protection measures including fencing, planting, replacement of perched culverts and pest (plant and animal) control. The Regional Council will seek funding from third parties to assist with this project.</p> <p>Monitoring of the effectiveness of the protection and enhancement works will be undertaken.</p> <p>The project will include publicity to increase public awareness about the importance of native fish and indigenous biological diversity.</p>
Who	Regional Council, <u>Landowners</u> , <u>other relevant consent holders</u> <u>Federated Farmers</u> , Territorial Authorities, Department of Conservation and funding agencies including the He Tini Awa Trust, Biodiversity Condition Fund and Nga Whenua Rahui.
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 <u>and Policy 7-5</u> .
Targets	The top 100 sites of significance – aquatic are actively managed, including protection and/or enhancement measures, within 10 years of this Plan becoming operative.

Recommendation
BIO 13 page 68

<u>Project Name/Method</u> <u>7-4</u>	Inanga Spawning and Native Fishery Sites – Biodiversity
<u>Project</u> Description	The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect



Recommendation
BIO 13 page 68

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-4	Inanga Spawning and Native Fishery Sites – Biodiversity
	<p>and enhance water <u>bodiesways</u> and parts of water <u>bodiesways</u> (wetlands and streams) that serve an important role in the lifecycle of the inanga and whitebait species. Resources will be directed towards the most significant sites.</p> <p><u>Waterway Owners of land adjacent to water bodies</u> will be provided advice and financial/project management assistance to carry out enhancement and protection measures including fencing, planting, replacement of perched culverts and pest (plant and animal) control. The Regional Council will seek funding from third parties to assist with this project.</p> <p>Monitoring of the effectiveness of the protection and enhancement works will be undertaken.</p> <p>The project will include publicity to increase public awareness about the importance of native fish and indigenous biological diversity.</p>
Who	Regional Council, <u>Landowners, other relevant consent holders Federated Farmers</u> , Territorial Authorities, Department of Conservation and funding agencies including the He Tini Awa Trust, Biodiversity Condition Fund and Nga Whenua Rahui.
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 <u>and Policy 7-5..</u>
Targets	The top 30 inanga spawning and native fishery sites are actively managed, including protection and/or enhancement measures, within 10 years of this Plan becoming operative.

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-5	Biodiversity (Terrestrial and Aquatic) Research, Monitoring and Reporting
<u>Project</u> Description	The aim of this project is to develop an integrated research, monitoring and reporting programme that supports delivery and refinement of existing policies and methods, guides implementation planning, and allows implementation effectiveness to be assessed.
Who	Predominantly Horizons Regional Council, with assistance from research institutes, universities and non-government agencies and community groups as required.
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 <u>and Policy 7-5..</u>
Targets	A research, monitoring and reporting programme that supports delivery and refinement of existing policies and methods, and guides and assesses implementation.

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-6	Education in Schools – Biodiversity
<u>Project</u> Description	The aim of this project is to raise awareness amongst the youth of the Region of the significance of our indigenous biological diversity, the threats to it, and what they can do to protect/restore it. This will be achieved through various environmental education programmes/initiatives eg., Green RIG, EnviroSchools, Trees for Survival, <u>Youth Environment Forum</u> etc.
Who	Horizons Regional Council, Department of Conservation, and various national and local environmental education providers
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 <u>and Policy 7-5..</u>
Targets	The Regional Council develops and delivers a biodiversity-related environmental education programme



<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-7	District Planning – Natural Features, Landscapes and Habitats
<u>Project</u> Description	<p>The Regional Council will formally submit on resource consent applications received by Territorial Authorities for land use activities where there is potential for effects on outstanding natural features, landscapes or native habitats.</p> <p>The Regional Council will formally seek changes to district plans if required to ensure provisions are in place to provide an appropriate level of protection to natural features, landscapes and native habitats.</p> <p><u>The Regional Council will formally seek changes to district plans if required to ensure district plan rules requiring protection of indigenous vegetation and the habitats of indigenous fauna do not duplicate rules on biodiversity in this plan.</u></p>
Who	Regional Council and Territorial Authorities.
Links to Policy	This <u>project links to Method implements</u> Policies.7-1, 7-7 and 7-8.
Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions completed on consent applications. • District plan changes sought if necessary <u>by 2008 after this plan becomes operative.</u>

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-8	<u>Biodiversity Advice and information</u>
<u>Description</u>	<u>The aim of this project is to provide land owners and other parties with an interest in biodiversity with advice and information about the state of biodiversity in the region, information about the rules and methods contained within this plan to manage biodiversity and advice about how these methods and rules will be implemented. This includes providing guidance on the rules contained within this plan so that they can be easily understood and used by landowners.</u>
<u>Who</u>	<u>The Regional Council, with assistance from landowners and community groups as required.</u>
<u>Links to Policy</u>	<u>This Method implements Policy 7-4 and 7-5.</u>
<u>Targets</u>	<u>An education and advice programme that is freely available and allows those interested to understand the use the methods and rules provided for in this plan.</u>

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-9	Proactive Identification of Historic Heritage
<u>Description</u>	<p>The aim of this project is to determine an approach(s) to provide for the proactive identification of historic heritage resources within the Manwatu-Wanganui Region.</p> <p>The approach(s) may range from, for example, the development of a region wide database or list of areas with a high potential for containing unidentified historic heritage sites, <u>structures, places or areas</u>, to the development of policy amendments or variations to existing Regional or Territorial Authority Plans, or agreed partnerships for funding and carrying out surveys.</p>

Supplementary Recommendation S HH 7 page 15

End of hearing report. Recommendation SHH 18



<u>Project Name-Method</u> <u>7-9</u>	Proactive Identification of Historic Heritage
Who	Regional Council, Territorial Authorities, New Zealand Historic Places Trust, New Zealand Archaeological Association, <u>Iwi Authorities</u>
Links to Policy	This Method implements Policy 7-10 and 7-11.
Targets	An approach(s) is agreed upon within two years of this Plan becoming operative.



