



# Section 35 Evaluation Report

## Coastal Environment

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# 1 Introduction

As required by the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), Horizons Regional Council (Horizons) administers a Regional Policy Statement (RPS) Regional Plan (RP), and Regional Coastal Plan (RCP), which outline how natural and physical resources should be managed and regulated within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region (the region). The RPS, RP and RCP for the region are consolidated into the One Plan. This defines how the natural and physical resources of the region will be cared for and managed by Horizons, together with territorial authorities (TAs), tangata whenua and the community. The One Plan was notified in 2007 and became operative in December 2014 following a lengthy hearings and appeal process. In the time since the One Plan was made operative, there have been one plan change<sup>1</sup> and two amendments as follows:

- Plan Change 1 (2016): minor amendments were made to the Plan to insert a new policy and consequential amendments required by the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2014). Through this, the opportunity was taken to correct minor errors that had been identified since the One Plan became operative.
- Plan Amendment 1 (2018): Amendments were made to the Plan to comply with the National Environmental Standard for plantation forestry. The chapters amended through this process include Chapter 13 (Rule 13-3) and the Glossary (definition of forestry).
- Plan Amendment 2 (December 2022): This amendment incorporates changes to the One Plan to comply with minor changes required by the NPS-FM (2020).

These updates did not impact Chapter 8 or the RCP (Chapter 18).

While preparing this evaluation report, one further Plan Amendment and Plan Change were completed as follows:

- Plan Change 3 (2024): this plan change gives effect to the National Policy Statement for Urban Development (2020) and introduces new provisions to guide urban development and expansion for urban environments in the region. Chapter 3 was amended through this process. Plan Change 3 does not impact Chapter 8 or the RCP.
- Plan Amendment 3 (27 February 2024): Amendments were made to give effect to the National Planning Standards. Through this amendment, the provisions of the One Plan were restructured and renumbered and some defined terms added or changed. While Plan Amendment 3 impacts Chapter 8 and the RCP (chapter 18), due to timing the amended references associated with Chapter 8 and the RCP in Plan Amendment 3 have not been used in this evaluation.

Chapter 8 of the One Plan addresses the management of the wider coastal environment, which includes the coastal marine area (the area 12 nautical miles seaward of the mean high water spring (MHWS) tide mark), foreshore and seabed, the water column, air space, estuarine areas, beaches and salt marshes.

Chapter 8 provides the regional policy direction for the wider coastal environment, including for the CMA, while the RCP is focused on the CMA. In general Chapter 8 provides broad policy guidance for managing coastal environment. The chapter:

1. Describes the CMA and wider coastal environment;
2. Introduces significant resource management issues for coastal areas; and

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<sup>1</sup> Noting that Plan Change 1 was, in practice, an amendment carried out without the need for a formal Schedule 1 process.

3. Seeks to ensure that natural character and coastal ecosystem processes are maintained while allowing appropriate activities and development in the CMA, and the maintenance or enhancement of water quality.

Chapter 18 is the Regional Coastal Plan that introduces the regulation of activities in the CMA in a manner that enables or restricts activities within the port, protection, or general activity management areas or aquaculture management areas. Chapter 18 introduces managing water quality in CMA to sustain its life-supporting capacity and values. Schedule I of the One Plan supports the regional policy and regulatory framework for the CMA by mapping boundaries and setting technical standards. This evaluation focuses on Chapters 8 and 18, and Schedule I of the One Plan. These provisions also contribute to the outcomes set in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS).

The region's coast includes parts of both the west coast and east coast of the North Island and approximately 3000 km<sup>2</sup> of surface coastal water. The region has area on both coasts and there is limited coastal development. The only coastal city within the region is Whanganui and then the towns, and smaller beach settlements. Whanganui Port is important as a vital link in New Zealand's supply chain and there are significant ecological/natural character areas including Manawatū Estuary and Cape Turnagain within the region. At the time of preparing this evaluation there are less than 20 current coastal consents, and no aquaculture activities.

## 2 Purpose of this report

Section 35 of the RMA requires regional councils to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of policy statements and regional plans. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the One Plan provisions primarily contained in Chapter 8, Chapter 18, and Schedule I. The evaluation has been initiated to ensure Horizons is meeting its statutory obligations under section 35 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

In general, the evaluation provides an essential check on the practicability of objectives and the capacity for stated methods and targets to be achieved subject to resourcing levels, budget constraints and other circumstances. In this case, the evaluation will also provide guidance to determine the One Plan's alignment with the NZCPS and guide future plan changes.

## 3 Statutory context

### 3.1 Resource Management Act 1991

The RMA is New Zealand's primary environmental management statute, and aims to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. Its provisions range from the identification of overarching matters to be protected, through to describing the various functions of institutions and instruments within the resource management system, to setting out the requirements for processes and relationships between planning documents.

The RMA provides a well-established framework for evaluation, monitoring and review of regional policy statements and regional plans. As set out in s35(2)(b) RMA<sup>2</sup>, every local authority is required to monitor the effectiveness of the policies, rules and methods in its plan, and to prepare a report on the results of this monitoring every five years as per s35(2)(a). Monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of policies, rules and other methods is an ongoing process from plan implementation to plan review. Plan monitoring closes the loop

<sup>2</sup> Throughout this report, sections of legislation are generally referred to as 's' followed immediately by the number.

in the 'plan-do-monitor-review' cycle; such monitoring provides information on how well the One Plan is working 'on the ground', and helps determine whether changes to the One Plan need to be made if the objectives and anticipate environmental results have not been achieved. Further, under s79 a local authority must commence a review of a provision of any of the following document it has, if the provision has not been a subject of a proposed policy statement or plan, a review, or a change by the local authority during the previous 10 years. The coastal provisions have not been reviewed since the One Plan was made operative in December 2014, therefore a review of these provisions should commence by December 2024

Section 58 defines the contents of New Zealand coastal policy statements and Section 64 requires every region to have a regional coastal plan. Section 30(1)(d) gives regional councils functions, powers, and duties which include management of noise and activities on the surface of the water within the CMA (noting that these functions sit with Territorial Authorities in areas outside of the CMA).

Prior to 2011, the RMA only allowed aquaculture to be established in Aquaculture Management Areas. The One Plan meets these requirements, although it did not establish any aquaculture management areas because there was no demand at the time. However, it is set up to enable someone to seek a plan change to identify and establish an aquaculture management area. Post 2011, the RMA provisions changed and 'normalised' aquaculture, allowing for consenting to be managed in much the same way as any other occupation or structure in the CMA. The RMA no longer requires establishment of aquaculture management areas and instead Regional Councils can make rules to this effect.

This evaluation and reporting is guided by s35 of the RMA. It will ensure Horizons Regional Council meets its obligations under the RMA.

## 3.2 National Policy Statements - New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, 2010

The NZCPS contains one objective and a range of policies to guide councils in achieving the purpose of the RMA in relation to the coastal environment. The current NZCPS came into effect in December 2010, superseding the NZCPS 1994. Section 55 RMA requires Horizons to amend the One Plan (both the RPS and RP) as soon as practicable to give effect to it. In 2014, the Minister of Conservation at the time, Hon Dr Nick Smith, in approving the adoption of the Regional Coastal Plan (RCP) components of the One Plan, signalled his desire that Council progress giving effect to the NZCPS.

## 3.3 National Environmental Standards – Marine Aquaculture, 2020

The National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture (NES-MA, 2020) provide a nationally consistent process to consider applications for replacement coastal permits (resource consents) for existing marine farms, including in some situations the ability for an existing marine farm to realign or make changes to consented species. It does not apply to brand new aquaculture resource consents. There are currently no aquaculture resource consents in the Horizons region. This means that the NES-MA rules are not likely to be used in this region for the next 10-20 years, as Council would have to first grant a resource consent under the existing One Plan provisions, then it would have to come up for renewal.

## 3.4 Other legislation

The One Plan references documents prepared under other legislation, including the Land Transport Management Act 2003 and the Biosecurity Act 1993. This can have implications for the coastal provisions of the One Plan, particularly when amendments to these Acts result in changes that have the potential to disrupt the One Plan's clarity and legal certainty.

## 3.5 One Plan

One Plan RPS Chapter 10 (Administration) states that the Regional Council will regularly check the effectiveness of the policies and methods in this Plan in achieving anticipated environmental results. This will be done every three years at the same time as reporting progress made by the community in achieving community outcomes for the Region, being the Regional Council's Long-term Plan (LTP)<sup>3</sup>.

Chapter 10 of the One Plan specifies that monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of the One Plan will be based on the following process:

- a) *Evaluation of the Regional Council's Annual Reports and the policies and methods in this Plan to assess which policies and methods have been implemented,*
- b) *Evaluation of the LTCCP [sic] and Annual Reports to assess actual work done to implement this Plan compared to the intended level of work each year, including consent, compliance and environmental incident response activity,*
- c) *Evaluation of the results of environmental monitoring carried out under the Regional Monitoring Strategy to assess the condition and trends of the Region's environment, with an emphasis on those parts of the environment where specific work has been done to make improvements, and*
- d) *Assessment of whether changes need to be made to policies and methods where there is slow or no progress toward achieving anticipated environmental results.*

Chapter 10 then continues that changes to the One Plan will be sought when:

- a) Plan effectiveness monitoring identifies the need to enhance progress toward achieving anticipated environmental results, or
- b) Major resource management developments arise such as significant amendments to the RMA or the adoption of national policy statements or national environmental standards by Government that have major implications for the contents of this Plan, or
- c) The results of new scientific work enhance this Plan and make plan provisions more certain for resource users.

Changes to the RPS may be requested by a Minister of the Crown, the Regional Council or any District Council within, or partly within, the region; anyone may request a change to the RP. The process used to review and change the RPS or RP is set out in Schedule 1 to the RMA.

As referenced above, Chapter 10 relied partly on Long Term Council Community Plans, which were a requirement under Section 279 of the Local Government Act to monitor the One Plan. However Section 279 was repealed in 2010 and LTCCP's are no longer a requirement of local government. Instead, Councils are required to prepare Long Term Plans, with monitoring and reporting now included in Annual Reports prepared by Council.

Given updates to the LGA and changes over time, consideration of the effectiveness and efficiency of Chapter 10 will be considered through a separate s35 evaluation.

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<sup>3</sup> Chapter 10 refers to the Regional Council's Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP).

## 4 Evaluation scope

The scope of this evaluation covers the Regional Coastal Plan and coastal provisions included in Chapter 18 of the RPS. This includes, the provisions in Chapter 8, Chapter 18 (the RCP), and Schedule I together with Chapters 11, 12, and 19, and the relevant definitions in the Glossary are the Regional Coastal Plan related to Coastal Environment. Moreover, there are some provisions in other chapters that helps integrated management of coastal environment. The provisions that are the subject of this evaluation are set out in the Table 1.

This evaluation interacts with the Freshwater Evaluation, which evaluates the freshwater components of the following coast provisions:

- Objectives 8-1, and 8-3
- Policies 8-1, 8-2, 8-6
- Methods 8-2, 8-4

This coast evaluation also considers these provisions but excludes analysis against the freshwater quality parts of them (i.e. coastal waterbodies upstream or landward river mouths, including those technically downstream of the mapped CMA landward boundary). Freshwater quality is addressed within a separate s35 evaluation.

Table 1: Evaluation Scope

One Plan chapter to be reviewed	Specific provision to be reviewed	Comment
<b>Regional Policy Statement</b>		
Chapter 8: Coast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full chapter</li> <li>• Objectives 8-1, 8-2, 8-3</li> <li>• Policies 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-5, 8-6</li> <li>• Methods 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-5</li> <li>• Anticipated environmental results</li> </ul>	The coastal environment is regulated by the NZ Coastal Policy Statement. In addition, water quality within the CMA upstream of the river mouth is subject to the NPS-FM 2020 and has been addressed in the freshwater evaluation.
Chapter 2: Te Ao Māori	Policies 2-1, 2-2, and 2-3	As they relate to Hapū and iwi involvement in resource management (including coastal environment). Wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other sites of significance to Māori identified (i) In the Regional Coastal Plan and district plans, and the mauri of water.  This chapter is also evaluated in the Te Ao Māori review.
Chapter 3: Infrastructure, energy, waste, hazardous substances and contaminated land	Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6, 3-7, and 3-9	Relates to Policies 18-5 to 18-15: Consent decision-making. This chapter is also evaluated in the Infrastructure, energy, waste, hazardous substances and contaminated land review
Chapter 4: Land	Policy 4-2 (c)	Vegetation clearance and land disturbance require a resource consent if they are undertaken in coastal foredune areas.
Chapter 5: Water	Policy 5-6 (c)	Groundwater takes in the vicinity of the coast must be managed in a



		manner which avoids saltwater intrusion.
Chapter 6: Indigenous Biological Diversity, Landscape and Historic Heritage	Policies 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-8, 6-9, 6-11 and 6-12	Coastal ecosystem, the natural character of coastal environment: Managing natural character (a) the component of the coastal environment which is not coastal marine area. Historic heritage identification; the Regional Council must develop and maintain a schedule of known historic heritage for the costal marine area to be included in the Regional Coastal Plan. This chapter is also evaluated in the Indigenous Biological Diversity, Landscape and Historic Heritage.
Chapter 9: Natural Hazards	Policy 9-1 (b)(ii) Policy 9-5 (b)	Developing specific objectives, policies and methods (including rules) for the control of: (A) all land use activities in the coastal marine area Must take precautionary approach (b) coastal development and coastal land use. This chapter is also evaluated in the Natural Hazards.
Chapter 10: Administration	Section 10.1 Cross- boundary issues	Section 10.1(b)(ii) outlines how the Regional Council will deal with cross-boundary issues when managing coastal resources. It cross references back to Policy 8-1. The Chapter 10 Admin evaluation touches on this.
<b>Regional Coastal Plan and Regional Plan</b>		
Chapter 18: Activities in the Coastal Marine Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Chapter</li> <li>• Objectives 18-1, 18-2</li> <li>• Policies 18-1 to 18-15</li> <li>• Rules 18-1 to 18-44</li> </ul>	The objectives, policies and rules for activities and consent decision-making are listed in Chapter 18.
Chapter 13: Land Use Activities and Indigenous Biological Diversity	Policy 13-1*	Manage vegetation clearance, land disturbance and cultivation within the coastal foredune
Glossary	Definitions (relevant to the coast topic)	In assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of Chapters 8 and the RCP (chapter 18) it is appropriate to consider whether the related definitions are robust.
<b>Schedules</b>		
Schedule I, F, G	I:Coastal Marine Area Activities and Water Management	While Schedule F and G Values are also assessed in the other evaluations, it is appropriate to consider the values in these three

	<p>F: Indigenous Biological Diversity</p> <p>G: Regionally Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes</p>	schedules in the context of the Coastal Marine Area as part of the assessment of the One Plan against the NZCPS, which includes provisions relating to indigenous biodiversity, natural character and landscapes in the coastal environment.
<b>Chapters out of scope</b>		
Chapter 7, Chapters 11, 12, 14 to 17, and 19		

\* These provisions have been covered by the freshwater evaluation but not from the perspective of their effectiveness in relation to the coastal environment.

## 5 Evaluation

To assist this s35 evaluation, a set of guiding questions have been developed. These questions focus on effectiveness (have the provisions achieved what was intended and do they work) and efficiency (are they able to be implemented at reasonable cost). The guiding questions, which have been considered for each provision within scope of this evaluation, are outlined below.

Table 2: Section 35 evaluation – guiding questions

Plan effectiveness	Plan efficiency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the anticipated environmental results and objectives being achieved?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Are the Plan’s policies, rules and methods effective in achieving the objectives of the RPS and the RCP?</li> <li>○ Are the Plan’s policies, rules and methods consistent with the relevant objectives (do they give effect to the objectives)?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Do the provisions give effect to the NZCPS and NES-MA?</li> <li>• Are the plan provisions accepted or supported by resource users:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Are the provisions workable and enforceable?</li> <li>○ Can the provisions be reasonably implemented?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Other than those related to the NZCPS requirements, are there other emerging issues relating to CMA that are not being addressed?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Are there any provisions in the NZCPS that the One Plan does not address currently?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the regulatory, consenting and administrative transaction costs in line with what was anticipated?</li> <li>• What additional costs, risks and opportunity costs or benefits (resource use implications) are created for resource users?</li> </ul>

The wiring diagram/table that follows outlines the One Plan linkages between the RPS and RCP for the coast provisions subject to this evaluation.

Table 3: Linkage between the objectives, policies, methods, rules, and the AERs

ONE PLAN: coastal environment linkages				
Objectives (RPS)	Supporting Policy Framework	Methods	Indicators	Anticipated environmental results (AERs)
Objective 8-1 Integrated management of the coastal environment	<b>RPS Policies:</b> Policy 8-1  <b>Regional Coastal Plan:</b> Chapter 18 Objectives 18-1 Policies 18-1, 18-8, 18-9, 18-12, 18-13, and 18-14	<b>Methods:</b> 8-1, 8-2, 8-3 and 8-5  <b>Rules:</b> 18-1 to 18-31 18-34 to 18-42 and 18-44	Number of Schedule G outstanding landscapes and natural features in the CMA where identified characteristics/values have been damaged	Except for change because of natural processes, or as a result of activities authorised by this Plan or a resource consent, by 2017 the characteristics/values of outstanding landscapes and natural features identified in the CMA (Schedule G) will be in the same state as (or better than) before this Plan became operative.
			Coastal erosion/accretion Confirmed incidents of property or infrastructure damage	By 2017, there will be a net reduction in the damage to property or infrastructure as a result of coastal erosion, the effects of sandstorms or sea level rise in the coastal environment.
Objective 8-2 Appropriate protection, use and development in the CMA	<b>RPS Policies:</b> Policies 8-2, 8-3, 8-4 and 8-5  <b>Regional Coastal Plan:</b> Chapter 18 Policies 18-1, 18-2, 18-3, 18-4, 18-5, 18-6, and 18-7	<b>Methods:</b> 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4 and 8-5  <b>Rules:</b> 18-1 to 18-16 and 18-44	Number of Schedule G outstanding landscapes and natural features in the CMA where identified characteristics/values have been damaged	Except for change because of natural processes, or as a result of activities authorised by this Plan or a resource consent, by 2017 the characteristics/values of outstanding landscapes and natural features identified in the CMA (Schedule G) will be in the same state as (or better than) before this Plan became operative.
			Coastal erosion/accretion Confirmed incidents of property or infrastructure damage	By 2017, there will be a net reduction in the damage to property or infrastructure as a result of coastal erosion, the effects of sandstorms or sea level rise in the coastal environment.

