

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 Landscapes hearings, have been heard as part of another hearing 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 Landscapes and Natural Character officers report are shown in **Pink**. Recommendations as a result of the planning review are shown in **Orange**. Recommendations as a result of the supplementary report for Biodiversity are shown in **Red**. Recommendations as a result of the supplementary report for Landscapes and Natural Character are shown in **Blue**.

Terms defined within the plan glossary are *Italicised* and marked with a ‘ * ’ symbol. Terms defined in the Resource Management Act 1991 are *Italicised* and marked with a ‘ ^ ’ symbol.

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) **Natural features, Landscapes and natural character** – The management and protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes and ~~the management of~~ the natural character of the coastal environment, *wetlands*[^], *rivers*[^], *lakes*[^] and their margins from inappropriate subdivision, use and development
- (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.

Recommendation
SLSNC 18

Chapter 3 – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – includes provisions regarding the consideration and management of effects of particular activities, including renewable energy and *infrastructure*[^] of regional and national importance, that are potentially relevant in addition to Chapter 7 provisions for landscape and natural character.

Recommendation
SLSNC 23

Chapter 9 – Activities in the *Coastal Marine Area*[^] (CMA) – includes provisions regarding the management of activities in the CMA, including policy guidance on the elements of landscapes and seascapes that contribute to the natural character of the CMA, that are potentially relevant in addition to Chapter 7 provisions for landscape and natural character.



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 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.

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 Natural features, Landscapes and Natural Character

The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance. Outstanding natural features and landscapes are memorable, affording aesthetic pleasure and experiences that are shared and valued by a wider community. Outstanding natural features and landscapes have natural and cultural dimensions that are central to our identity and our sense of belonging, they are places that reveal our history and a coherence and connectedness in our lives through time and space.

Recommendation
BIO 3 page 23

Recommendation
LSNC 6



A number of outstanding ~~or unique natural features and regional~~ landscapes and their associated values are identified in Schedule F. ~~These outstanding natural features and landscapes exist on both public and private land and were originally identified by the Regional Council, in consultation with the Territorial Authorities and the Department of Conservation, and included in the Regional Policy Statement for the Manawatu–Wanganui Region (August 1998). In determining these natural features and landscapes as “outstanding and regionally significant” specific matters were considered, including geographical and geological features and their contribution to the Region’s character, ecological significance, the cultural significance of the site or area, amenity, intrinsic scientific and recreational values, and any recognised (national or regional) level of protection.~~

~~Territorial Authorities have the responsibility of controlling land use, hence decisions on land use. Although the issue of landscape change and the management of competing pressures for the subdivision, use and development of land that may affect natural features and landscapes is best most appropriately dealt with at a territorial level. However, to aid local decision making, some regional policies provide guidance for managing the effects of subdivision, use and development that may affect regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes. Other regional policies giveing 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 generally accepted as being an expression of:

- natural landform
- natural water bodies (lakes, rivers, and the sea)
- vegetation cover (type and pattern)
- natural processes associated with the weather and the ecology
- wildness, exposure, and the natural sculpturing of landforms and vegetation
- the wider landscape context and the site’s relationship to this.

Natural character is a sliding scale and varies from a low degree of natural character naturalness, such as urban environments, to a high degree of natural character 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).

Recommendation
SLSNC 15

~~The natural character of the coastal marine area is covered in Chapter 9. Chapter 9 addresses the management of activities in the coastal marine area (CMA), including policy guidance on the management of the elements of landscapes and seascapes that contribute to the natural character of the CMA. Chapter 7 deals~~



with outstanding natural features and landscapes and the natural character of the entire coastal environment (including the CMA and the area landward of mean high water springs) and any, 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.