7.5 Anticipated Environmental Results

Anticipated Environmental Result	Link to Policy	Indicator	Data Source
<p><u>Except for change because of natural processes, or change authorised by a resource consent</u>, by 2017, the area of each habitat type identified as rare, threatened or at-risk is the same as that estimated prior to this Plan becoming operative, and no "not threatened" habitat types have fallen into the at-risk category.</p>	<p>Living Heritage Policies: 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-5, 7-6 and 7-8</p> <p>Administration Policies: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 and 2-5</p> <p>Water Policies: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5, 6-7, 6-10, 6-17, 6-18, 6-19, 6-26 and 6-28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of each habitat type compared to former extent Number of rare and threatened and at-risk habitat sites damaged by unauthorised activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landcare Research: Land Environments NZ Tool, Ecosat tool and Landcover Database 2 tool Horizons' incidents database <p style="text-align: right;">Recommendation BIO 20 page 81</p>
<p>By 2017, the Region's top 100 wetlands and top 200 bush remnants will be in better condition than that measured prior to this Plan becoming operative.</p>	<p>Living Heritage Policies: 7-1, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6 and 7-8</p> <p>Administration Policies: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 and 2-5</p> <p>Water Policies: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5, 6-7, 6-10, 6-17, 6-18, 6-19, 6-26 and 6-28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of top 100 wetlands and top 200 bush remnants under proactive management Habitat condition measure(s) <u>(which, where possible will be consistent with those used by the Department of Conservation)</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horizons' identification and assessment of significant indigenous aquatic, coastal and terrestrial habitat types Horizons' progress reports on results of proactive management of top wetland and bush remnant habitats
<p><u>By 2017 the Regions known historic heritage will be recorded in District Plan and Regional Council Schedules or databases</u></p>	<p><u>Living Heritage Policies: 7-10 and 7-11</u></p>	<p><u>Territorial Authorities have Schedules of known historic heritage sites in their District Plans, or databases</u></p> <p><u>HRC has a schedule or database of historic heritage for in the coastal marine area in the Regional Plan</u></p>	<p><u>District Plans or Databases</u></p> <p><u>HRC Regional Plan or database</u></p> <p>End of hearing report. Recommendation SHH 16 and 18</p>
<p>Except for change because of natural processes, at 2017 the characteristics/values of all outstanding landscapes and natural features identified in the Region (Schedule F) will be in the same state as assessed prior to this Plan becoming operative.</p>	<p>Living Heritage Policies: 7.7 and 7-8</p> <p>Administration Policies: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 and 2-5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Schedule F outstanding landscapes and natural features where identified characteristics/values have been damaged Level of protection afforded to Schedule F outstanding landscapes and natural features in Territorial Authority district plans Ratio of successful submissions versus total submissions made on outstanding landscapes and natural features to Territorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outstanding landscapes and natural features characteristics/values assessment survey Horizons' incidents database Horizons' SED (Subdivision Enquiry Database) database Territorial Authority district plans Territorial Authority consent decisions

Recommendation BIO 21 page 81

Recommendation -H 1 page 33

		Authority consent planning processes	
--	--	---	--

7.6 Explanations and Principal Reasons

Biodiversity

Rare habitats* and threatened habitats* are made up of habitats that are either naturally rare in the Region, (that is, there was never a large number of that type of habitat) or have been reduced to level of ~~less than~~ 20% or less of their original extent in the Region. At this level they cannot sustain themselves without intervention. Even a small loss of, or small amount of damage to, these habitats may lead to the total loss of this habitat type in the Region.

At-risk habitats* are made up of habitats that have been reduced to a level of less than ~~33~~50% of their original extent in the Region. These habitats are at risk of falling into the threatened category (described above) in the lifetime of this Plan if something is not done to prevent that habitat loss. At-risk habitats* also include those areas which provide a habitat for a rare or threatened species.

The objectives, policies and methods adopted here aim to prevent the further deliberate loss of rare and threatened habitats and to control activities which may have an adverse effect on the unique characteristics of at-risk habitats*. Also included are objectives, policies and methods to actively manage, improve and protect the best examples.

Landscapes

The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance. While this issue is best dealt with at a territorial level, it is considered important that this document should continue to provide a list of outstanding natural features and landscapes and their associated values. The objectives, policies and methods adopted here are to provide guidance and direction in the protection of these values.

Natural character

Preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins is a matter of national importance. The approach of the One Plan is to maintain the current degree of naturalness of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers, lakes and their margins. The objectives, policies and methods adopted in this document aim to achieve this by providing policy guidance on natural character to be taken into account when making decisions on applications which may affect natural character and by actively protecting and managing biodiversity.

Recommendation
HH 1 page 33

Historic Heritage

The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance. It is considered important that this document provide a regional framework for the protection of historic heritage by (a) requiring Territorial Authorities and the Regional Council to identify historic heritage sites, structures, places or areas and to list them in the form of a Schedule or database, and (b) requiring the Regional Council to manage the effects on historic heritage for those resource use activities for which they have jurisdiction. The Objective 7-3 and Policies 7-10 and 7-11 adopted here provide the regional framework, guidance and direction required to manage historic heritage values.

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 17 and 18