<p>Objective 8-3 <i>Water quality</i></p>	<p><b>RPS Policies:</b> Policy 8-6 <b>Regional Coastal Plan:</b> Chapter 18 Policies 18-10 and 18-11</p>	<p><b>Methods:</b> 8-4 and 8-5 <b>Rules:</b> 18-32 to 18-33 and 18-44</p>	<p>Measured water quality compared to water quality targets in Schedule I, especially measures for “safe swimming”, “safe food gathering” and “aquatic ecosystem health”  Incidents where water quality in the CMA is confirmed as unfit for use</p>	<p>By 2017, water quality in the open sea is generally suitable for the specified Values at all times. Water quality in estuary areas is no worse than it was prior to this Plan becoming operative.</p>
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## 5.1 Coastal provisions

This section outlines the One Plan coastal provisions. Chapter 8 includes three objectives, which are supported by six policies; it goes on to record five non-regulatory methods. These provisions are the primary focus of this evaluation.

However, it is important to acknowledge both the overarching nature of the Chapter 8 provisions across the One Plan, and also the more explicit relationship between these provisions and some in other chapters, particularly, Chapter 18. Objectives 18-1 and 18-2 include activities in the CMA and water quality in the CMA.

Chapter 18 includes a set of general conditions for permitted and controlled activities in the CMA relating to the Schedule I Values life-supporting capacity, amenity (which both apply to the entire CMA), and historic heritage.

### 5.1.1 Objectives and policies

This section list the Objectives and Policies contained within Chapters 8 and 18 of the One Plan. It describes what each provision seeks to achieve. This section also identifies and describes other supporting provisions contained within other chapters of the One Plan.

#### 5.1.1.1 Chapter 8 – Coast

The objectives and policies that make up the coast chapter of the RPS are outlined as follows.

##### Objective 8-1

<p><b>Integrated management of the coastal environment</b></p>	<p>Achieving integrated management of the coastal environment by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a consistent, efficient and integrated management framework, and</li> <li>recognising and managing the <i>effects</i> of <i>land</i> uses and freshwater based activities (including <i>discharges</i>) on the CMA.</li> </ol>
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**Objective 8-1** is a generic guide to manage the coastal area using an integrated approach. It cannot be quantitatively assessed.

### Policy 8-1

<p><b>Integrated management of the coastal environment</b></p>	<p>Integrated management of the coastal environment must be sought, including through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. provisions in this chapter and the provisions of the Regional Coastal Plan (Chapter 18 and Schedule I as well as Chapters 11, 12 and 19 and the relevant definitions in the Glossary),</li> <li>b. provisions in other chapters of this Plan address water quality, erodible land (including the coastal foredune), natural hazards, indigenous biological diversity, landscapes and natural character, air discharges, and infrastructure, energy and waste* (including hazardous substances),</li> <li>c. provisions in district plans that identify the landward extent of the coastal environment, sustainably manage land use activities and, where appropriate, avoid subdivisions or development in any existing or potential hazard risk area, protect coastal dunes and avoid sprawling subdivision along the coastal edge, and</li> <li>d. joint initiatives where resource management issues arise and are not addressed within the existing management frameworks of the respective <i>regional plans</i> and <i>district plans</i>.</li> </ol>
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**Policy 8-1** gives effect to Objective 8-1 by identifying provisions of Chapter 18 and the other parts of the RP that make up the RCP, and directing councils to implement joint initiatives where resource management issues arise and are not addressed within the existing management frameworks in district and regional plans.

### Objective 8-2

<p><b>Appropriate protection, use and development in the CMA</b></p>	<p>Managing the CMA as a public area that is fundamental to the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of the people in the Region, while ensuring that the characteristics and Values listed in Tables I.1, I.2 and I.3 of Schedule I and natural character are protected from inappropriate use and development.</p>
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**Objective 8-2** emphasises protecting the CMA as a public area from inappropriate use and development.

### Policies 8-2, 8-3, 8-4 and 8-5

<p><b>Policy 8-2: Activity Management Areas</b></p>	<p>Activities in the CMA must be managed using Activity Management Areas. The Activity Management Areas comprise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a Port Activity Management Area for the purposes of enabling the efficient and practical operation of Wanganui Port and associated industries and boating facilities, as shown in Schedule I: Part B, by providing for activities which:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. facilitate the operation of the Wanganui Port and marina, including restricting public access where it is necessary for safety reasons</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. involve maintenance dredging and associated disposal to maintain a navigational depth</li> <li>iii. involve the maintenance, upgrade or extension of existing <i>structures</i>.</li> </ul> <p>b. various Protection Activity Management Areas for the purposes of protecting the ecological and other important characteristics within each specified Area (as shown in Table I.1 of Schedule I: Part B). These Areas are sensitive and must be protected from adverse effects of activities other than activities which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. appropriately enable or restrict public access, or</li> <li>ii. are essential for public safety, or</li> <li>iii. are intended to restore or conserve a site* or characteristics within a site, or</li> <li>iv. have no more than minor adverse environmental <i>effects</i> on the characteristics to be protected in each Protection Activity Management Area.</li> </ul> <p>c. a General Activity Management Area for the purposes of managing activities in all areas other than areas covered by the Port Activity Management Area and Protection Activity Management Areas. The purpose of the General Activity Management Area is to ensure that adverse <i>effects</i> are avoided as far as reasonably practicable and, where they cannot be avoided, are remedied or mitigated.</p>
<p><b>Policy 8-3: Aquaculture Management Areas</b></p>	<p><i>Aquaculture activities</i> in the CMA require the establishment of an aquaculture management area by way of a notified change to Chapter 18 of this Plan.</p>
<p><b>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</b></p>	<p>Any use or development in the CMA must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. have a functional necessity to be located in the CMA,</li> <li>b. facilitate restoration or rehabilitation of natural features where reasonably practicable, and</li> <li>c. avoid, as far as reasonably practicable, any adverse effects on the following important values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. any characteristic listed in Table I.1 in Schedule I: Part B for each Protection Activity Management Area</li> <li>ii. elements and processes that contribute to the natural character and open space characteristics of the CMA</li> <li>iii. the landscape and seascape elements that contribute to the natural character of the CMA</li> <li>iv. areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, and the maintenance of indigenous <i>biological diversity</i></li> <li>v. the intrinsic values of ecosystems</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vi. the natural integrity and functioning of physical processes (including recognition of sea level rise)</li> <li>vii. historic heritage.</li> </ul> <p>When avoidance is not reasonably practicable, the adverse <i>effects</i> must be remedied or mitigated.</p>
<b>Policy 8-5: Public access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Activities in the CMA must be established and operated in a manner which readily provides for public access. Public access must be restricted only where necessary for commercial, safety, cultural or conservation purposes, or to ensure a level of security appropriate for activities authorised by a <i>resource consent</i>.</li> <li>b. Public access in the CMA for recreational purposes must be provided in a manner that protects bird habitat areas, estuarine plant communities and dune stability.</li> </ul>

**Policies 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, and 8-5** give effect to Objective 8-2, and direct decision makers to have particular management approaches in regard to activities in the CMA. Any activity that has potential to create benefits and potential to cause adverse effects in the CMA is included, such as aquaculture or renewable energy generation.

### Objective 8-3

<b>Water quality</b>	<p><i>Water</i> quality in the CMA is managed in a manner that has regard to the Values set out in Schedule I: Part C so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>water</i> quality is maintained in those parts of the CMA where the existing <i>water</i> quality is sufficient to support the <i>water</i> management Values of the relevant area in the CMA set out in Tables I.2 and I.3 and the water quality targets in Tables I.4 to I.7 of Schedule I, and</li> <li>b. <i>water</i> quality is enhanced in those parts of the CMA where the existing water quality is not sufficient to support the water management Values of the relevant area in the CMA set out in Tables I.2 and I.3 and the water quality targets in Tables I.4 to I.7 of Schedule I.</li> </ul>
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**Objective 8-3** seeks to manage water quality in CMA in a manner that ensures water quality is maintained or enhanced. Objective 8-3 establishes the requirement to manage water quality in the CMA to support the water management values set out in Schedule I.

### Policy 8-6

<b>Water quality</b>	<p>For the purposes of maintaining or enhancing <i>water</i> quality, the CMA is divided into a Seawater Management Zone and various Estuary Water Management Sub-zones which are described in Schedule I: Part C and shown in Part A. Water in the CMA must be managed in a way which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. has regard to the Values and <i>water</i> quality targets for the Seawater Management Zone and Estuary Water Management Sub-zones, as set out in Schedule I: Part C</li> <li>b. applies Policies 5-3 (ongoing compliance where water quality targets are met), 5-4 (enhancement where water quality targets are not met), 5-9 (point source discharges to water) and 5-11 (human</li> </ul>
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	sewage discharges) to the CMA as if any reference to water in those policies is a reference to water in the CMA.
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**Policy 8-6** gives effect to Objective 8-3, and provides guidance for how water quality is to be maintained or enhanced in the CMA.

## 5.1.1.2 Chapter 18 – Activities in the Coastal Marine Area

The objectives and policies that make up the Regional Coastal Plan (Chapter 18) are outlined as follows.

### Objectives

<b>Objective 18-1: Activities in the CMA</b>	The regulation of activities in the CMA in a manner that enables or restricts activities within the Port, Protection, or General Activity Management Areas or Aquaculture Management Areas, in a way that reflects the Table I.1 characteristics of the Area.
<b>Objective 18-2: Water quality in the CMA</b>	Water quality in the CMA is managed in a manner that sustain its life-supporting capacity and has regard to values, management objectives and the water quality targets set out in Schedule I: Part C.

**Objective 18-1** seek to regulate the activities in CMA in a manner that reflects the Table I.1 characteristics of the area and **Objective 18-2** ensure water quality in the CMA is sustainable and meet the water quality targets set out in Schedule I: Part C.

### Policies

<b>Policy 18-1: Regional rules for the CMA</b>	<p>The Regional Council must regulate activities in the CMA through regional rules in accordance with Objectives 12-1, 12-2, 18-1 and 18-2 and Policies 12-1 to 12-8</p> <p>General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA are listed in Table 18.1 in One Plan.</p>
<b>Policy 18-2: Occupation of space by aquaculture</b>	<p>The allocation of space for aquaculture must be established through a plan change, and regard must be had to the following matters when evaluating a proposed change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) giving effect to the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 6-2 and Policy 6-6 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the impact of the proposed activity on neighbouring uses, the Protection Activity Management Areas set out in Schedule I and the ecological carrying capacity of the area;</li> <li>(c) the type and location of any land use facilities that would be required;</li> <li>(d) the effects on navigation safety, public access, natural character and marine ecosystems; and</li> </ul>



	<p>(e) available alternatives to the applicant’s proposal and the applicant’s reason for making the proposed choice.</p>
<p><b>Policy 18-3: Consent decision-making for occupation of space by activities other than aquaculture</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for the allocation of space for activities (excluding aquaculture), the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objectives 3-1 and 3-2 and Policies 3-1,3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 6-2 and Policy 6-6 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) enabling occupation where it is a functional necessity of an activity covered by another rule in this chapter;</li> <li>(c) requiring efficient use of space in the CMA by using the smallest amount of space reasonably practicable for the activity and limiting the adverse effects on public access to the space;</li> <li>(d) the effects on navigation safety, natural character and marine ecosystems;</li> <li>(e) requiring a plan change pursuant to s165D of the RMA where there is demand for use of the same space or different spaces in close proximity by more than one party and a first-in-first-served consent process will not adequately manage the cumulative effects of the proposed activities; and</li> <li>(f) available alternatives to the applicant’s proposal and the applicant’s reason for making the proposed choice</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-4: Decision-making for occupation charges</b></p>	<p>In accordance with s64A RMA the Regional Council, after having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the extent to which public benefits from the CMA are lost or gained; and</li> <li>(b) the extent to which private benefit is obtained from the occupation of the CMA,</li> </ul> <p>has decided that a coastal occupation charging regime should not be applied to persons who occupy any part of the CMA</p>
<p><b>Policy 18-5: Consent decision-making for new structures</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for structures in the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 6-2 and Policy 6-6, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the functional necessity for locating the structure in the CMA;</li> <li>(c) the provisions for public access and safety, including navigation safety;</li> <li>(d) the avoidance, where practicable, of any adverse effects on natural character and landscape, tikanga Māori, historic heritage, indigenous flora and fauna, and the stability of river banks and the foreshore. Where avoidance is not reasonably</li> </ul>

	<p>practicable, the adverse effects must be remedied or mitigated;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(e) whether the structure is of a suitable scale for the surrounding area, and uses the space in the CMA efficiently;</li> <li>(f) whether the structure is to be built and maintained in a manner to withstand coastal processes and natural hazards, including any potential effects of climate change and sea level rise;</li> <li>(g) any consequential adverse effects on other parts of the coast including whether the structure may affect sediment transport or exacerbate erosion or the risk of inundation; and</li> <li>(h) whether the structure contributes to any cumulative adverse effects in the vicinity of the proposed structure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-6: Consent decision-making for new structures in the Protection Activity Management Areas</b></p>	<p>In addition to the provisions in Policy 18-5, when making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for new structures in the Protection Activity Management Areas set out in Schedule I, the Regional Council must recognise and provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) navigation safety, amenity, marine and estuarine ecosystems, and preservation of natural character.</li> </ul> <p>And have particular regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) available alternatives to the applicant’s proposal and the applicant’s reason for making the proposed choice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-7: Consent decision-making for existing structures</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for activities involving existing structures in the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objectives 6-2 and 6-3, and Policies 6-6 and 6-11, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the extent to which existing structures have adverse effects on natural character, amenity values and public access;</li> <li>(c) ensuring that any alteration is of a similar scale and character to the existing structure, avoids as far as reasonably practicable any adverse effects on ecological values or physical processes, and provides for public access and safety;</li> <li>(d) the matters set out in Policy 18-5 where there is a proposed extension to an existing structure; and</li> <li>(e) the need to remove derelict or redundant structures, and any excess material from structures being replaced or maintained, unless such removal is likely to result in more significant adverse effects than leaving the structure or material in place.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-8: Consent decision-making</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for activities involving reclamation or drainage of the foreshore or seabed, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p>

<p><b>for reclamation and drainage</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objectives 6-2 and 6-3, Policies 6-6 and 6-11, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the functional necessity for locating the activity in the CMA;</li> <li>(c) the efficient use of any area to be reclaimed or drained by minimising the area used to the extent reasonable;</li> <li>(d) avoiding any restrictions on public access, other than for commercial, safety, cultural or conservation purposes, or to ensure a level of security appropriate for activities authorised by a resource consent;</li> <li>(e) ensuring that material used in any reclamation is uncontaminated by:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) substances which when subjected to biological, chemical or physical breakdown would degrade water quality; or</li> <li>(ii) pest plant material which could propagate or proliferate within or beyond the site.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(f) ensuring that any reclamation or drainage is not sited where there are existing significant areas of indigenous flora or fauna feeding, breeding, spawning, nesting or roosting areas;</li> <li>(g) avoiding any adverse effects on tikanga Māori or historic heritage, and avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects on natural character and any characteristic identified within any Protection Activity Management Area set out in Table I.1;</li> <li>(h) requiring proof that a reclamation has been designed and approved by a registered engineer with experience in coastal processes and construction, and has taken into account the effects of future sea level rise and potential storm surges;</li> <li>(i) ensuring that any drainage of the foreshore will not result in instability of the beach, estuarine substrate or river bank areas, or adversely impact on water quality at the discharge sites; and</li> <li>(j) available alternatives to the applicant’s proposal and the applicant’s reason for making the proposed choice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-9: Consent decision-making for activities involving disturbance, removal or deposition</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for activities involving the disturbance of the foreshore or seabed, the deposition of substances in, on or under the foreshore or seabed, or the removal of any sand, shell, shingle or other natural materials from the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objectives 6-2 and 6-3, and Policies 6-6 and 6-11, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) the applicable Water Management Zone or Sub-zone and the relevant water quality Values and targets in Schedule I;</li> <li>(c) avoiding any restrictions on public access, other than for commercial, safety, cultural or conservation purposes, or to ensure a level of security appropriate for activities authorised by a resource consent, and any adverse effects on natural character and any known and publicly used shellfish beds;</li> <li>(d) any effects on any feeding, breeding, spawning, nesting or roosting areas;</li> <li>(e) avoiding as far as reasonably practicable, any resultant adverse effects on coastal erosion, the risk of inundation, the stability of banks or foreshore, or flood control structures;</li> <li>(f) avoiding any adverse effects on tikanga Māori or on historic heritage, and avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects on any characteristic identified within any Protection Activity Management Area set out in Table I.1;</li> <li>(g) mitigating any adverse effects on recreational and amenity values;</li> <li>(h) ensuring, where non-marine material is being deposited within the CMA, that it does not contain any hazardous substances or commercial or household wastes; and</li> <li>(i) where the removal of sand, shingle, shell or other natural materials is for commercial purposes, the available alternatives to the applicant’s proposal and the applicant’s reason for making the proposed choice.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-10: Consent decision-making for take or use of water in the CMA</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for the take or use of water from the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS; and</li> <li>(b) ensuring any intake pipe is located and screened such that the “intake” of marine fauna (including at spawning stages) is avoided, and any scouring of the foreshore or seabed is avoided.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-11: Consent decision-making for damming and diversions in the CMA</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for any activity in the CMA involving the damming or diversion of water, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 6-2 and Policy 6-6, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the applicable Water Management Zone or Sub-zone and the relevant water quality Values and targets in Schedule I;</li> <li>(c) the functional necessity for locating the activity in the CMA;</li> <li>(d) avoiding any adverse effects on fish spawning and bird feeding, breeding, nesting, or roosting areas;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(e) ensuring that any adverse effects on water clarity are not visibly noticeable within 24 hours of the activity being completed;</li> <li>(f) ensuring that any adverse effects on river bank stability or coastal sediment processes do not contribute to erosion elsewhere or exacerbate the risk from natural hazards; and</li> <li>(g) ensuring that public access is not unreasonably restricted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-12: Consent decision-making for discharges into the CMA</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for discharges into the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 6-2 and Policy 6-6, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the applicable Water Management Zone or Sub-zone and the relevant water quality Values and targets in Schedule I;</li> <li>(c) restricting the use of hazardous substances in any estuary or river (including stream) in the CMA to those necessary to control pest plants or marine fauna identified pursuant to a pest management strategy prepared under the Biosecurity Act 1993;</li> <li>(d) tikanga Māori, amenity values, recreational values and public health and safety, and ensuring any adverse effects are avoided as far as reasonably practicable. Where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, the adverse effects must be remedied or mitigated; and</li> <li>(e) ensuring that any discharge, after reasonable mixing, must not result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams;</li> <li>(ii) floatable or suspended materials;</li> <li>(iii) any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity of water in the coastal marine area; or</li> <li>(iv) any emission of objectionable odour, or any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 18-13: Consent decision-making for sewage discharges</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for sewage discharges into the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 6-2 and Policy 6-6, Objective 9-1 and Policies 9-3 to 9-5 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</li> <li>(b) the applicable Water Management Zone or Sub-zone and the relevant water quality targets in Schedule I;</li> <li>(c) avoiding any discharge within any river (including stream) or estuary in the CMA or within any Protection Activity Management Area identified in Schedule I;</li> </ul>