End of hearing report.
Recommendation SHH
8

7.1.4

Historic Heritage

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 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

Supplementary
Recommendation
S HH 3b page 8

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: **Natural features, Landscapes and natural character**

- (a) The *Region's*[^] **outstanding natural features and** landscapes **can be adversely affected by** ~~are at risk from the effects of~~ *land*[^] **use activities and** development, ~~particularly the Tararua and Ruahine r~~**Ranges. Adverse effects of development on outstanding natural features and landscapes include the potential for significant adverse cumulative effects.** 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 **can be adversely affected by** ~~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 **natural character naturalness**.

Recommendations
LSNC 7 and LSNC 9

Recommendation
SLSNC 16

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

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: **Natural features** Landscapes and natural character

- (a) The characteristics and values of the Region's regionally outstanding **natural features and** landscapes, ~~including those identified in Schedule E,~~ are **protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development, 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** **natural character**

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

Recommendation
LSNC 8

Recommendation
SLSNC 17



- (ii) avoided, remedied or mitigated in other areas.

(c) The natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands[^], rivers[^], lakes[^] and their margins are rehabilitated or restored where practicable.

This Objective relates to Issue 7-2.

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

- (a) *Ka whakamarumarutia ngā āhuetanga 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 āhuetanga 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.

Recommendation
HH 5 page 47

End of hearing report.
Recommendations
SHH 12 and 17

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~~

Recommendation
BIO 6 page 40

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



- (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:**
 - (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 aActivities 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.

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 12-6



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:

 - ~~(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.~~

Recommendation BIO 7 page 48

Policy 7-3: Activities in at-risk habitats

- ~~(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:~~

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



- ~~(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.~~

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

Recommendation
BIO 9 page 59

- (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.

Recommendation
BIO 12 page 64

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 a 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.
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7.3.2 Landscapes and Natural Character

Policy 7-7(a): Regionally Outstanding natural features and landscapes

Recommendation
LSNC 8

The natural features and landscapes listed in Schedule F Table F1 shall be recognised as regionally outstanding. All subdivision, use and development affecting these areas shall be managed in a manner which:

- (a) avoids adverse effects as far as reasonably practicable and, where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, remedies or mitigates adverse effects[^] or minimises to the extent reasonable any adverse effects on the characteristics and values specified in Schedule F Table F1 for each natural feature or landscape
- (b) ~~takes into account and~~ avoids any significant adverse cumulative adverse effects[^] n the characteristics and values of the outstanding natural features and landscapes listed in Table F1 of Schedule F
- (c) ~~takes into account the policies in Chapter 3 when assessing activities involving renewable energy and infrastructure~~[^] of regional importance.

Recommendation
SLSNC 19

This Policy relates back to Issue 7-2 and Objective 7-2

Policy 7-7(b): Identifying other outstanding natural features and landscapes

Recommendation
SLSNC 20

~~For the purposes of identifying any natural feature or landscape as outstanding and the inclusion of that natural feature or landscape in Schedule F Table F1 or in any District Plan~~[^], the Regional Council and ~~Territorial Authorities~~[^] shall take into account, but shall not be limited to, the assessment factors in Table 7.2.

'Policy 7-7(b): Other outstanding natural features and landscapes

All persons exercising powers and functions under the RMA shall take into account the criteria in Table 7.2 when:

- (a) Identifying outstanding natural features and landscapes; and
- (b) Considering additions of, or alterations to, any outstanding natural feature or landscape listed in Table F1 of Schedule F or in any District Plan; and
- (c) Establishing the relevant values to be considered when assessing effects[^]of the activity on:
 - (i) Outstanding natural features and landscapes listed in Table F1 of Schedule F; or
 - (ii) Any other outstanding natural feature or landscape.

This Policy relates back to Issue 7-2 and Objective 7-2

Policy 7-7(c): Assessment of effects on outstanding natural features and landscapes



In considering the extent to which any subdivision, use or development has the potential to adversely affect the characteristics and values of any outstanding natural feature or landscape listed in Schedule F Table F1 or in any District Plan[^], the assessment of effects shall take into account, but shall not be limited to, the factors listed in Table 7.2.

