



Natural Features and Landscapes

Our Region has many outstanding natural features and landscapes, from its mountains and ranges to rivers and valleys, and special coastal areas. These features help define the Region and shape our view of what makes it special.

What are the issues facing our Region?

There is often concern about developments that may alter the unique character of the features and landscapes that help define our Region. Wind farms and residential subdivision are among developments with the greatest potential to adversely affect these features and landscapes.

Outstanding natural features and landscapes need to be identified and listed, and a consistent approach is needed for councils to use when assessing their characteristics and values.

How does the One Plan address these issues?

The One Plan recognises the importance of regionally outstanding features and landscapes that need to be protected from inappropriate use and development. A list of regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes has been identified in the One Plan. It is expected that more will be added as they are identified. It also lists factors councils have to use to assess and identify features and landscapes, and sets out principles for how subdivision, use and development affecting these areas must be managed.

What has changed since the Proposed One Plan was released?

Maps showing significant landscape areas have been removed and eight areas that could be included in the future following consultation with affected landowners or further studies by Horizons are listed.

What do the One Plan rules mean for landowners and others?

Assessments will be needed to define the extent of some natural features or landscapes identified in the One Plan. Any development proposed for those areas, and any subsequent work must be managed according to the Plan's requirements. See Chapter 7 and Schedule H.

How can Horizons help?

Horizons staff can provide information on identified natural features and landscapes, and advice on where to go for further information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Natural features and landscapes in the Region are classified using a range of factors, including visual and scenic characteristics, geological features, and recreational, scientific and ecological value. Some regionally outstanding features and landscapes listed in Schedule F of the One Plan include:

- Tongariro & Whanganui National Parks
- Whakapapa and Manganui o te Ao Rivers
- Parts of the Upper Whanganui and Rangitikei Rivers
- Kaimanawa and Ruahine Ranges
- Manawatu Gorge
- Parts of the west and east coastlines.



Need more information?

A copy of the One Plan is available on Horizons' website www.horizons.govt.nz

To request a copy of the One Plan on CD or to speak with someone about how the changes may affect you freephone **0508 800 800**