	<p>(d) the extent to which any alternatives have been considered, including discharging to land; and</p> <p>(e) considering the views and concerns of tangata whenua in the decision-making process.</p>
<p><b>Policy 18-14: Consent decision-making for any noise and discharges into air</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for activities involving noise or discharges into air in the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <p>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-6 and 3-7, Objective 7-1 and Policy 7-1 and any relevant policies in the NZCPS; and</p> <p>(b) adopting the best practicable option to ensure that emissions of noise do not exceed a reasonable level for all other activities, including minimising effects on coastal birds and amenity values for people.</p>
<p><b>Policy 18-15: Consent decision-making for the introduction of exotic and introduced plants</b></p>	<p>When making decisions on resource consent applications and setting consent conditions for activities involving the introduction of exotic and introduced plants in the CMA, the Regional Council must have regard to:</p> <p>(a) the Regional Policy Statement, particularly all the objectives and policies of Chapters 2 and 8, Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-2 and 3-6, and any relevant policies in the NZCPS;</p> <p>(b) avoiding the introduction of exotic or introduced plant species into the CMA, unless there is a compelling reason for doing so and any future potential adverse effects are identified and can be avoided; and</p> <p>(c) imposing conditions to avoid any risk of adverse effects on indigenous flora in any Protection Activity Management Area or on fish or bird feeding grounds.</p>

**Policies 18-1 to 18-15** give effect to **Objectives 18-1** and **18-2** through the restrictions which they place on regulation of activities in the coastal environment. They also link to the provisions set out in Chapter 8 so that the RCP achieves the targets and goals set by the RPS.

### 5.1.1.3 Other supporting policies

Moreover, there are other provisions in the One Plan that influence decision-making in the coastal environment. Below are the provisions outside of Chapter 8 and 18, which must be considered when applying for and determining consents in the coastal environment:

<p><b>Policy 2-1: Hapū and iwi involvement in resource management</b></p>	<p>The Regional Council must enable and foster kaitiakitanga and the relationship between hapū and iwi and their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga (including wāhi tūpuna) through increased involvement of hapū and iwi in resource management processes.</p>
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<p><b>Policy 2-2: Wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other sites of significance</b></p>	<p>(a) Wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other sites of significance to Māori identified: (i) In the Regional Coastal Plan and district plans</p>
<p><b>Policy 2-3: The mauri of water</b></p>	<p>(a) The Regional Council must have regard to the mauri of water by implementing Policy 2-1 (a) to (i) above and by restricting and suspending water takes in times of minimum flow consistent with Policy 5-18 in Chapter 5</p>
<p><b>Policy 3-1: Benefits of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance</b></p>	<p>(a) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must recognise the following infrastructure as being physical resources of regional or national importance: (xi) The Port of Wanganui. (d) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must achieve as much consistency across local authority boundaries as is reasonably possible with respect to policy and plan provisions and decision-making for existing and future infrastructure.</p>
<p><b>Policy 3-2: Adverse effects of other activities on infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance</b></p>	<p>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must ensure that adverse effects on infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance from other activities are avoided as far as reasonably practicable, including by using the following mechanisms: .....</p>
<p><b>Policy 3-3: Adverse effects of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance on the environment</b></p>	<p>In managing any adverse environmental effects arising from the establishment, operation, maintenance and upgrading of infrastructure or other physical resources of regional or national importance, the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must: (a) recognise and provide for the operation, maintenance and upgrading of all such activities once they have been established, (b) allow minor adverse effects arising from the establishment of new infrastructure and physical resources of regional or national importance, and (c) avoid, remedy or mitigate more than minor adverse effects arising from the establishment of new infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance taking into account: .....</p>
<p><b>Policy 3-6: Renewable energy</b></p>	<p>(a) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must have particular regard to: (i) the benefits of the use and development of renewable energy</p>

	resources including: ....
<b>Policy 3-7: Energy efficiency</b>	<p>(a) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must have particular regard to the efficient end use of energy in consent decision-making processes for large users of energy.</p> <p>(b) Territorial Authority decisions and controls on subdivision and housing, including layout of the site* and layout of the lots in relation to other houses/subdivisions, must encourage energy-efficient house design and access to solar energy.</p> <p>(c) Territorial Authority decisions and controls on subdivision and land use must ensure that sustainable transport options such as public transport, walking and cycling can be integrated into land use development.</p>
<b>Policy 3-9: Consent information requirements - waste policy hierarchy and hazardous substances</b>	<p>Where a proposal has the potential to give rise to significant adverse effects on the receiving environment, an assessment must be required, as part of the consent information requirements for all discharges to air, land, water and the coastal marine area, of:</p> <p>(a) reduction, reuse, recycle and recovery options for the discharge in accordance with Policy 3-8; and</p> <p>(b) any hazardous substances that may be present in the discharge, and alternatives to those hazardous substances.</p>
<b>Policy 4-2: Regulation of land use activities</b>	<p>(c) The Regional Council will generally allow small scale vegetation clearance, land disturbance, forestry and cultivation to be undertaken without the need for a resource consent if conditions are met. Vegetation clearance and land disturbance require a resource consent if they are undertaken adjacent to some waterbodies (including certain wetlands) in Hill Country Erosion Management Areas or in coastal foredune areas. Any other large scale land disturbance will also require a resource consent.</p>
<b>Policy 5-6: Maintenance of groundwater quality</b>	<p>(c) Groundwater takes in the vicinity of the coast must be managed in a manner which avoids saltwater intrusion.</p>
<b>Policy 6-1: Responsibilities for maintaining indigenous biological diversity</b>	<p>(c) Both the Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must be responsible for:</p> <p>(i) recognising and providing for matters described in s6(c) RMA and having particular regard to matters identified in s7(d) RMA when exercising functions and powers under the RMA, outside the specific responsibilities allocated above,</p>



	including when making decisions on resource consent applications.
<b>Policy 6-2: Regulation of activities affecting indigenous biological diversity</b>	(c) The Regional Council must protect rare habitats, threatened habitats and at-risk habitats identified in (a) and (b), and maintain and enhance other at-risk habitats by regulating activities through its regional plan and through decisions on resource consents.
<b>Policy 6-3: Proactive management of indigenous biological diversity</b>	<p>(c) The Regional Council will aim to maintain or enhance indigenous biological diversity by working in partnership with relevant landowners, other parties with a legal interest in the land, and relevant consent holders to establish a management plan and incentive programme for the voluntary proactive management of identified sites by 2016.</p> <p>(d) For the purposes of (a), separate programmes will be established for wetlands, bush remnants, native fish communities and coastal ecosystems.</p>
<b>Policy 6-8: Natural character</b>	<p>(a) The natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins must be preserved and these areas must be protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p> <p>(b) The natural character of these areas must be restored and rehabilitated where this is appropriate and practicable.</p> <p>(c) Natural character of these areas may include such attributes and characteristics as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Natural elements, processes and patterns,</li> <li>ii. Biophysical, ecological, geological, geomorphological and morphological aspects,</li> <li>iii. Natural landforms such as headlands, peninsulas, cliffs, dunes, wetlands, reefs, freshwater springs and surf breaks,</li> <li>iv. The natural movement of water and sediment including hydrological and fluvial processes,</li> <li>v. The natural darkness of the night sky,</li> <li>vi. Places or areas that are wild and scenic,</li> <li>vii. A range of natural character from pristine to modified, and</li> <li>viii. Experiential attributes, including the sounds and smell of the sea; and their content or setting.</li> </ol>
<b>Policy 6-9: Managing natural character</b>	<p>In relation to the natural character of:</p> <p>(a) the component of the coastal environment which is not coastal marine area (CMA), and</p> <p>(b) wetlands, rivers and lakes and their margins subdivision, use or development must generally (but without limitation) be considered appropriate if it:</p> <p>(c) is compatible with the existing level of modification to the environment,</p>

	<p>(d) has a functional necessity to be located in or near the component of the coastal environment which is not coastal marine area (CMA), wetland, river or lake and no reasonably practicable alternative locations exist,</p> <p>(e) is of an appropriate form, scale and design to be compatible with the existing landforms, geological features and vegetation,</p> <p>(f) will not, by itself or in combination with effects of other activities, significantly disrupt natural processes or existing ecosystems, and</p> <p>(g) will provide for the restoration and rehabilitation of natural character where that is appropriate and practicable.</p>
<b>Policy 6-11: Historic heritage</b>	The Regional Coastal Plan and district plans must, without limiting the responsibilities of local authorities to address historic heritage under the RMA, include provisions to protect from inappropriate subdivision, use and development historic heritage of national significance, which may include places of special or outstanding heritage value registered as Category 1 historic places, wāhi tapu, and wāhi tapu areas under the Historic Places Act 1993 and give due consideration to the implementation of a management framework for other places of historic heritage.
<b>Policy 6-12: Historic heritage identification</b>	(b) The Regional Council must develop and maintain a schedule of known historic heritage for the coastal marine area to be included in the Regional Coastal Plan.
<b>Policy 9-1: Responsibilities for natural hazard management</b>	<p>In accordance with s62(1)(i) RMA, local authority responsibilities for natural hazard management in the Region are as follows:</p> <p>(b) The Regional Council must be responsible for:</p> <p>(ii) developing specific objectives, policies and methods (including rules) for the control of:</p> <p>(A) all land use activities in the coastal marine area,</p> <p>(B) erosion protection works that cross or adjoin mean high water springs,</p> <p>(C) all land use activities in the beds of rivers and lakes</p>
<b>Policy 9-5: Climate change</b>	<p>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must take a precautionary approach when assessing the effects of climate change and sea level rise on the scale and frequency of natural hazards with regard to decisions on:</p> <p>(b) Coastal development and coastal land use</p>

## 5.1.2 Methods and their implementation

Objectives 8-1 to 8-3 and Policies 8-1 to 8-6 are implemented by the following five non-regulatory methods listed in Chapter 8, in the Regional Coastal Plan and Regional Plan including parts of the provisions in the land management chapters.

Not all non-regulatory methods have been fully implemented, and in practice the implementation and focus of some have differed from what was originally described or intended, for the reasons set out below against each method. Collected and collated evidence outlined in Table 3 also has not been established in the way that was envisaged. It is challenging to assess the implementation of the policies and their effectiveness, particularly if we rely only on the sources that were identified in section 8.6 of Chapter 8, rather than seeking what alternatives / proxies might be available.

The methods are outlined as follows:

<b>Method 8-1: Coastal Management Forum</b>	Convene and facilitate a coastal management forum to address issues on an “as-required” basis. The coast is a complex area to manage and not all issues can be addressed through this Plan. The aim of the forum is to facilitate integrated solutions to problems arising in coastal areas. The problem may occur across the whole Region or it may require a site specific solution. Emphasis is on seeking a joint solution.
<b>Links to Policy</b>	This method implements Policies 8-1 and 8-2.
<b>Targets</b>	<p>Year 1:</p> <p>Forum to meet six-monthly to identify priority issues facing the Region, and seek to develop joint actions for addressing any issues raised. Issues requiring joint management may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vehicles on beaches and dunes</li> <li>• land use pressures on coastal resources</li> <li>• illegal dumping of waste</li> <li>• restrictions on shellfish gathering or bathing due to water quality reasons</li> <li>• restoration work.</li> </ul> <p>Year 2 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forum to continue six-monthly meetings and to undertake actions through the respective member agencies. Identifying resources (funding and people) needed to resolve issues will be required.</li> </ul>

It is considered that **Method 8-1** has been partially implemented, in respect of its aim of facilitating integrated solutions to problems arising in coastal area. This method includes emphasis on seeking a joint solution to issues in the wider coastal environment, as required. While the forum has not been formally established in the form this method envisaged, Method 8-1 is designed to promote the identification of issues, priorities and solutions through the respective agencies. Identifying resources (funding and people) to address issues is the aim of this method. The method outlines how stakeholders including Horizons, the Department of Conservation (DoC) and territorial authorities would play a key role in effectiveness by identifying issues and providing data for the assessment. In this respect, Horizons’ consents officers have been meeting and prioritising funding or resource based on monitoring on an as-needed basis. A formal group is not considered

necessary at this time given the small number of issues arising in the coastal area. Most of what this method intended is informally happening as required.

<b>Method 8-2: Coast Care</b>	The Regional Council will work with the Department of Conservation, communities and landowners to restore and enhance the natural character of the coastal environment and promote sustainable land use practices, through establishing a regional coast care coordinator to support and resource coast care groups.
<b>Links to Policy</b>	This method implements Policies 8-1, 8-2, 8-4 and 8-5.
<b>Targets</b>	<p>Years 1-5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and develop working relationships with existing coast care groups, identify priorities for any new coast care groups, and help with resourcing of groups.</li> <li>• Establish working links with land care groups for areas inland of MHWS.</li> <li>• Provide advice on dune stabilisation and hazard risks.</li> </ul> <p>Years 5-10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with groups to achieve improvements to the coastal environment including weeding, planting, wetland enhancement, dune lake enhancement, stream enhancement, litter removal, monitoring of beach quality and monitoring of vehicle use on beaches.</li> </ul>

**Method 8-2** is considered to be partially implemented. This method focuses on restoring and enhancing the natural character of the coastal environment and promoting sustainable land use practices, working with DoC, communities and landowners. To do this, the method specifies that a regional coast care coordinator should be established with the regional council being responsible for seeking funding for this position from interested agencies. There has not been a specific position created for a regional coast care coordinator but there have been people who've had "coast care" functions within their roles supporting existing coastal care groups (for example, in the Biodiversity team, and also in the Communications team, as part of environmental education<sup>4</sup>). The work anticipated by Method 8-2, working with the coastal care groups and developing coastal planting, is being done without the role being established. The effectiveness of this method relies on investing resourcing for the coast and data sources.

<b>Method 8-3: Vehicle Bylaw</b>	The Regional Council recognises that vehicles on dunes and beaches is an increasing issue, particularly for the Region's west coast. This issue cannot be successfully managed through the RMA or consent processes. It is considered that a bylaw should be developed and applied consistently across the west coast, to control the future use of vehicles on dunes and beaches.
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<sup>4</sup>C. Hesselin (Communication team), personal communication, October 26, 2023.  
R. Fleeson (Biodiversity team), personal communication, August 11, 2023.

<b>Links to Policy</b>	This method implements Policies 8-1, 8-2 and 8-5.
<b>Targets</b>	<p>Year 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage Territorial Authorities to extend their territorial boundary down to mean low water spring to enable Local Government Act bylaws to apply to the whole of the foreshore area.</li> </ul> <p>Years 2-5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each Territorial Authority to adopt a bylaw for their district to control vehicles on dunes and beaches. Seek commitment from Police to implement these bylaws, in conjunction with Territorial Authorities.</li> <li>Review effectiveness of bylaws after five years.</li> </ul>

While **Method 8-3** was not implemented by Horizons, the outcomes it sought to achieve have been progressed by several of the region's TAs. This method focuses on preventing and decreasing the issue of vehicles on dunes and beaches, with an emphasis on controlling the future use of vehicles on dunes and beaches. It encourages each TA to adopt a bylaw for their district, and seek commitment from the Police to implement these bylaws in conjunction with the TA. The effectiveness of bylaws is to be reviewed after five years. For example, Horowhenua and Whanganui District Councils have a 30km speed limit for all beach areas set in the schedule to their Land Transport Bylaw. The general approach of TAs for reviewing their bylaws is that new bylaws need to be reviewed after 5 years and then every 10 years after that.