This Policy relates back to Issue 7-2 and Objective 7-2

Table 7.2 Natural Feature and Landscape Assessment Factors

<u>Assessment factor</u>	<u>Scope</u>
<u>(a) Natural science factors:</u>	<p><u>These factors relate to the geological, ecological, topographical and natural process components of the natural feature or landscape:</u></p> <p><u>(i) Representative: the combination of natural components that form the feature or landscape strongly typifies the character of an area.</u></p> <p><u>(ii) Research and education: all or parts of the feature or landscape are important for natural science research and education.</u></p> <p><u>(iii) Rarity: the feature or landscape is unique or rare within the district[^] or region[^], and few comparable examples exist.</u></p> <p><u>(iv) Ecosystem functioning: the presence of healthy ecosystems is clearly evident in the feature or landscape.</u></p>
<u>(b) Aesthetic values:</u>	<p><u>The aesthetic values of a feature or landscape may be associated with:</u></p> <p><u>(i) Coherence: the patterns of land[^] cover and land[^] use are largely in harmony with the underlying natural pattern of landform and there are no, or few, discordant elements of land[^] cover or land[^] use.</u></p> <p><u>(ii) Vividness: the feature or landscape is visually striking, widely recognised within the local and wider community, and may be regarded as iconic.</u></p> <p><u>(iii) Naturalness: the feature or landscape appears largely unmodified by human activity and the patterns of landform and land[^] cover are an expression of natural processes and intact healthy ecosystems.</u></p> <p><u>(iv) Memorability: the natural feature or landscape makes such an impact on the senses that it becomes unforgettable.</u></p>
<u>(c) Expressiveness (legibility):</u>	<u>The feature or landscape clearly shows the formative natural processes and/or historic influences that led to its existing character.</u>
<u>(d) Transient values:</u>	<u>The consistent and noticeable occurrence of transient</u>



	<u>natural events, such as daily or seasonal changes in weather, vegetation or in wildlife movement, contributes to the character of the feature or landscape.</u>
<u>(e) Shared and recognised values:</u>	<u>The feature or landscape is widely known and is highly valued for its contribution to local identity within its immediate and wider community.</u>
<u>(f) Cultural and spiritual values for tangata whenua[^]:</u>	<u>Maori values inherent in the feature or landscape add to the feature or landscape being recognised as a special place.</u>
<u>(g) Historical associations:</u>	<u>Knowledge of historic events that occurred in and around the feature or landscape is widely held and substantially influences and adds to the value the community attaches to the natural feature or landscape.</u>

Policy 7-8: Natural character

Recommendation
LSNC 10

Recommendation
SLSNC 22

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 or rehabilitated where appropriate and by all persons exercising powers and functions under the RMA taking into account in their decisions taking into account, in making decisions on applications for resource consent[^] applications that take into account at Regional Council and Territorial Authority[^] level, whether the activity:

- ~~(d)~~ (a) is compatible with the existing level of modification to the environment
- ~~(e)~~ (b) is necessarily needs to be located is reliant upon or necessarily associated with natural and physical resources that exist only in the coastal environment marine area or in or near the any wetland[^], river[^] or lake[^] and whether any alternatives exist
- ~~(f)~~ (c) is of an appropriate form, scale and design to blend with the existing landforms, geological features and vegetation
- ~~(g)~~ (d) does- will not , by itself or in combination with effects[^] of other activities, significantly disrupt natural processes or existing ecosystems.
 - (e) will not significantly compromise (and, if so, to what extent) the components of natural character of the coastal environment, wetland[^], river[^] or lake[^].
 - (f) will provide for the restoration and rehabilitation of natural character where appropriate.

This Policy relates back to Issue 7-2 and Objective 7-2

Recommendation
LSNC 11

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, or to ensure a level of security appropriate for activities authorised by a resource consent.
- (b) Provision of Ppublic access for recreational purposes shall recognise the need to protect Rrare Habitats* and Tthreatened hHabitats* and aAt-rRisk hHabitats*.