<b>Method 8-4: Coastal Information</b>	This programme will support the collection of further information on biology, coastal processes, historic heritage and significant sites* and values within the CMA. This will enable refinement of the Protection Activity Management Areas and build upon the existing coastal information.
<b>Links to Policy</b>	This method implements Policies 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-6, 6-11, 6-12 and Method 6-10.
<b>Targets</b>	<p>Years 1-3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify scope (including costings) of further information required and appropriate methods for collecting.</li> </ul> <p>Years 3-10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progressively aim to improve the coastal information base.</li> </ul>

**Method 8-4** is considered to be partially implemented. This method focuses on supporting the collection of future information on biology, coastal processes, historic heritage and significant sites and value within the CMA. The information needed to consider whether appropriate use and development in CMA (Policy 8-4) has been achieved also includes natural characteristics and intrinsic values of the CMA, landscape and seascape elements, indigenous biodiversity, natural integrity, and historic heritage. The information collected should also cover the activity management areas established through Policy 8-2, including various ecological and other protection activity management areas, and general activity management areas. Horizons has established coastal environmental monitoring which will, in time, provide some of the data envisaged. However, this data collection made little or no progress in other areas because there

has not been any actively seeking historic heritage or significant sites information and Horizons or TAs did not resource collecting information of historic heritage sites. This affects the ability to draw a robust conclusion on how effective the provision has been or progression towards achieving the AER.

<b>Method 8-5: Coastal Advocacy</b>	This area of work is wide-ranging and includes responding to proposals from other agencies, responding to activities landward of MHWS that could impact on the CMA, and ensuring coastal activities are undertaken in a way that is compatible with the management framework set out in the One Plan. The method may also involve working with other agencies, such as the Department of Conservation, on special projects.
<b>Links to Policy</b>	This method implements Policies 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-5 and 8-6.
<b>Targets</b>	Ongoing as issues arise

**Method 8-5** has not been implemented as envisaged. This method advocates working with other agencies such as the DoC, as appropriate on an “as needed” basis<sup>5</sup>. It has been a function within some roles in Horizons (for example, in the Biodiversity team, and also in the Communications team). Moreover, no major issues have been raised relating to the implementation of the existing plan provisions associated with the management, protection, use, development, and water quality of the CMA that require advocacy under Method 8-5<sup>6</sup>.

The methods in Chapter 8 thus far have proven useful for supporting the NZCPS throughout the region. NZCPS objectives and policies are discussed in more detail in the section 5.3.4 below.

Discussions with members of the consents and compliance teams indicated that there hasn’t been a lot of development pressure on the CMA, based on the number of consent applications received and incidents, which is very low (16 granted consents and 7 incidents<sup>7</sup>).

In addition to the non-regulatory methods, Horizons is not aware of any proposals to carry out aquaculture in the CMA since the RCP was made operative. The most notable development affecting the region’s CMA is Te Pūwaha, the redevelopment of the Whanganui Port. Consents have been granted for wharf replacement works and Whanganui river mouth north moles. The applications were processed on a non-notified basis and the Port Activity Management Area restrictions in the One Plan seem appropriate to manage the effects of activities in this area. Consents and compliance records show some consents for cable installation, erosion protection works, and discharge permits were granted before and after One Plan commencement, however, the duration of consents are long term. These are not the matters in coastal marine environment but in the wider coastal environment. Moreover, a couple of issues have been recorded in the matters for plan changes to more realistically reflect Council’s non-regulatory programme priorities and intentions. In this vein, there is no policy guidance around how new coastal development can be included in the RCP, or the criteria against which they should be assessed. The provisions are not being implemented as envisaged for various reasons, therefore, consideration should be given to whether they need to be reviewed and rewritten. Implementation issues and potential changes to provisions are listed in appendix 2 of this report.

<sup>5</sup> There has not been any clear example for advocacy work occurring with other agencies.

<sup>6</sup> A conversation with Biodiversity and Science team (Ruth Fleeson & Maree Patterson) brings the need for coastal advocacy and coastal scientist to light.

<sup>7</sup> Based on Incident database on Horizons Desktop

### 5.1.3 Anticipated environmental results (AERs)

The following table outlines the relationship between the objectives, policies, methods, AERs, and performance indicators. The full framework showing AER, indicators and the data sources that were expected to be available to assess progress is set out in section 8.6 of One Plan Chapter 8.

One Plan: Chapter 8 Coast				
Objective (RPS)	Supporting Policy Framework	Links to Methods	Indicators	Anticipated Environmental Result
Objective 3: Water quality	Policy 8-6	Methods 8-4 and 8-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measured water quality compared to water quality targets in Schedule I, especially measures for "safe swimming", "safe food gathering" and "aquatic ecosystem health"</li> <li>Incidents where water quality in the CMA is confirmed as unfit for use</li> </ul>	By 2017, water quality in the open sea is generally suitable for the specified Values at all times. Water quality in estuary areas is no worse than it was prior to this Plan becoming operative.
Objective 1: Integrated management of the coastal environment  Objective 2: Appropriate protection, use and development in the CMA	Policies 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4 and 8-5	Methods 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, and 8-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Schedule G outstanding landscapes and natural features in the CMA where identified characteristics/values have been damaged</li> </ul>	Except for change because of natural processes, or as a result of activities authorised by this Plan or a resource consent, by 2017 the characteristics/values of outstanding landscapes and natural features identified in the CMA (Schedule G) will be in the same state as (or better than) before this Plan became operative.
Objective 2: Appropriate protection, use and development in the CMA	Policies 8-1 and 8-4	Methods 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, and 8-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal erosion/accretion</li> <li>Confirmed incidents of property or infrastructure damage</li> </ul>	By 2017, there will be a net reduction in the damage to property or infrastructure as a result of coastal erosion, the effects of coastal environment.

## 5.2 Progress towards the AERs

Section 8.6 of the One Plan sets out a number of indicators that apply more generally to the anticipated environmental result rather than directly informing assessment of progress towards Objectives 8-1, 8-2, and 8-3. Each of the indicators has associated data sources, however, not all the monitoring and data it was expected would support these indicators when the plan was notified in 2007 has eventuated. The sources include programmes, surveys, reports, and incidents databases. Some of these sources were not set up as envisaged when assessment framework was released in the Proposed One Plan in 2007 – for example, outstanding landscapes and natural features characteristics/values assessment survey has not been established. The constraints of the plan-making process means that, in the absence of submissions or appeals on these points, there has been no opportunity to update this part of the Plan without a formal plan change process.

The following sections assess the contribution of each of the coastal objectives, policies, and their supporting methods to the AER.

## 5.3 Effectiveness Assessment

### 5.3.1 Integrated management of the coastal environment

Policy 8-1 and Methods 8-1 to 8-5

Policies 18-1 to 18-9 and Rules 18-1 to 18-16

Objective 8-1 seeks the integrated management of the coastal environment. Policy 8-1 sets out a framework for integrated management of the coastal environment including provisions in Chapter 8 and the provisions of the Regional Coastal Plan (Chapter 18 and Schedule I as well as Chapters 11, 12, and 19 and the relevant definitions in the Glossary) to manage the CMA. This policy also incorporates provisions in other chapters of One Plan related to the management of the wider coastal environment, including water quality, erodible land (the coastal foredune), natural hazards, indigenous biological diversity, landscapes and natural character, air discharges and infrastructure, energy and waste (hazardous substances).

Managing activities in the CMA largely involves regulatory approaches along with non-regulatory methods. Chapter 18 includes rules for the CMA and the rest of part II of One Plan contains regional rules relevant to the wider coastal environment. The non-regulatory methods are intended to support the achievement of the objectives across the wider coastal environment as it is noted in the previous section above.

Aligned with Objective 8-1, Objective 18-1 also seeks to manage activities in the CMA across the region. Policies 18-1 to 18-4 manages the consent decision-making process for activities in the CMA through regional rules, occupation of space by aquaculture, activities other than aquaculture, and occupation discharges. Policies 18-5 to 18-7 manage the consent decision-making process for new structures, new structures in the protection activity management areas, and existing structures. Policies 18-8 and 18-9 addresses the consent decision- making for reclamation & drainage and activities involving disturbance, removal, or deposition.

The rules in Chapter 18 act as another method (regulatory method) to achieve the objectives and policies in Chapters 8 and 18. The rules in Chapter 18 mostly support integrated management of the coastal environment, particularly rules 18-1 to 18-16 which are focused on decision-making for



occupation of the CMA, consent decision-making for new structures, new structures in protection activity management areas, and existing structures. The rules do not have any result outcomes which can be used to measure their effectiveness but instead can be measured through the consent decision-making process. The rules can be described as effective as consents for coastal environment permits have been recorded.

Another way to measure the method, is through involvement with development of TA Coastal Strategies. Horizons' has had involvement with Whanganui District Council on their coastal strategy development. However, this information is generally not readily available or collected in a systematic way.

Integrated management of the coastal environment covers wider environment than CMA. In addition, Chapter 18 defines the activities and water quality in the CMA as objectives. In terms of activities and applications going through the consent team at Horizons, meeting and discussion with the consents and compliance team helped. Looking through IRIS for coastal permits, there have been some consents processed before the One Plan commencement. However, the consents expiry dates are after this evaluation. In general, there are very limited activities in the CMA of the region (applications and granted <20). Therefore, the number of consent applications for coastal environment permits does not provide enough information to assess the effectiveness of the rules in regulating activities in the coastal environment, however, the list does show the most implemented rules regarding the CMA in the region<sup>8</sup>. The implementation of all relevant policies via consents shows NZCPS policies and other chapters from the One Plan (including Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, and 13).

### 5.3.2 Appropriate protection, use and development of the CMA

Policies 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, and 8-5

Methods 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, and 8-5

Rules 18-1 to 18-31 and 18-34 to 18-41

Objective 8-2 seeks appropriate protection, use and development of the CMA. Policies 8-2 to 8-6 along with the associated methods and rules in the RP set forth the framework to protect, use, and development of the CMA.

Policy 8-2 sets out a framework for the activity management areas comprising:

- A port activity management area for the purposes of enabling the efficient and practical operation of Whanganui Port and associated industries.
- Various protection activity management area for the purposes of protecting the ecological and other important characteristics within each specified area, and
- General activity management area for the purposes of managing activities in all areas covered by the Port and Protection activity management areas.

Policy 8-3 reflects aquaculture activities in the CMA associated with the rules in the RCP (Chapter 18). There have not been any aquaculture activities in the region for aquaculture management. Furthermore, about aquaculture and the fact that the RMA no longer requires the establishment of an Aquaculture Management Area before aquaculture could occur and that the policy needs review.

<sup>8</sup> Reporting from IRIS shows the consents (applications and granted <20) are less under policies from Chapter 8.

Policy 8-4 has helped develop the methods Horizons has used to comply with the requirements for appropriate use and development in the CMA. This policy also includes natural characteristics and intrinsic values of the CMA, landscape and seascape elements, indigenous biodiversity, natural integrity, and historic heritage. Policy 8-5 addresses the public access in the CMA. The data source and the information to cover the appropriate protection, use and development through policies 8-2 to 8-5 are not clear or consistently collected, which affects the ability to draw a robust conclusion on how effective the provision has been or progression towards achieving the AER.

Moreover, these policies are supported by policies 18-2 to 18-7 and rules 18-1 to 18-31 and 18-34 to 18-41 of Chapter 18. The rules do not have any result outcomes which can be used to measure their effectiveness but instead can be measured through the consent decision making process.

The policies, methods, and rules set appropriate protection, use and development of the CMA on a general scale. However, there are some aspects that needs to be reviewed regarding protection of Outstanding Natural Features Landscapes (ONFL) in the RMA. Any historic heritage sites have not been listed in the coastal environment for the region. According to the second AER, by 2017 the characteristics/values of outstanding landscapes and natural features identified in the CMA (Schedule G) will be in the same state as (or better than) before the Plan became operative. Matters of ONFL sit outside the scope of this Section 35 and rest within a separate Section 35 Report for Chapter 6.

In addition, by 2017, it was anticipated that there would be a net reduction in the damage to property or infrastructure as a result of coastal erosion, the effects of sandstorms or sea level rise in the coastal environment. Coastal erosion is likely to be monitored to at least some extent by Catchment Operations Team who have commissioned some studies about coastal hazards/erosion. However, information on property damage is more likely to be held by the territorial authorities; Horizons does not have any arrangement to access any information that may have been collected by the territorial authorities, therefore constraining access to data to evaluate progress towards the second AER.

Moreover the Chapter 18 provisions, Policies 18-15 and 18-16, and Rules 18-14 and 18-15, relating to renewable energy have been assessed from the perspective of providing for generation, not protection of the CMA<sup>9</sup>.

Some of this will be symptomatic of the low level of activity in the CMA and low development pressure in the coastal environment of the region generally.

### 5.3.3 Water quality

Objective 8-3
Policy 8-6
Rules: 18-32 to 18-41

Objective 8-3 seeks to manage water quality in the CMA by having regard to the values set out in Schedule I: Part C. Policy 8-6 along with the associated methods and rules in the RCP set forth the framework to manage water quality in the CMA.

Policy 8-6 describes the “seawater management zone” and various “Estuary water management sub-zones” within the CMA, for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing water quality. In terms of water quality in the CMA, the water entering the CMA from rivers and streams has significant

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.horizons.govt.nz/HRC/media/Media/One%20Plan%20Documents/Infrastructure-energy-waste-hazardous-substances-and-contaminated-land-section-35-evaluation-\(final\).pdf](https://www.horizons.govt.nz/HRC/media/Media/One%20Plan%20Documents/Infrastructure-energy-waste-hazardous-substances-and-contaminated-land-section-35-evaluation-(final).pdf)

impact on the quality of water. More detail has been provided in the completed s35 evaluation for freshwater under relevance of coastal provisions to freshwater<sup>10</sup>. Policies 18-12, 18-13, and Rules 18-32 to 18-41 support maintaining or enhancing water quality in the CMA.

Horizons' State of the Environment (2019 monitoring) reports about estuaries in the region and coastal water quality comparison to One Plan targets. In terms of regional estuarine water quality, a monitoring programme for estuaries was established in 2015 and the monitoring foreshore water quality programme was established in 2011. Comparing the last five years of coastal water quality data with One Plan values, all beach sites meet the criteria for ammoniacal nitrogen but most fail to meet the criteria for Chlorophyll a, total nitrogen, and E.coli. Although this monitoring can be used as a data source for water quality in the CMA, it is too limited to run a statistically robust analysis. The 10 year monitoring trends indicate that some water quality parameters have not improved, with improving trends described as "exceptionally unlikely (i.e. virtually certain to be degrading)". On this basis, the Objective 8-3 for water quality is not being achieved properly.

### 5.3.4 Giving effect to RPS

There are some instances where Chapter 18 (the RCP) does not fully give effect to Part I of the One Plan (the RPS). These issues are discussed in the relevant evaluations for Chapters 6 and 9, but are noted here as well for completeness.

Objective 6-1 seeks to protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and maintain indigenous biological diversity. However, the resulting policy framework does not apply to the CMA. Schedule I lists important (rather than significant) habitats and vegetation within the protection management areas, however, as noted elsewhere in this evaluation, there is no policy guidance as to how to how new activity management areas should be established, or the criteria existing ones should be assessed against. A future plan review should consider whether ecological significance criteria (like Schedule F) and/or significant natural areas should be developed for the CMA.

Objective 6-2 seeks that the characteristics and values of the Region's outstanding natural features and landscapes (ONFL) are protected from inappropriate subdivision and development. However, the seaward aspect of the ONFLs identified in the RPS do not appear to have been explicitly identified in the RCP. A future plan review should consider how outstanding seascapes are identified, and how this explicitly connects to Objective 6-2.

Policy 6-12 requires that the Regional Council must develop and maintain a schedule of known historic heritage for the CMA to be included in the RCP. Historic heritage schedules must include a statement of the qualities that contribute to each site. Schedule I notes that historic heritage values are present in some protection activity management areas, but does not include a statement of these heritage qualities, and does not include sites listed by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. A future plan review should include a schedule of historic heritage that gives effect to Policy 6-12.

Most of the directive provisions relating to natural hazards management in the CMA are found in the Chapter 9. Policy 8-4 (Appropriate use and development) makes very limited reference to natural hazards. However, one of the three AERs for Chapter 8 relates to natural hazards. A future plan review should review the architecture of the RPS as it relates to natural hazards, to assist with its future implementation and monitoring.

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<sup>10</sup> [https://www.horizons.govt.nz/HRC/media/Media/One%20Plan%20Documents/S35-Freshwater-evaluation-\(final\)\\_1.pdf](https://www.horizons.govt.nz/HRC/media/Media/One%20Plan%20Documents/S35-Freshwater-evaluation-(final)_1.pdf)

### 5.3.5 Giving effect to the NZCPS

The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) provides national direction for local authorities on the management of the coastal environment. It came into effect in December 2010 and replaced the 1994 Coastal Policy Statement. The One Plan is not considered by the Minister of Conservation to give effect to the NZCPS 2010 as it has not been tested through a publicly notified plan review process. The NZCPS came into effect after the August 2010 release of decisions on submissions to the Proposed One Plan. There was no scope for the coastal provisions to be further updated within the appeal process.

The NZCPS guides local authorities in their day-to-day management of the coastal environment.

**Policy 8-1** includes provisions in Chapter 8 and the provisions of the Regional Coastal Plan to do integrated management of the coastal environment. It aligns with Policy 4 of NZCPS (integration), however, policy 8-1 does not cover consideration of hapū or iwi boundaries or rohe across local authority boundaries. It needs to be reviewed and include provisions of Chapter 2 -Te Ao Māori related to coastal environment. Chapter 2 describes the resource management issues and environmental outcomes sought by tangata whenua, and provides links to provisions in other chapters of the One Plan that seek to deliver on these outcomes.

**Policy 8-2** introduces activity management areas which comprise port activity, protection activity, and general activity management areas. This policy partly aligns with Policy 1 in regard to recognising the coastal environment, Policy 6 in regard to activities in the coastal environment, Policy 9 in regard to ports, and Policy 13 in regard to preservation of natural character of the coastal environment. However, it is not covering thoroughly the mentioned NZCPS policies. Therefore, Policy 8-2 needs to be reviewed and include more detailed provisions to give effect to the NZCPS properly.

**Policy 8-3** includes aquaculture management areas aligns with Policy 8 of NZCPS. In the Regional Coastal Plan, **Policy 18-2** (Occupation of space by aquaculture), is about the allocation of space for aquaculture that must be established through a plan change. Therefore, the One Plan covers policy 8 of NZCPS with the policy statement and coastal plan. Moreover, the NES-MA is about aquaculture generally, and deals with all the issues in one place. There has not been any recognition of the NES- MA in the One Plan since this standard came into effect in December 2020. In addition, there are no consented or proposed aquaculture activities in the region's CMA that would prompt a review. However, the coastal provisions in One Plan should be reviewed to ensure alignment with the NES-MA.

**Policy 8-4** is about appropriate use and development in the CMA, especially avoiding adverse effects on the important values, while Policy 3 of NZCPS is about precautionary approach for coastal environment. Considering that the coastal environment is wider than the CMA, this provision also needs to be reviewed. In addition, adapting precautionary approach to use and management of coastal resources potentially vulnerable to effects from climate change mentioned in Policy 3 of NZCPS. **Policy 9-5** considers coastal development and coastal land use by taking a precautionary approach when assessing the effects of climate change and sea level rise on the scale and frequency of natural hazards with regard to decisions. **Policy 8-4** also describes protection of the historic heritage value and by extension One Plan method 8-4. NZCPS Policy 17 directs management and protection of the historic heritage value. These particular provisions in the One Plan partially align with the provisions in the NZCPS, however to ensure that One Plan provisions reliably give effect to the NZCPS Policy 17, a review should be undertaken.

**Policy 8-5** is about public access in CMA that partially aligns with the Policy 4 (c) (ii) integrated management of natural and physical resources requires particular consideration of situation where public use and enjoyment of public space in the coastal environment is affected, or is likely to be

affected. In addition, policy 8-5 partially aligns with Policy 19 regarding walking access in CMA, however, public access in One Plan does not extend to walking access.

**Policy 8-6** for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing water quality aligns with Policy 21 of NZCPS and it has already been evaluated from the freshwater provisions perspective.

The linkages in more detail between NZCPS policies to the One Plan RPS and the RCP provisions is set out in Appendix 1.

The One Plan addresses the NZCPS requirements at least in part through the RPS and RCP provisions; Chapter 2, Chapter 8, and Chapter 18. However, the provisions in One Plan should be reviewed to align with NZCPS more thoroughly.

### 5.3.6 Evidence of effectiveness

In terms of integrated management, appropriate protection, use, and development of the CMA, there is insufficient evidence to make a conclusive statement. However there are indications from implementation of the rules (which are also considered to be a method under the RMA) that the provisions have been somewhat effective. There is little evidence or no evidence either way in most cases that the policies and methods are being used/applied in an effective way. Consent decision making is using the policies from NZCPS and provisions from the One Plan chapters (including Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, and 13) while it should be Chapter 8 and 18 being considered in decision making. This is a hint to review Chapter 8 and 18 provisions thoroughly.

In terms of water quality, monitoring of estuary and coastal environments is relatively new for Horizons compared to river and groundwater monitoring. The s35 Evaluation for Freshwater Provisions includes a detailed report on the results of this monitoring and findings; the following is a summary from section 11.3.3 of s35 Evaluation report for freshwater.

*The State of the Environment Report (SoE) monitoring provides useful information on the state of the coastal quality in the Horizons Region. Likewise, the catchment stocktakes provide a useful snapshot of trends within each FMU and represent the most up-to-date information for water quality in the region. Overall the findings from both SoE monitoring and the catchment stocktakes align, with no significant difference in the findings of each.*

*When comparing the last five years of coastal water quality data with One Plan values, all beach sites meet the criteria for ammoniacal nitrogen but most fail to meet the criteria for Chlorophyll a and total phosphorus. Ākitio Beach is the only site to meet the total nitrogen and Chlorophyll a targets. Monitoring of the region's estuary water quality has been underway since 2015. The primary issues for the region's estuaries appear to be associated with de-vegetation of the margins resulting in high sediment and nutrient loads at a number (although not all) sites. Monitoring is varied and reporting indicates that the duration of monitoring means that robust conclusions cannot be drawn with regards to long term trends in estuarine and coastal water quality.*

*Ultimately, the One Plan sets a reasonable foundation for monitoring coastal and estuarine water quality across the region though establishment of water quality management targets in Schedule I. However, continued monitoring will be key to understanding the long term trends. Estuarine water quality is varied and influenced by characteristics of the upstream catchment. The monitoring period is limited but results do indicate issues at a few sites. While some sites do not pass the One Plan Schedule I targets, there is little evidence of degradation (or improvement) in coastal or estuarine water quality across the region.*

## 5.4 Efficiency assessment

The questions for the efficiency assessment are:

- Are the regulatory, consenting and administrative transaction costs in line with what was anticipated?
- What additional costs, risks and opportunity benefits or costs (resource use implications) are created for resource users?

Available evidence, particularly quantitative evidence, to assess the efficiency of most provisions of Chapter 8 and 18 is limited. Given the small and relatively unpopulated coastal areas in the region, there have been few resource consents sought for activities in the CMA since the One Plan took effect. The breakdown of activities showing processing costs for resource consents of CMA activities is below:

Table 4: Resource Consents granted under coastal permit provisions (2018 – 2022)

Activity	Policy/Rules	Date approved	Processing costs
Wairarawa Stream Sand Dune Profile Recontouring (Land Use Consent)	Policy 2-1, 2-3, 8-1, 8-2, 8-5, 8-6, 18-1, 18-9, and 18-11 Policy 06 of NZCPS	11/02/2019 (10 year consent duration)	\$3,391.77
Foxton Beach Toilet Block Construction	Policy 02 and 06 of NZCPS	25/03/2021 (5 year consent duration)	\$1,354.11
Whanganui River Mouth North Mole & Revetment Strengthening	Policy 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 8-1, 8-2, 8-4, 8-5, 9-1, Policy 18-7: Rule 18-6, Policy 18-7: Rule 18-7 Policy 18-9	28/10/2021	\$5,825.98
Whanganui Port Wharf Replacement Works	Policy 01, 03, 06, 12, 22, and 23 of NZCPS	15/02/2022	\$14,576.47*
Waitarere Surf Lifesaving Club House Building Platform Development	Policy 2-1, 4-2, 12-5, 12-6 Policy 13-1: Rule 13-7 Policy 13-2: Rule 13-7 Policy 13-3 Policy 13-4: Rule 13-9 Policy 13-5: Rule 13-9	27/05/2022	\$5,963.68
Whanganui River Mouth North Mole & Revetment Strengthening		23/06/2022	\$580.75

\* This is significantly higher in cost than the others since it was complex with many requests for information, cultural concerns/engagement, with higher estimated project value.

With limited consents processed under these provisions, it is difficult to comment on the efficiency of regulatory processes. A comparison to other council's consenting costs reveals the following median consent processing costs for non-notified applications, with no hearing for all types of consent in 2019/20:

Table 5: Other Regional Councils' number & cost of coastal consents <sup>11</sup>

Council	Number of consents (2014-2020)	Number of consents (2019-2020)	Median cost
West Coast	1722	33	\$1,476.00
Greater Wellington	392	31	\$1,498.00
Waikato	824	44	\$2,658.00
Environment Southland	691	56	\$2,755.00
Taranaki	125	10	\$5,109.00

The number of consents for Horizons is very limited compare the other Regional Councils. There have been <20 consents after 2014. The cost for consents processed by Horizons, after 2019, are near the higher end of the range for the above councils but still within the same general range. Excluding the Whanganui Port as it is an outlier, brings the cost for consents lower than the higher end but a little higher than the middle of the range. The total consent cost for the consents processed in the 2018-2020 period is **considered reasonable**, particularly given some of these activities were assessed as a non-complying activities and will have been subject to greater scrutiny under s104D.

The cost of delivering the coastal water quality programme is wrapped up into the wider water quality monitoring programme. Monitoring includes coastal habitat mapping and habitat characterisation following a 10 year work-rotating monitoring programme. Costs associated with the coastal monitoring programme (split by water quality and coastal – estuary SoE monitoring) are outlined below. In terms of changes in budget for coastal and estuary monitoring, there have not been significant changes in allocated cost between 2018 and 2022. The only thing that has changed with the programme is the cost of the laboratory analysis. The major changes for this programme occurred around 2014 when the estuarine habitat mapping came in, and around 2011 when the water quality monitoring was included in the programme<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> <https://mfenz.shinyapps.io/ResourceConsentsExplorer201920/>

<sup>12</sup> Maree Patterson from Science team

Table 6: Coastal monitoring costs including water quality and other monitoring

	Annually	Type	Cost
Water quality monitoring	\$2.4million	SOE & discharge hydro charges	\$ 855,000.00
		SOE and discharge expenditure (not including hydro charges)	\$1.4million
		Lakes Monitoring (Groundwater Budget)	\$116,000.00
For Coastal and Estuary SOE Monitoring	\$132,000.00	Coastal and Estuary SOE Monitoring	\$ 55,000.00
		SALT estuary monitoring	~\$75,000 - 80,000

Moreover, since there are significant ecosystems within coastal environments, habitat mapping and monitoring for targeted species is being done by the biodiversity and science team. However, coastal biodiversity does not have a structured annual monitoring programme. Currently a range of qualitative metrics are collected when a site is first visited and where the site is included in the priority sites programme, monitoring occurs again after 5 years where possible. It is not easy to separate the costs of this work in the coastal environment from the overall programme costs. Development of a national biodiversity monitoring framework is the focus of the government both central and local.

The information available to assess the efficiency of the coastal provisions is limited. For example, there has been no assessment of additional cost, risk and opportunity benefits or cost for resource use implications. Consequently, not all aspects of the coastal provisions are considered to be efficient. This can be a hint of less attention to the coastal area in the region. There are some aspects which are considered efficient based on the following reasons:

- 1- Consenting costs considered as appropriate comparing to the similar regional councils;
- 2- The cost of delivering the coastal water quality programme is included in the wider water quality monitoring programme that can help to have data and information with less cost. Therefore, this approach is efficient.

However, based on the limited information it is not easy to gain a holistic approach as to the overall efficiency of the provisions.

## 5.5 Overall findings for Plan efficiency and effectiveness

From the above analysis and regarding region's limited activities in coastal environment, it can be concluded that we are not sure whether they are effective because we have not had enough information on their application or implementation, nor have we resourced the monitoring of the coastal environment or CMA appropriately which has led to incomplete information on what is actually happening in the coastal areas of our region. However, a review of all coast provisions is required since the provisions should give full effect to the NZCPS and on this basis should therefore be subject to a Plan review, in conjunction with other sections of this One Plan.

From an effectiveness point of view, the Plan is partially effective. There are areas where policies and methods do not deliver the anticipated environmental results (AERs) or have not been able to be implemented as intended. There are a number of areas where changes are required to improve



Horizons' ability to implement the Plan or to more accurately reflect current priorities and programmes that contribute to implementation of the plan's policies and achievement of its objectives for the wider coastal environment. Other than the water quality provisions in terms of nutrient management, none of these changes are considered significant but will require some careful consideration from experts. Table 7 provides a list of the issues identified through implementation and where relevant some suggested changes to be made.

Table 7: Potential amendments to One Plan provisions identified through this evaluation

Provision	Suggested change	Reason
<b>Method 8-1</b>	Delete	A group is not considered necessary at this time for Coastal Management Forum. Since there has not been a high number of issues arising in the coastal area. Most of what this method intended is informally happening as required.
<b>Method 8-2</b>	Modify	There has not been a specific position created for a regional coast care coordinator but there have been people who've had "coast care" functions within their roles supporting existing coastal care groups (for example, in the Biodiversity team, and also in the Communications team, as part of environmental education). Regional council has not seen a need for regional coast care. Therefore, seeking funding from a range of interested agencies is not necessary for the Regional council.
<b>Method 8-4</b>	Consider: Details are required	Supporting the collection of future information on biology, coastal processes, historic heritage and significant sites and values within the CMA is required
<b>All, particularly noise and discharges to air, and Port Area</b>	Consider	Need to consider the impact of increased activity at Port Whanganui
<b>New areas for Activity Management Areas (AMAs)</b>	New policy	<p>There is no policy guidance around how new areas can be included in the RCP, or the criteria against which they should be assessed – Policy 8-2 assumes that we have identified them all.</p> <p>New areas protected under the proposal for a new Marine Protected Areas Act would have to be recognised in the RCP. Plus there may be other areas brought to our attention at different times (e.g. Ngaa Rauru – reef)</p> <p>Consequential amendments to some rules might also be needed; e.g. currently exploratory drilling is permitted in Protection Activity Management Areas (AMAs). Assuming that this activity could have a detrimental effect on these areas, it doesn't matter that there's no explicit condition at the moment because there is a rule condition that drilling</p>

Provision	Suggested change	Reason
		can't occur within 1km of the MHWS. All the existing Protection AMAs are within that area, so are protected that way. However, if an area offshore is recognised as a Protection AMA, drilling would be permitted under the RCP.
<b>Rules 18-21 and 18-22</b>	Merge rules	Originally, the small reclamation rule was discretionary while the large reclamation rule was both discretionary and a restricted coastal activity. With the removal of Restricted Coastal Activity (RCA) status, there is no need to separate the activities out.
<b>Rules 18-18 and 18-20</b>	Merge rules	Originally, the small reclamation rule was discretionary while the large reclamation rule was both discretionary and a restricted coastal activity. With the removal of RCA status, there is no need to separate the activities out.
<b>New / Schedule G</b>	Transfer Schedule G features in the CMA to RCP Protection Activity Management Areas	Schedule G includes the coastal environment including, specifically, the Akitio Shore Platform which is within the CMA. However, the rest of the plan doesn't really provide support (especially regulatory) for 'landscapes' in the CMA unless they are Protection Activity Management Areas.
<b>Schedule I</b>	Review how spatial layers are identified	Schedule I maps a number of spatial layers (e.g. estuary management sub-zones, activity management areas) by drawing polygons over satellite images. Some of these coastal features have now moved, and these polygons now no longer match the current coastal environment, as shown on the most recent satellite images. This poses legal risk, particularly as Horizons moves to an ePlan.

From an efficiency point of view, the efficiency assessment of this evaluation has been limited. Data availability and integrity was constrained which made it difficult to draw a robust conclusion. Moving forward it will be important to consider how consenting and compliance information is recorded to ensure information on plan objectives, policy and rule implementation, along with consent processing data (processing costs, timeframes etc.) and compliance monitoring is readily available. Without this, evaluating the effectiveness of a RPS and/or Regional Plan is difficult and unlikely to result in robust findings.

From a NZCPS point of view, the One Plan goes some way to meeting the requirements of the NZCPS, but requires a plan review.

## 6 Concluding statements

This section 35 evaluation has focused on the coast provisions of the One Plan. Its purpose has been two-fold. One is to evaluate whether the coast provisions in their current form are effective and efficient (as is required by section 35 of the RMA). The second focus has been to compare the provisions against the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) 2010, and to identify any gaps in the current Plan. Overall, considering the fact that there has not been enough information about performing the One Plan, it is not easy to make a comment on this. Moreover, Horizons is not well positioned for implementing the requirements of the NZCPS (2010) into the current planning framework. Since the NZCPS came into effect after the release of decisions on submissions to the proposed One Plan, the One Plan will require updating according to NZCPS for those areas that are covered or partially covered by the Plan.