This Policy relates back to Issue 7-2 and Objective 7-2

7.3.3

Historic Heritage

Policy 7-10: Historic heritage

Recommendation
HH 6 page 53

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.

End of hearing report.
Recommendations
SHH 13 and 17

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.
- (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’).

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 14

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

Supplementary
Recommendation
S HH 6 page 14

7.4

Methods

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

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-1	Wetlands – Biodiversity
<u>Project Description</u>	The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect



<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-1		Wetlands – Biodiversity
		<p>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>
Recommendation BIO 13 page 68	Who	Regional Council, <u>Landowners</u> , other relevant consent holders, <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 project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5.
Recommendation BIO 14 page 70	Targets	The top 100 wetlands in the Region are actively managed, including protection and/or enhancement restoration measures, within 10 years of this Plan becoming operative.

<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-2		Bush Remnants – Biodiversity
	<u>Project Description</u>	<p>The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect 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 project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5.
	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> 7-3		Sites of Significance – Aquatic
	<u>Project Description</u>	The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect



Recommendation
BIO 13 page 68

<u>Project Name-Method</u> 7-3	Sites of Significance – Aquatic
	<p>and enhance water bodiesways and parts of water bodiesways 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>Waterway eOwners of land adjacent to water bodies 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> , other relevant consent holders <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 project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5.
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> 7-4	Inanga Spawning and Native Fishery Sites – Biodiversity
<u>Project Description</u>	<p>The Regional Council and other agencies will work with landowners to protect and enhance water bodiesways and parts of water bodiesways (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>Waterway eOwners of land adjacent to water bodies 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> , other relevant consent holders <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 project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5..
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
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<u>Project Name/Method</u> 7-5	Biodiversity (Terrestrial and Aquatic) Research, Monitoring and Reporting
Project 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 project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5..
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
Project 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, Youth Environment Forum etc.
Who	Horizons Regional Council, Department of Conservation, and various national and local environmental education providers
Links to Policy	This project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policy 7-4 and Policy 7-5..
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>and Natural Character</u>
Project Description	<p>The Regional Council will <u>may</u> formally submit on <i>resource consent</i>[^] applications received by <i>Territorial Authorities</i>[^] for land use activities where there is potential for <i>adverse effects</i>[^] on <i>regionally outstanding natural features</i>, <u>and</u> <i>landscapes or native habitats</i>, <u>or areas that have a high degree of natural character</u>.</p> <p>The Regional Council will <u>may</u> formally seek <i>changes</i>[^] to the <i>District Plans</i>[^] if required to ensure provisions are in place to provide an appropriate level of protection to <u>for regionally outstanding natural features</u>, <u>and</u> <i>landscapes</i>, <u>and native habitats</u> <u>and areas that have a high degree of natural character</u>.</p> <p><u>The Regional Council will formally seek <i>changes</i>[^] to <i>District Plans</i>[^] if required to ensure <i>District Plan rules</i>[^] requiring protection of indigenous vegetation and the habitats of indigenous fauna do not duplicate <i>rules</i>[^] on biodiversity in this Plan.</u></p>
Who	Regional Council and <i>Territorial Authorities</i> [^] .
Links to Policy	This project links to <u>Method implements</u> Policies 7-1 , 7-7 and 7-8.
Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions completed on consent applications. • <i>District Plan</i>[^] <i>changes</i>[^] sought if necessary by 2008 <u>after this Plan becomes operative</u>[^].