## 7 Appendices

Appendix (1): Comparison of NZCPS 2010 and Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and Regional Coastal Plan (RCP) Component of the One Plan

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p><u>Policy 1</u>: Extent and characteristics of the coastal environment.</p> <p>1- Recognise that the extent and characteristics of the coastal environment vary from region to region and locality to locality; and the issues that arise may have different effects in different localities.</p> <p>2- Recognise that the coastal environment includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the coastal marine area;</li> <li>b. islands within the coastal marine area;</li> <li>c. areas where coastal processes, influences or qualities are significant, including coastal lakes, lagoons, tidal estuaries, saltmarshes, coastal wetlands, and the margins of these;</li> <li>d. areas at risk from coastal hazards;</li> <li>e. coastal vegetation and the habitat of indigenous coastal species including migratory birds;</li> <li>f. elements and features that contribute to the natural character, landscape, visual qualities or amenity values;</li> <li>g. items of cultural and historic heritage in the coastal marine area or on the coast;</li> <li>h. inter-related coastal marine and terrestrial systems, including the intertidal zone; and</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Section 8.1.2 in Chapter 8</p> <p>Policy 8-2: Activity Management Areas</p> <p>(b) Various Protection Activity Management Areas for the purposes of protecting the ecological and other important characteristics within each specified Area (as shown in Table I.1 of Schedule I: Part B). These Areas are sensitive and must be protected from adverse effects of activities other than activities which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. appropriately enable or restrict public access, or</li> <li>ii. are essential for public safety, or</li> <li>iii. are intended to restore or conserve a site* or characteristics within a site*, or</li> <li>iv. have no more than minor adverse environmental effects on the characteristics to be protected in each Protection Activity Management Area.</li> </ol> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-1 Regional rule for the CMA</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Chapter 8 <i>Coast</i> sets the policy framework for the integrated management of the wider coastal environment in the Region and this flows through into the whole regional plan component of the One Plan more about Schedule I (and F &amp; G).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a description of the region's coast overall in section 8.1.2, but not in detail aligning with Policy 1.</li> <li>- Policy 1 is not covered thoroughly by Policy 8-2.</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 6 <i>Indigenous biological diversity, landscape and historic heritage</i> addresses outstanding natural features and landscapes and historic heritage, which is relevant to Policy 1 (g).</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>The Regional Council must regulate activities in the CMA through regional rules, which is recognizing the extent and characteristics of the coastal environment.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>i. physical resources and built facilities, including infrastructure, that have modified the coastal environment.</p>	<p>Schedule I Coastal marine area activities and water management.</p> <p>Schedule G Regionally Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes</p>	<p>The Schedule defines coastal marine area boundaries, activity management areas, water management zones, sub-zones, values, management objectives and water quality targets.</p> <p>Schedule I defines Port Activity Management Zone and Protection Activity Management Zones and their values within the CMA.</p> <p>Schedule G <i>Regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes</i> identifies the regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes, including along the coast.</p>
<p><u>Policy 2</u>: The Treaty of Waitangi, tangata whenua and Māori</p> <p>In taking account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi), and kaitiakitanga, in relation to the coastal environment:</p> <p>a. recognise that tangata whenua have traditional and continuing cultural relationships with areas of the coastal environment, including places where they have lived and fished for generations;</p> <p>b. involve iwi authorities or hapū on behalf of tangata whenua in the preparation of regional policy statements, and plans, by undertaking effective consultation with tangata whenua; with such consultation to be early, meaningful, and as far as practicable in accordance with tikanga Māori;</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Chapter 2 includes an objective, supporting policies and associated non-regulatory methods that provide for Policy 2. For example, Objective 2-1 provides for kaitiakitanga to be given particular regard, including recognising and providing for the relationship of hapū and iwi with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga through resource management processes. It is supported by One Plan Policy 2-1 in particular; together, these appear to give effect to/ to be consistent with Policy 2(f).</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>c. with the consent of tangata whenua and as far as practicable in accordance with tikanga Māori, incorporate mātauranga Māori<sup>1</sup> in regional policy statements, in plans, and in the consideration of applications for resource consents, notices of requirement for designation and private plan changes;</p> <p>d. provide opportunities in appropriate circumstances for Māori involvement in decision making, for example when a consent application or notice of requirement is dealing with cultural localities or issues of cultural significance, and Māori experts, including pūkenga, may have knowledge not otherwise available;</p> <p>e. take into account any relevant iwi resource management plan and any other relevant planning document recognised by the appropriate iwi authority or hapū and lodged with the council, to the extent that its content has a bearing on resource management issues in the region or district; and</p> <p>i. where appropriate incorporate references to, or material from, iwi resource management plans in regional policy statements and in plans; and</p> <p>ii. consider providing practical assistance to iwi or hapū who have indicated a wish to develop iwi resource management plans;</p> <p>f. provide for opportunities for tangata whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga over waters, forests, lands, and fisheries in the coastal environment through such measures as:</p>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-8 Consent decision-making for reclamation and drainage (clause (g)).</p> <p>Policy 18-9 Consent decision-making for activities involving disturbance, removal or deposition (clause (f)).</p> <p>Policy 18-12 Consent decision-making for discharges into the CMA (clause (d)).</p> <p>Policy 18-13 Consent decision-making for sewage discharges (clause (e)).</p>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>In consent decision-making for many activities in the CMA, the interests of iwi must be had regard to through the policies in Chapter 18.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. bringing cultural understanding to monitoring of natural resources;</li> <li>ii. providing appropriate methods for the management, maintenance and protection of the taonga of tangata whenua;</li> <li>iii. having regard to regulations, rules or bylaws relating to ensuring sustainability of fisheries resources such as taiāpure, mahinga mātaītai or other non commercial Māori customary fishing;</li> <li>g. in consultation and collaboration with tangata whenua, working as far as practicable in accordance with tikanga Māori, and recognising that tangata whenua have the right to choose not to identify places or values of historic, cultural or spiritual significance or special value:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. recognise the importance of Māori cultural and heritage values through such methods as historic heritage, landscape and cultural impact assessments; and</li> <li>ii. provide for the identification, assessment, protection and management of areas or sites of significance or special value to Māori, including by historic analysis and archaeological survey and the development of methods such as alert layers and predictive methodologies for identifying areas of high potential for undiscovered Māori heritage, for example coastal pā or fishing villages.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p><u>Policy 3: Precautionary approach</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt a precautionary approach towards proposed activities whose effects on the coastal environment are uncertain, unknown, or little understood, but potentially significantly adverse.</li> <li>2. In particular, adopt a precautionary approach to use and management of coastal resources potentially vulnerable to effects from climate change, so that:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoidable social and economic loss and harm to communities does not occur;</li> <li>b. natural adjustments for coastal processes, natural defences, ecosystems, habitat and species are allowed to occur; and</li> <li>c. the natural character, public access, amenity and other values of the coastal environment meet the needs of future generations.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p> <p>(c) avoid, as far as reasonably practicable, any adverse effects on the following important values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. any characteristic listed in Table I.1 in Schedule I: Part B for each Protection Activity Management Area</li> <li>ii. elements and processes that contribute to the natural character and open space characteristics of the CMA</li> <li>iii. the landscape and seascape elements that contribute to the natural character of the CMA</li> <li>iv. areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, and the maintenance of indigenous biological diversity</li> <li>v. the intrinsic values of ecosystems</li> <li>vi. the natural integrity and functioning of physical processes (including recognition of sea level rise*)</li> <li>vii. historic heritage.</li> </ol> <p>When avoidance is not reasonably practicable, the adverse effects must be remedied or mitigated.</p> <p>Policy 9-5: Climate Change</p> <p>The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities must take a precautionary approach when assessing the effects of climate change and sea level rise on the scale and frequency of natural hazards with regard to decisions on:</p> <p>(b)Coastal development and coastal land use</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>One Plan does not explicitly support the application of a precautionary approach to activities in the coastal environment through its coastal provisions (except as provided for through Policy 9-5).</p> <p>Policy 9-5 considers coastal development and coastal land use by taking a precautionary approach when assessing the effects of climate change and sea level rise on the scale and frequency of natural hazards with regard to decisions.</p> <p>Policy 9-5 <i>Climate change</i> sets out the need for the Regional Council and territorial authorities to take a precautionary approach in relation to assessing the effects of climate change and sea level rise in decision making on coastal development and coastal land use. Policy 18-5 includes consideration of whether new structures will be built and maintained to withstand natural hazards.</p>



New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
	(RCP) Policy 12-1: Regional rules for restricted activities Policy 18-5 Consent decision-making for new structures. Rule 18-44 Activities that are not covered by any other rule, or which do not comply with permitted activity and controlled activity rules (discretionary)	(RCP) Policy 12-1 <i>Regional rules for restricted activities</i> sets out how rule status reflects the risk of effects associated with activities. Policy 18-5 includes consideration of whether new structures will be built and maintained to withstand natural hazards. Rule 18-44's discretionary activity status allows effects to be assessed and appropriate consent conditions to be imposed or consent declined. These provisions enable a precautionary approach to activities for which effects are uncertain and potentially significantly adverse.
<u>Policy 4: Integration</u> Provide for the integrated management of natural and physical resources in the coastal environment, and activities that affect the coastal environment. This requires: a. co-ordinated management or control of activities within the coastal environment, and which could cross administrative boundaries, particularly: i. the local authority boundary between the coastal marine area and land;	(RPS) Policy 8-1: Integrated management of the coastal environment Integrated management of the coastal environment must be sought. Policy 8-5: Public access Policy 9-5: Climate change (b) coastal development and coastal land use	(RPS) The integrated management mentioned in Policy 8-1 covers provisions in Chapter 8 and the provisions of the Regional Coastal Plan (Chapter 18 and Schedule I as well as Chapters 11, 12 and 19 and the relevant definitions in the Glossary). However, it does not refer back consideration of hapū or iwi boundaries or rohe across local authority boundaries explicitly.

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. local authority boundaries within the coastal environment, both within the coastal marine area and on land; and</li> <li>iii. where hapū or iwi boundaries or rohe cross local authority boundaries;</li> <li>b. working collaboratively with other bodies and agencies with responsibilities and functions relevant to resource management, such as where land or waters are held or managed for conservation purposes; and</li> <li>c. particular consideration of situations where:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. subdivision, use, or development and its effects above or below the line of mean high water springs will require, or is likely to result in, associated use or development that crosses the line of mean high water springs; or</li> <li>ii. public use and enjoyment of public space in the coastal environment is affected, or is likely to be affected; or</li> <li>iii. development or land management practices may be affected by physical changes to the coastal environment or potential inundation from coastal hazards, including as a result of climate change; or</li> <li>iv. land use activities affect, or are likely to affect, water quality in the coastal environment and marine ecosystems through increasing sedimentation; or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Activities in coastal environment are regulated under the RCP policies: Policies 18-5 and 18-6</p>	<p>In addition, co-ordination is mentioned through method 8-1 to link back to policies 8-1 and 8-2.</p> <p>Policy 8-5 mentions establishing and operating a manner which readily provided for public access. It aligns with Policy 4 (c) (ii).</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policies in Chapter 18 can be a part of integrated management of natural and physical resources in the CMA, particularly, Policy 18-5 is consent decision-making for new structures and Policy 18-6 is consent decision-making for new structures in the protection activity management areas. However, Policy 4 covers the coastal environment, which is wider than CMA. Many of those matters are dealt with in other chapters of the One Plan.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
v. significant adverse cumulative effects are occurring, or can be anticipated.		
<p><u>Policy 5:</u> Land or waters managed or held under other Acts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consider effects on land or waters in the coastal environment held or managed under:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the Conservation Act 1987 and any Act listed in the 1st Schedule to that Act; or</li> <li>b. other Acts for conservation or protection purposes; and, having regard to the purposes for which the land or waters are held or managed:</li> <li>c. avoid adverse effects of activities that are significant in relation to those purposes; and</li> <li>d. otherwise avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of activities in relation to those purposes.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Have regard to publicly notified proposals for statutory protection of land or waters in the coastal environment and the adverse effects of activities on the purposes of that proposed statutory protection.</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>-</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-6 Consent decision-making for new structures in the Protection Activity Management Areas.</p> <p>Policy 18-8 Consent decision-making for reclamation and drainage (clause (g)).</p> <p>Policy 18-9 Consent decision-making for activities involving disturbance, removal or deposition (clause (f)).</p> <p>Policy 18-15 Consent decision-making for the introduction of exotic and introduced plants (clause (c)).</p> <p>Rule 18-5 Occupation of space in Protection Activity Management Areas (non-complying).</p> <p>Rule 18-15 Energy generation structures in a Protection Activity Management Area (non-complying).</p> <p>Rule 18-16 structures in a Protection Activity Management Area (prohibited).</p> <p>Rule 18-21 Small reclamations in Protection Activity Management Areas (non-complying).</p> <p>Rule 18-22 Large reclamations in Protection Activity Management Areas (non-complying).</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Considering effects on land or waters in the coastal environment held or managed under the Conservation Act 1987 and any other Act has not been specified in the One Plan.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Some of these areas are defined in Schedule I, and policies and rules set out in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Rules for activities likely to have a significant adverse effect on the areas and their values have non-complying or prohibited activity status. This only applies to activities within those Protection Activity Management Areas, not activities that could occur outside but still affect them.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
	<p>Rule 18-30 Protection Management Activity Areas: small-scale to medium-scale disturbances, removal and deposition (non-complying).</p> <p>Rule 18-31 Protection Management Activity Areas: large-scale disturbances, removal and deposition (non-complying).</p> <p>Schedule I Table 1.1 and Figures I: 10 to I: 14.</p>	
<p><u>Policy 6</u>: Activities in the coastal environment</p> <p>1. In relation to the coastal environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recognise that the provision of infrastructure, the supply and transport of energy including the generation and transmission of electricity, and the extraction of minerals are activities important to the social, economic and cultural well-being of people and communities;</li> <li>consider the rate at which built development and the associated public infrastructure should be enabled to provide for the reasonably foreseeable needs of population growth without compromising the other values of the coastal environment;</li> <li>encourage the consolidation of existing coastal settlements and urban areas where this will contribute to the avoidance or mitigation of sprawling or sporadic patterns of settlement and urban growth;</li> <li>recognise tangata whenua needs for papakāinga, marae and associated developments and make appropriate provision for them;</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-2: Activity Management Areas</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Activities management areas defined in Policy 8-2 apply to the CMA, while many of those other activities would occur landward of the CMA so things like providing appropriately for infrastructure in the coastal environment would consider both Chapter 3 and Chapter 8.</p> <p>The One Plan gives effect to this policy across the coastal environment including the CMA through the policy framework in Chapter 8 <i>Coast</i> in particular. Specific matters such as infrastructure, renewable energy, historic heritage protection and natural character are provided for in the regional policy statement component of the Plan, and through rule conditions.</p> <p>Note that some aspects of Policy 6 (such as visual effects and subdivision) where they</p>

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<p>e. consider where and how built development on land should be controlled so that it does not compromise activities of national or regional importance that have a functional need to locate and operate in the coastal marine area;</p> <p>f. consider where development that maintains the character of the existing built environment should be encouraged, and where development resulting in a change in character would be acceptable;</p> <p>g. take into account the potential of renewable resources in the coastal environment, such as energy from wind, waves, currents and tides, to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations;</p> <p>h. consider how adverse visual impacts of development can be avoided in areas sensitive to such effects, such as headlands and prominent ridgelines, and as far as practicable and reasonable apply controls or conditions to avoid those effects;</p> <p>i. set back development from the coastal marine area and other water bodies, where practicable and reasonable, to protect the natural character, open space, public access and amenity values of the coastal environment; and</p> <p>j. where appropriate, buffer areas and sites of significant indigenous biological diversity, or historic heritage value.</p> <p>2. Additionally, in relation to the coastal marine area:</p>	<p>(RCP) Chapter 18.</p>	<p>occur outside the CMA are the function of territorial authorities.</p> <p>This policy is also gives effect through Policy 8-4.</p> <p>(RCP) Chapter 18 policies in general, and in particular, such as Policy 18-3 <i>Consent decision-making for occupation of space by activities other than aquaculture</i> and Policy 18-4 <i>Consent decision-making for existing structures</i>, and rules supporting Policy 8-4.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. recognise potential contributions to the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of people and communities from use and development of the coastal marine area, including the potential for renewable marine energy to contribute to meeting the energy needs of future generations;</li> <li>b. recognise the need to maintain and enhance the public open space and recreation qualities and values of the coastal marine area;</li> <li>c. recognise that there are activities that have a functional need to be located in the coastal marine area, and provide for those activities in appropriate places;</li> <li>d. recognise that activities that do not have a functional need for location in the coastal marine area generally should not be located there; and</li> <li>e. promote the efficient use of occupied space, including by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. requiring that structures be made available for public or multiple use wherever reasonable and practicable;</li> <li>ii. requiring the removal of any abandoned or redundant structure that has no heritage, amenity or reuse value; and</li> <li>iii. considering whether consent conditions should be applied to ensure that space occupied for an activity is used for that purpose effectively and without unreasonable delay.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

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<p><u>Policy 7:</u> Strategic planning</p> <p>1. In preparing regional policy statements, and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. consider where, how and when to provide for future residential, rural residential, settlement, urban development and other activities in the coastal environment at a regional and district level; and</li> <li>b. identify areas of the coastal environment where particular activities and forms of subdivision, use, and development:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. are inappropriate; and</li> <li>ii. may be inappropriate without the consideration of effects through a resource consent application, notice of requirement for designation or Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act process;</li> </ul> <p>and provide protection from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development in these areas through objectives, policies and rules.</p> </li> </ul> <p>2. Identify in regional policy statements, and plans, coastal processes, resources or values that are under threat or at significant risk from adverse cumulative effects. Include provisions in plans to manage these effects. Where practicable, in plans, set thresholds (including zones, standards or targets), or specify acceptable limits to change, to assist in determining when activities causing adverse cumulative effects are to be avoided.</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p> <p>Also the provisions around the Protection AMA and Port AMA in particular.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>It is mentioned in policy 8-4, however, identifying adverse cumulative effects needs to be considered. The gap in the One Plan is around management of significant adverse cumulative effects.</p> <p>In addition, Method 8-4 <i>Coastal information</i> supports the collection of further information on various matters to enable refinement of approaches and strategies to deal with the coastal environment.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>

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<p><u>Policy 8: Aquaculture</u></p> <p>Recognise the significant existing and potential contribution of aquaculture to the social, economic and cultural well-being of people and communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. including in regional policy statements and regional coastal plans provision for aquaculture activities in appropriate places in the coastal environment, recognising that relevant considerations may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the need for high water quality for aquaculture activities; and</li> <li>ii. the need for land-based facilities associated with marine farming;</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. taking account of the social and economic benefits of aquaculture, including any available assessments of national and regional economic benefits; and</li> <li>c. ensuring that development in the coastal environment does not make water quality unfit for aquaculture activities in areas approved for that purpose.</li> </ul>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-3: Aquaculture Management Areas</p> <p>Aquaculture activities in the CMA require the establishment of an aquaculture management area by way of a notified change to Chapter 18 of the One Plan.</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>The Plan provides for the plan change process to be used for covering aquaculture activities in aquaculture management areas. The occupation of space by aquaculture activities is then a controlled activity under Rule 18-3. We could actually progress a consent application – but overall, the key point is that the One Plan provisions require a plan change to bring them into line with current RMA provisions.</p> <p>Subsequent changes to the RMA through the 2011 legislative reforms mean a plan change process is no longer necessary. The changes to the RMA postdate the decisions version of the Plan and were not subject to appeal from any party. As a result there was no mechanism to alter the requirement for a plan change process.</p> <p>The Council has had no interest from any party to establish any aquaculture activity and therefore there is no particular pressure. The removal of the reference to a plan change process will occur when the first change is proposed to the Plan.</p>



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	(RCP) Policy 18-2 Occupation of space by aquaculture. Rule 18-3 Occupation of space by aquaculture. Rule 18-4 Exclusive occupation. Rule 18-12 Aquaculture structures.	(RCP) Policy 18-2 is about the allocation of space for aquaculture that must be established through a plan change.
<p><u>Policy 9: Ports</u></p> <p>Recognise that a sustainable national transport system requires an efficient national network of safe ports, servicing national and international shipping, with efficient connections with other transport modes, including by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ensuring that development in the coastal environment does not adversely affect the efficient and safe operation of these ports, or their connections with other transport modes; and</li> <li>b. considering where, how and when to provide in regional policy statements and in plans for the efficient and safe operation of these ports, the development of their capacity for shipping, and their connections with other transport modes.</li> </ol>	(RPS) Policy 8-2: Activity Management Areas (a) a Port Activity Management Area for the purposes of enabling the efficient and practical operation of Wanganui Port and associated industries and boating facilities, as shown in Schedule I: Part B, by providing for activities which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. facilitate the operation of the Wanganui Port and marina, including restricting public access where it is necessary for safety reasons</li> <li>ii. involve maintenance dredging and associated disposal to maintain a navigational depth</li> <li>iii. involve the maintenance, upgrade or extension of existing structures.</li> </ol> (c) a General Activity Management Area for the purposes of managing activities in all areas other than areas covered by the Port Activity Management Area and Protection Activity Management Areas. The purpose of the General Activity Management Area is to ensure that adverse effects are avoided as far as reasonably practicable and, where they cannot be avoided, are remedied or mitigated.	(RPS) The efficient and safe operation of the region's port, the development of its capacity for shipping, and its connections with other transport modes are considered in Policy 8-2. This policy enables the recognition the Whanganui Port (the region's only port) for its efficient and practical operation in the RCP, while Policy 3-1 <i>Benefits of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance</i> recognises it as a physical resource of regional or national importance.

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	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Rule 18-9 Structures in the Port Activity Management Area (controlled).</p> <p>Rule 18-10 Wharf extension in the Port Activity Management Area (permitted).</p> <p>Rule 18-19 Small reclamation within the Port Activity Management Area (restricted discretionary).</p> <p>Rule 18-28 Port Activity Management Area and Whanganui River maintenance dredging (discretionary).</p> <p>Port and General Activity Management Areas: Large-scale disturbances, removal and deposition (discretionary).</p>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Chapter 18 rules provide for the Port's operation and development as permitted, controlled or restricted discretionary activities where the effects are well understood and can be managed through addressing specific matters</p>
<p><u>Policy 10: Reclamation and de-reclamation</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Avoid reclamation of land in the coastal marine area, unless: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. land outside the coastal marine area is not available for the proposed activity;</li> <li>b. the activity which requires reclamation can only occur in or adjacent to the coastal marine area;</li> <li>c. there are no practicable alternative methods of providing the activity; and</li> <li>d. the reclamation will provide significant regional or national benefit.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Where a reclamation is considered to be a suitable use of the coastal marine area, in considering its form and design have particular regard to:</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Section 18.4, including:</p> <p>Policy 18-8 Consent decision-making for reclamation and drainage;</p> <p>Rule 18-18 Small reclamations except in Protection Activity Management Areas (discretionary);</p> <p>Rule 18-19 Small reclamation within the Port Activity Management Area (restricted discretionary);</p> <p>Rule 18-20 Large reclamations except in Protection Activity Management Areas (discretionary);</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-4 addresses the matters raised in Policy 10.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Guidance on consent decision-making for reclamation and the rules for this activity are set out in section 18.4 <i>Reclamations and Drainage</i>, mostly aligned with NZCPS. However, providing public access, the ability to avoid consequential erosion and accretion, and other natural hazards are not mentioned directly. Moreover, De-reclamation of redundant reclaimed land including restoration of the natural character</p>

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<p>a. the potential effects on the site of climate change, including sea level rise, over no less than 100 years;</p> <p>b. the shape of the reclamation and, where appropriate, whether the materials used are visually and aesthetically compatible with the adjoining coast;</p> <p>c. the use of materials in the reclamation, including avoiding the use of contaminated materials that could significantly adversely affect water quality, aquatic ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity in the coastal marine area;</p> <p>d. providing public access, including providing access to and along the coastal marine area at high tide where practicable, unless a restriction on public access is appropriate as provided for in Policy 19;</p> <p>e. the ability to remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the coastal environment;</p> <p>f. whether the proposed activity will affect cultural landscapes and sites of significance to tangata whenua; and</p> <p>g. the ability to avoid consequential erosion and accretion, and other natural hazards.</p> <p>3. In considering proposed reclamations, have particular regard to the extent to which the reclamation and intended purpose would provide for the efficient operation of infrastructure, including ports, airports, coastal roads, pipelines, electricity transmission,</p>	<p>Rule 18-21 Small reclamations in Protection Activity Management Areas (non-complying);</p> <p>Rule 18-22 Large reclamations in Protection Activity Management Areas (non-complying).</p>	<p>and resources of the coastal marine area; and providing for more public open space has not been mentioned.</p>

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<p>railways and ferry terminals, and of marinas and electricity generation.</p> <p>4. De-reclamation of redundant reclaimed land is encouraged where it would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. restore the natural character and resources of the coastal marine area; and</li> <li>b. provide for more public open space.</li> </ol>		
<p><u>Policy 11</u>: Indigenous biological diversity (biodiversity)</p> <p>To protect indigenous biological diversity in the coastal environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoid adverse effects of activities on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. indigenous taxa that are listed as threatened or at risk in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists;</li> <li>ii. taxa that are listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources as threatened;</li> <li>iii. indigenous ecosystems and vegetation types that are threatened in the coastal environment, or are naturally rare;</li> <li>iv. habitats of indigenous species where the species are at the limit of their natural range, or are naturally rare;</li> <li>v. areas containing nationally significant examples of indigenous community types; and</li> <li>vi. areas set aside for full or partial protection of indigenous biological diversity under other legislation; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 6-1: Responsibilities for maintain indigenous biological diversity</p> <p>Policy 6-2: Regulation of activities affecting indigenous biological diversity</p> <p>Policy 6-3: Proactive management of biological diversity</p> <p>Policy 8-1: integrated management of the coastal environment</p> <p>Policy 8-2: Activity Management Areas</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Indigenous biological diversity is in Chapter 6 of the One Plan, however, there is no specific part to protect indigenous biological diversity in the coastal environment.</p> <p>In Chapter 8, it is mentioned within Policy 8-1 (b) as a part of integrated management of the coastal environment. Therefore, it needs to be reviewed to align with the NZCPS.</p> <p>Within the CMA this is given effect by the establishment of Protection Activity Management Areas (Policy 8-2) and their identification and description (Schedule I), plus the supporting policies and rules listed above under Policy 5. Schedule I also identifies areas valued for whitebait migration and inanga spawning and the permitted and controlled activity rule conditions restrict their disturbance.</p>

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<p>b. avoid significant adverse effects and avoid, remedy or mitigate other adverse effects of activities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. areas of predominantly indigenous vegetation in the coastal environment;</li> <li>ii. habitats in the coastal environment that are important during the vulnerable life stages of indigenous species;</li> <li>iii. indigenous ecosystems and habitats that are only found in the coastal environment and are particularly vulnerable to modification, including estuaries, lagoons, coastal wetlands, dunelands, intertidal zones, rocky reef systems, eelgrass and saltmarsh;</li> <li>iv. habitats of indigenous species in the coastal environment that are important for recreational, commercial, traditional or cultural purposes;</li> <li>v. habitats, including areas and routes, important to migratory species; and</li> <li>vi. ecological corridors, and areas important for linking or maintaining biological values identified under this policy.</li> </ul>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Schedule I. Table 18.1 General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA.</p> <p>Schedule F: Indigenous Biological Diversity</p>	<p>Policy 8-4 also addresses the effects of activities in the CMA on indigenous biological diversity.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>In the wider coastal environment, the effects of activities is achieved through Schedule F <i>Indigenous Biological Diversity</i>, which describes at-risk rare and threatened habitat types. These habitats are protected through the policy framework in Chapter 6 <i>Indigenous biological diversity, landscape and historic heritage</i> in particular, and through rule conditions such as those in Chapter 14 <i>Discharges to land and water</i> permitted and controlled activity rules.</p>
<p><u>Policy 12</u>: Harmful aquatic organisms</p> <p>1. Provide in regional policy statements and in plans, as far as practicable, for the control of activities in or near the coastal marine area that could have adverse effects on the coastal environment by causing harmful aquatic organisms<sup>7</sup> to be released or otherwise spread, and include conditions in resource consents,</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>-</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Harmful aquatic organisms in coastal environment are not mentioned. Anything in the Port AMA provisions is related to Recognising that activities the Port AMA. Both (a) and (b) of Policy 12 needs to be considered.</p>

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<p>where relevant, to assist with managing the risk of such effects occurring.</p> <p>2. Recognise that activities relevant to (1) include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the introduction of structures likely to be contaminated with harmful aquatic organisms;</li> <li>b. the discharge or disposal of organic material from dredging, or from vessels and structures, whether during maintenance, cleaning or otherwise; and whether in the coastal marine area or on land;</li> <li>c. the provision and ongoing maintenance of moorings, marina berths, jetties and wharves; and</li> <li>d. the establishment and relocation of equipment and stock required for or associated with aquaculture.</li> </ol>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-8 Consent decision-making for reclamation and drainage (clause (e)).</p> <p>Section 18.9 Exotic and introduced plants</p>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-8(e) addresses the need to ensure that material used in any reclamation is uncontaminated by pest plant material which could propagate or proliferate. See also Section 18.9, which specifically deals with consent decision-making for the introduction of exotic and introduced plants.</p> <p>The prevention of the introduction of Didymo to the Region is managed through a combination of standard resource consent conditions for all activities in beds of rivers and lakes (including those in the coastal area), and non-regulatory methods including public education.</p>
<p><u>Policy 13</u>: Preservation of natural character</p> <p>1. To preserve the natural character of the coastal environment and to protect it from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoid adverse effects of activities on natural character in areas of the coastal environment with outstanding natural character; and</li> <li>b. avoid significant adverse effects and avoid, remedy or mitigate other adverse effects of activities on natural character in all other areas of the coastal environment; including by:</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 6-8: Natural character</p> <p>Policy 6-9: Managing natural character</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>The natural character of the coastal environment has been mentioned in Chapter 6, Policies 6-8 and 6-9. These policies recognise natural character separately from natural features and landscapes, provide for the restoration of areas of natural character, their protection from subdivision, and the avoidance of adverse effects on them from subdivision,</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. assessing the natural character of the coastal environment of the region or district, by mapping or otherwise identifying at least areas of high natural character; and</li> <li>d. ensuring that regional policy statements, and plans, identify areas where preserving natural character requires objectives, policies and rules, and include those provisions.</li> </ul> <p>2. Recognise that natural character is not the same as natural features and landscapes or amenity values and may include matters such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. natural elements, processes and patterns;</li> <li>b. biophysical, ecological, geological and geomorphological aspects;</li> <li>c. natural landforms such as headlands, peninsulas, cliffs, dunes, wetlands, reefs, freshwater springs and surf breaks;</li> <li>d. the natural movement of water and sediment;</li> <li>e. the natural darkness of the night sky;</li> <li>f. places or areas that are wild or scenic;</li> <li>g. a range of natural character from pristine to modified; and</li> <li>h. experiential attributes, including the sounds and smell of the sea; and their context or setting.</li> </ul>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-9 Consent decision-making for activities involving disturbance, removal or deposition (clause (c)).</p>	<p>use and development. Policy 8-4 addresses this within the CMA.</p> <p>However, to align with the NZCPS, more elaboration is required related to avoiding adverse effects of activities on natural character and remedy or mitigate other adverse effects of activities on natural character in all other areas of the coastal environment.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-9 deals specifically with adverse effects of activities involving disturbance, removal or deposition on natural character in the CMA.</p>
<p><u>Policy 14</u>: Restoration of natural character</p> <p>Promote restoration or rehabilitation of the natural character of the coastal environment, including by:</p>	<p>See above</p>	<p>See above</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. identifying areas and opportunities for restoration or rehabilitation;</li> <li>b. providing policies, rules and other methods directed at restoration or rehabilitation in regional policy statements, and plans;</li> <li>c. where practicable, imposing or reviewing restoration or rehabilitation conditions on resource consents and designations, including for the continuation of activities; and recognising that where degraded areas of the coastal environment require restoration or rehabilitation, possible approaches include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. restoring indigenous habitats and ecosystems, using local genetic stock where practicable; or</li> <li>ii. encouraging natural regeneration of indigenous species, recognising the need for effective weed and animal pest management; or</li> <li>iii. creating or enhancing habitat for indigenous species; or</li> <li>iv. rehabilitating dunes and other natural coastal features or processes, including saline wetlands and intertidal saltmarsh; or</li> <li>v. restoring and protecting riparian and intertidal margins; or</li> <li>vi. reducing or eliminating discharges of contaminants; or</li> <li>vii. removing redundant structures and materials that have been assessed to have minimal heritage or amenity values and when the removal is authorised by required permits, including an</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		