Recommendation
LSNC 11

Recommendation
SLSNC 24



Recommendation
LSNC 9

<u>Method 7-7A</u>	<u>Consistent Landscape Assessment</u>
<u>Description</u>	<p><u>The purpose of this Method is to develop a consistent and robust characterisation of the landscape within the Region^ and consistent identification of outstanding natural features and landscapes (particularly where those span territorial authority^ boundaries).</u></p> <p><u>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities^ will collaboratively develop and adopt consistent methodology for undertaking any assessment of landscape including for the purposes of identifying the outstanding natural features and landscapes within the Region^. The methodology will include consideration of the factors detailed in Table 7.2.</u></p> <p><u>The Regional Council will assist Territorial Authorities^ with their assessments of natural features and landscapes by providing to them relevant resource data including maps suitable for study area description.</u></p>
<u>Who</u>	<u>Regional Council and Territorial Authorities^.</u>
<u>Links to Policy</u>	<u>This Method implements Policy 7-7(a) and (b)</u>
<u>Targets</u>	<u>Methodology for assessment of natural features and landscapes agreed between the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities^ within one year of this Plan becoming operative^.</u>

<u>Project Name/Method 7-8</u>	<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>

Supplementary
Recommendation
S HH 7 page 15

<u>Project Name/Method 7-9</u>	<u>Proactive Identification of Historic Heritage</u>
<u>Description</u>	<u>The aim of this project is to determine an approach(s) to provide for the proactive identification of historic heritage resources within the Manawatu-Wanganui Region.</u>



Project Name-Method 7-9	Proactive Identification of Historic Heritage
	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</u> , <u>places</u> or <u>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.
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>By 2017 the Regions known historic heritage will be recorded in District Plan and Regional Council Schedules or databases</p>	<p>Living Heritage Policies: 7-10 and 7-11</p>	<p>Territorial Authorities have Schedules of known historic heritage sites in their District Plans, or databases</p> <p>HRC has a schedule or database of historic heritage for in the coastal marine area in the Regional Plan</p>	<p>District Plans or Databases</p> <p>HRC Regional Plan or database</p> <p>End of hearing report. Recommendation SHH 16 and 18</p>
<p>Except for change because of natural processes, <u>or change authorised by a resource consent</u>, at 2017 the characteristics, <u>and</u> values of all outstanding landscapes and natural features identified in the <u>Region</u> (Schedule F <u>Table F1</u>) will be in the same state as assessed prior to this Plan becoming <u>operative</u>.</p> <p style="color: magenta;">Recommendation LSNC 13</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 <u>Territorial Authority</u> district plans Ratio of successful submissions versus total submissions made on outstanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outstanding landscapes and natural features characteristics, <u>and</u> values assessment survey Horizons’ incidents database Horizons’ SED (Subdivision Enquiry Database) database <u>Territorial Authority</u> district plans <u>Territorial Authority</u> consent decisions

Recommendation BIO 21 page 81

Recommendation -H 1 page 33

		landscapes and natural features to <i>Territorial Authority</i> consent planning processes	
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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 ~~35~~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.

Natural features and landscapes

Recommendation
LSNC 14

The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance. While the management of competing pressures for the subdivision, use and development of land that may affect natural features and landscapes is most appropriately this issue is best dealt with at a territorial level, it is considered important that this document should continue to provide a list of regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes and their associated characteristics and values. The objectives, policies and methods adopted here are to provide guidance and direction regarding how in the protection of these values should be protected. For example, the policies require avoidance of significant adverse cumulative effects (ie cumulative effects^ that are so significantly adverse that they have the potential to irreversibly alter and damage the essential characteristics and values of the natural feature or landscape).

Recommendation
SLSNC 19

Natural character

Recommendation
SLSNC 25

The 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 and to restore and rehabilitate natural character where appropriate. The objectives, policies and methods adopted in this document aim to achieve this by (a) providing policy guidance on natural character to be taken into account when exercising functions and powers under the RMA and when making decisions on applications which may affect natural character, and (b) encouraging the restoration and rehabilitation of natural character where appropriate, and (c) by actively protecting and managing biodiversity, important wetlands^, rivers^ and lakes^ as described in other parts of this document.



Recommendation
HH 1 page 33

Historic Heritage

End of hearing report.
Recommendation
SHH 17 and 18

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.