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<p>archaeological authority under the Historic Places Act 1993; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>viii. restoring cultural landscape features; or</li> <li>ix. redesign of structures that interfere with ecosystem processes; or</li> <li>x. decommissioning or restoring historic landfill and other contaminated sites which are, or have the potential to, leach material into the coastal marine area.</li> </ul>		
<p><u>Policy 15:</u> Natural features and natural landscapes To protect the natural features and natural landscapes (including seascape) of the coastal environment from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoid adverse effects of activities on outstanding natural features and outstanding natural landscapes in the coastal environment; and</li> <li>b. avoid significant adverse effects and avoid, remedy, or mitigate other adverse effects of activities on other natural features and natural landscapes in the coastal environment; including by:</li> <li>c. identifying and assessing the natural features and natural landscapes of the coastal environment of the region or district, at minimum by land typing, soil characterisation and landscape characterisation and having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. natural science factors, including geological, topographical, ecological and dynamic components;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 6-6 Regionally outstanding natural features and landscapes</p> <p>Policy 8-1: Integrated management of the coastal environment</p> <p>(b) provisions in other chapters of this Plan address water quality, erodible land (including the coastal foredune), natural hazards, indigenous biological diversity, landscapes and <b>natural character</b>, air discharges, and infrastructure, energy and waste (including hazardous substances).</p> <p>Policy 8-4 (c)(iii): Avoid, as far as reasonably practicable, any adverse effects on the following important values: the landscape and seascape elements that contribute to the <b>natural character</b> of the CMA.</p>	<p>Protecting the natural features and natural landscapes of the CMA is mentioned in policies 8-1 and 8-4 briefly. However, more elaboration is required to align with the NZCPS. This is a gap. There might be policy support but this is where we didn't end up with any provisions to protect ONFL in the CMA at all – landward ONFL are well provided for through Chapter 6 policy direction (and Schedule G) to TAs but the corresponding provisions in Chapter 8 are not as rigorous.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. the presence of water including in seas, lakes, rivers and streams;</li> <li>iii. legibility or expressiveness – how obviously the feature or landscape demonstrates its formative processes;</li> <li>iv. aesthetic values including memorability and naturalness;</li> <li>v. vegetation (native and exotic);</li> <li>vi. transient values, including presence of wildlife or other values at certain times of the day or year;</li> <li>vii. whether the values are shared and recognised;</li> <li>viii. cultural and spiritual values for tangata whenua, identified by working, as far as practicable, in accordance with tikanga Māori; including their expression as cultural landscapes and features;</li> <li>ix. historical and heritage associations; and</li> <li>x. wild or scenic values;</li> <li>d. ensuring that regional policy statements, and plans, map or otherwise identify areas where the protection of natural features and natural landscapes requires objectives, policies and rules; and</li> <li>e. including the objectives, policies and rules required by (d) in plans.</li> </ul>		
<p><u>Policy 16</u>: Surf breaks of national significance Protect the surf breaks of national significance for surfing listed in Schedule 1, by:</p>	--	<p>Not applicable for Manawatū-Whanganui. The Schedule 1 list included in the NZCPS does not contain any surf breaks within Manawatū-Whanganui Region.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ensuring that activities in the coastal environment do not adversely affect the surf breaks; and</li> <li>b. avoiding adverse effects of other activities on access to, and use and enjoyment of the surf breaks</li> </ul>		
<p><u>Policy 17:</u> Historic heritage identification and protection</p> <p>Protect historic heritage in the coastal environment from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. identification, assessment and recording of historic heritage, including archaeological sites;</li> <li>b. providing for the integrated management of such sites in collaboration with relevant councils, heritage agencies, iwi authorities and kaitiaki;</li> <li>c. initiating assessment and management of historic heritage in the context of historic landscapes;</li> <li>d. recognising that heritage to be protected may need conservation;</li> <li>e. facilitating and integrating management of historic heritage that spans the line of mean high water springs;</li> <li>f. including policies, rules and other methods relating to (a) to (e) above in regional policy statements, and plans;</li> <li>g. imposing or reviewing conditions on resource consents and designations, including for the continuation of activities;</li> <li>h. requiring, where practicable, conservation conditions; and</li> </ul>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 2-2: Wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other sites of significance</p> <p>Policy 6-11: Historic heritage</p> <p>Policy 6-12: Historic heritage identification</p> <p>Policy 8-4: Appropriate use and development</p> <p>(c) avoid, as far as reasonably practicable, any adverse effects on the following important values: (vii) historic heritage</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Any heritage sites have not been listed in the coastal environment for the region.</p> <p>Policy 2-2 requires identification of these sites and their protection from inappropriate subdivision, use or development. Method 2-2 <i>Identification of sites of significance</i> implements this policy.</p> <p>Policy 6-11 and Policy 6-12 establish a framework for the identification and integrated management of historic heritage in the coastal environment. Through Method 6-7 <i>District planning – natural features, landscapes, historic heritage and indigenous biological diversity</i>, MWRC will formally seek changes to district plans to ensure appropriate protection for historic heritage.</p> <p>Policy 8-4 requires that adverse effects on historic heritage from use or development in the CMA must be avoided as far as reasonably practicable. However, it doesn't</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>i. considering provision for methods that would enhance owners' opportunities for conservation of listed heritage structures, such as relief grants or rates relief.</p>	<p>(RCP) Table 18.1 General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA. Rule 18-11 Structures for public access (restricted discretionary). Rule 18-19 Small reclamation within the Port Activity Management Area (restricted discretionary).</p>	<p>specifically address the full range of matters set out in Policy 17 (a)-(e) as required by (f)</p> <p>(RCP) Table 18.1 protects historic heritage; activities that cannot comply with this condition will be assessed as a discretionary activity. The restricted discretionary rules in Chapter 18 include effects on historic heritage as a matter of discretion. Method 8-4 <i>Coastal information</i> supports the collection of information on historic heritage in the CMA.</p>
<p><u>Policy 18</u>: Public open space Recognise the need for public open space within and adjacent to the coastal marine area, for public use and appreciation including active and passive recreation, and provide for such public open space, including by:</p> <p>a. ensuring that the location and treatment of public open space is compatible with the natural character, natural features and landscapes, and amenity values of the coastal environment;</p> <p>b. taking account of future need for public open space within and adjacent to the coastal marine area, including in and close to cities, towns and other settlements;</p>	<p>(RPS) Policy 8-5: Public access</p>	<p>(RPS) Those parts of this policy that are a function of regional councils are addressed throughout the policy framework in the regional policy statement component of the One Plan, particularly Chapters 6 <i>Indigenous biological diversity, landscape and historic heritage</i>, 8 <i>Coast</i>, 9 <i>Natural hazards</i>. The need for public open space within and adjacent to the CMA has not been mentioned in the policies. However, public</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. maintaining and enhancing walking access linkages between public open space areas in the coastal environment;</li> <li>d. considering the likely impact of coastal processes and climate change so as not to compromise the ability of future generations to have access to public open space; and</li> <li>e. recognising the important role that esplanade reserves and strips can have in contributing to meeting public open space needs.</li> </ul>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policy 18-2 Occupation of space by aquaculture.</p> <p>Policy 18-3 Consent decision-making for occupation of space by activities other than aquaculture.</p>	<p>access and its condition is mentioned in Policy 8-5.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Policies 18-2 and 18-3 include consideration of effects of occupation on public access to the CMA. The provision of public open space areas would be undertaken by territorial authorities.</p>
<p><u>Policy 19</u>: Walking access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognise the public expectation of and need for walking access to and along the coast that is practical, free of charge and safe for pedestrian use.</li> <li>2. Maintain and enhance public walking access to, along and adjacent to the coastal marine area, including by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. identifying how information on where the public have walking access will be made publicly available;</li> <li>b. avoiding, remedying or mitigating any loss of public walking access resulting from subdivision, use, or development; and</li> <li>c. identifying opportunities to enhance or restore public walking access, for example where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. connections between existing public areas can be provided; or</li> <li>ii. improving access would promote outdoor recreation; or</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-5: Public access</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Table 18.1 General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA.</p>	<p>Walking access is mentioned as any public walkway or foot access way structure pursuant to s12(1) RMA</p> <p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 8-5 acknowledges the need to provide for public access whilst protecting bird habitat areas, estuarine plant communities and dune stability.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Table 18.1 includes two general conditions regarding existing public access not being rendered unsafe and allowing it to be rendered temporarily unavailable where necessary for public safety. Where these conditions cannot be met the activity becomes a discretionary activity.</p> <p>See also the comments on Policy 18.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii. physical access for people with disabilities is desirable; or</li> <li>iv. the long-term availability of public access is threatened by erosion or sea level rise; or</li> <li>v. access to areas or sites of historic or cultural significance is important; or</li> <li>vi. subdivision, use, or development of land adjacent to the coastal marine area has reduced public access, or has the potential to do so.</li> </ul> <p>3. Only impose a restriction on public walking access to, along or adjacent to the coastal marine area where such a restriction is necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. to protect threatened indigenous species; or</li> <li>b. to protect dunes, estuaries and other sensitive natural areas or habitats; or</li> <li>c. to protect sites and activities of cultural value to Māori; or</li> <li>d. to protect historic heritage; or</li> <li>e. to protect public health or safety; or</li> <li>f. to avoid or reduce conflict between public uses of the coastal marine area and its margins; or</li> <li>g. for temporary activities or special events; or</li> <li>h. for defence purposes in accordance with the Defence Act 1990; or</li> <li>i. to ensure a level of security consistent with the purpose of a resource consent; or</li> <li>j. in other exceptional circumstances sufficient to justify the restriction.</li> </ul>		

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
4. Before imposing any restriction under (3), consider and where practicable provide for alternative routes that are available to the public free of charge at all times.		
<p><u>Policy 20</u>: Vehicle access</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Control use of vehicles, apart from emergency vehicles, on beaches, foreshore, seabed and adjacent public land where:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. damage to dune or other geological systems and processes; or</li> <li>b. harm to ecological systems or to indigenous flora and fauna, for example marine mammal and bird habitats or breeding areas and shellfish beds; or</li> <li>c. danger to other beach users; or</li> <li>d. disturbance of the peaceful enjoyment of the beach environment; or</li> <li>e. damage to historic heritage; or</li> <li>f. damage to the habitats of fisheries resources of significance to customary, commercial or recreational users; or</li> <li>g. damage to sites of significance to tangata whenua; might result.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Identify the locations where vehicular access is required for boat launching, or as the only practicable means of access to private property or public facilities, or for the operation of existing commercial activities, and make appropriate provision for such access.</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS) Chapter 8 policy implementation</p> <p>(RCP) -</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Vehicles on beaches and dunes is a part of Method 8-1 for the Coastal Management Forum (implementing Policies 8-1 and 8-2) and Method 8-2 for Coast Care (implementing Policies 8-1, 8-2, 8-4 and 8-5). In addition, Method 8-3 relates to Vehicle Bylaws (implementing Policies 8-1, 8-2, and 8-5) and requires that the Regional Council work with others to manage vehicles on dunes and beaches.</p> <p>The Regional Council recognises that vehicles on dunes and beaches is an increasing issue, particularly for the Region's west coast. This issue cannot be successfully managed through the RMA or consent processes. It is considered that a bylaw should be developed and applied consistently across the west coast, to control the future use of vehicles on dunes and beaches.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>3. Identify any areas where and times when recreational vehicular use on beaches, foreshore and seabed may be permitted, with or without restriction as to type of vehicle, without a likelihood of any of (1)(a) to (g) occurring.</p>		
<p><u>Policy 21</u>: Enhancement of water quality Where the quality of water in the coastal environment has deteriorated so that it is having a significant adverse effect on ecosystems, natural habitats, or water-based recreational activities, or is restricting existing uses, such as aquaculture, shellfish gathering, and cultural activities, give priority to improving that quality by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. identifying such areas of coastal water and water bodies and including them in plans;</li> <li>b. including provisions in plans to address improving water quality in the areas identified above;</li> <li>c. where practicable, restoring water quality to at least a state that can support such activities and ecosystems and natural habitats;</li> <li>d. requiring that stock are excluded from the coastal marine area, adjoining intertidal areas and other water bodies and riparian margins in the coastal environment, within a prescribed time frame; and</li> <li>e. engaging with tangata whenua to identify areas of coastal waters where they have particular interest, for example in cultural sites, wāhi tapu, other taonga, and values such as mauri, and remedying,</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS) Policy 8-6: Water quality Freshwater provisions</p>	<p>(RPS) Freshwater provisions includes CMA and Estuaries' water quality enhancement, therefore, water quality has been assessed from freshwater perspective.</p> <p>The One Plan includes an integrated approach to the management of water quality, recognising that water quality in coastal areas is impacted by activities in the wider catchment. The framework for this approach is set through Chapter 5 <i>Water</i> and Chapter 8 <i>Coast</i>, and Schedules A <i>Water Management Zones and Sub-Zones</i>, B <i>Surface water management values</i>, E <i>Surface Water quality targets</i> and I.</p> <p>Policy 8-6 <i>Water quality</i> establishes Water Management Zones for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing water quality in the CMA; this complements Policy 5-1 <i>Water Management Zones and values</i></p>



New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>or, where remediation is not practicable, mitigating adverse effects on these areas and values.</p>	<p>(RCP) Table 18.1 General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA. Policy 18-9 Consent decision-making for activities involving disturbance, removal or deposition. Policy 18-11 Consent decision-making for damming and diversions in the CMA. Policy 18-12 Consent decision-making for discharges into the CMA. Policy 18-13 Consent decision-making for sewage discharges.</p>	<p>which does the same for surface water and groundwater across the rest of the Region. The Schedules identify the Water Management Zones and Sub-Zones, the management values to Sub-Zone level, and the water quality targets for each Sub-Zone. <i>Policy 5-4 Enhancement where water quality targets are not met</i> applies across the entire Region and requires that, where water quality targets are not met, water quality within the sub-zone must be managed for its enhancement. Rules across the One Plan for activities with adverse effects on water quality (including discharges to land and water, and land disturbance activities) include requirements to meet the targets in Schedule E. (RCP) Within the CMA, Table 18.1 condition (d) requires compliance with the sediment target in Schedule I, and Policies 18-9, 18-11, 18-12 and 18-13 provide for consent decision making for discharges to have regard to the water quality targets in Schedule I.</p>
<p><u>Policy 22</u>: Sedimentation</p>	<p>(RPS) Freshwater provisions</p>	<p>(RPS)</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assess and monitor sedimentation levels and impacts on the coastal environment.</li> <li>2. Require that subdivision, use, or development will not result in a significant increase in sedimentation in the coastal marine area, or other coastal water.</li> <li>3. Control the impacts of vegetation removal on sedimentation including the impacts of harvesting plantation forestry.</li> <li>4. Reduce sediment loadings in runoff and in stormwater systems through controls on land use activities.</li> </ol>	<p>Chapter 4 provisions for land management to prevent loss of sediment.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Table 18.1 General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA.</p> <p>Chapter 13 provisions for land management to prevent loss of sediment.</p>	<p>Freshwater provisions include CMA and Estuaries' sedimentations in terms of water quality targets, therefore, water quality has been assessed from freshwater perspective.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Sedimentation is addressed through the integrated water quality management approach described in the comments for Policy 21. Refer also to Table 18.1 conditions (c) and (d), which regulate sediment discharges for permitted and controlled activities.</p>
<p><u>Policy 23: Discharge of contaminants</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In managing discharges to water in the coastal environment, have particular regard to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the sensitivity of the receiving environment;</li> <li>b. the nature of the contaminants to be discharged, the particular concentration of contaminants needed to achieve the required water quality in the receiving environment, and the risks if that concentration of contaminants is exceeded; and</li> <li>c. the capacity of the receiving environment to assimilate the contaminants; and:</li> <li>d. avoid significant adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats after reasonable mixing;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Not specific to CMA</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Table 18.1 General conditions for permitted activities and controlled activities in the CMA.</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>-</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>Discharges of contaminants are addressed through the integrated water quality management approach described in the comments for Policy 21. Refer also to Table 18.1 conditions (b), (e) and (g), which regulate discharges of contaminants for permitted and controlled activities.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. use the smallest mixing zone necessary to achieve the required water quality in the receiving environment; and</li> <li>f. minimise adverse effects on the life-supporting capacity of water within a mixing zone.</li> <li>2. In managing discharge of human sewage, do not allow:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. discharge of human sewage directly to water in the coastal environment without treatment; and</li> <li>b. the discharge of treated human sewage to water in the coastal environment, unless:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. there has been adequate consideration of alternative methods, sites and routes for undertaking the discharge; and</li> <li>ii. informed by an understanding of tangata whenua values and the effects on them.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Objectives, policies and rules in plans which provide for the discharge of treated human sewage into waters of the coastal environment must have been subject to early and meaningful consultation with tangata whenua.</li> <li>4. In managing discharges of stormwater take steps to avoid adverse effects of stormwater discharge to water in the coastal environment, on a catchment by catchment basis, by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoiding where practicable and otherwise remedying cross contamination of sewage and stormwater systems;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. reducing contaminant and sediment loadings in stormwater at source, through contaminant treatment and by controls on land use activities;</li> <li>c. promoting integrated management of catchments and stormwater networks; and</li> <li>d. promoting design options that reduce flows to stormwater reticulation systems at source.</li> </ul> <p>5. In managing discharges from ports and other marine facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. require operators of ports and other marine facilities to take all practicable steps to avoid contamination of coastal waters, substrate, ecosystems and habitats that is more than minor;</li> <li>b. require that the disturbance or relocation of contaminated seabed material, other than by the movement of vessels, and the dumping or storage of dredged material does not result in significant adverse effects on water quality or the seabed, substrate, ecosystems or habitats;</li> <li>c. require operators of ports, marinas and other relevant marine facilities to provide for the collection of sewage and waste from vessels, and for residues from vessel maintenance to be safely contained and disposed of; and</li> <li>d. consider the need for facilities for the collection of sewage and other wastes for recreational and commercial boating.</li> </ul>		
<p><u>Policy 24</u>: Identification of coastal hazards</p>	<p>(RPS)</p>	<p>(RPS)</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>1. Identify areas in the coastal environment that are potentially affected by coastal hazards (including tsunami), giving priority to the identification of areas at high risk of being affected. Hazard risks, over at least 100 years, are to be assessed having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. physical drivers and processes that cause coastal change including sea level rise;</li> <li>b. short-term and long-term natural dynamic fluctuations of erosion and accretion;</li> <li>c. geomorphological character;</li> <li>d. the potential for inundation of the coastal environment, taking into account potential sources, inundation pathways and overland extent;</li> <li>e. cumulative effects of sea level rise, storm surge and wave height under storm conditions;</li> <li>f. influences that humans have had or are having on the coast;</li> <li>g. the extent and permanence of built development; and</li> <li>h. the effects of climate change on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. matters (a) to (g) above;</li> <li>ii. storm frequency, intensity and surges; and</li> <li>iii. coastal sediment dynamics;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>taking into account national guidance and the best available information on the likely effects of climate change on the region or district.</p>	<p>Policy 9-1(b)(ii): Regional Council must be responsible for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. developing specific objectives, policies and methods for the control off all land use activities in the coastal marine area,</li> <li>B. erosion protection works that cross or adjoin mean high water springs,</li> <li>C. all land use activities in the beds of rivers and lakes, for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating natural hazards</li> </ul> <p>(RCP) -</p>	<p>Policy 9-1 requires the Regional Council to be responsible for taking the lead role in collecting, analysing and storing information on natural hazards.</p> <p>Method 9-1 <i>Hazards research</i> provides for investigation, identification and mapping of the parts of the Region at risk from coastal hazards, with the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group, territorial authorities and research institutes.</p> <p>(RCP) -</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p><u>Policy 25:</u> Subdivision, use, and development in areas of coastal hazard risk</p> <p>In areas potentially affected by coastal hazards over at least the next 100 years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. avoid increasing the risk of social, environmental and economic harm from coastal hazards;</li> <li>b. avoid redevelopment, or change in land use, that would increase the risk of adverse effects from coastal hazards;</li> <li>c. encourage redevelopment, or change in land use, where that would reduce the risk of adverse effects from coastal hazards, including managed retreat by relocation or removal of existing structures or their abandonment in extreme circumstances, and designing for relocatability or recoverability from hazard events;</li> <li>d. encourage the location of infrastructure away from areas of hazard risk where practicable;</li> <li>e. discourage hard protection structures and promote the use of alternatives to them, including natural defences; and</li> <li>f. consider the potential effects of tsunamis and how to avoid or mitigate them</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 9-4: Other types of natural hazards</p> <p>Policy 9-5: Climate change</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 9-4 requires the Regional Council and territorial authorities to manage future development and activities in areas susceptible to natural hazards.</p> <p>Policy 9-5 requires a precautionary approach to assessing effects of climate change and sea-level rise in relation to decisions on coastal development and coastal land use. These policies provide a platform for territorial authorities to then manage activities in areas susceptible to coastal hazard. MWRC makes submissions to territorial authorities where necessary to give effect to these policies.</p> <p>Method 8-5 <i>Coastal advocacy</i> requires the Regional Council to respond to proposals affecting the wider coastal environment. This includes participating in district planning processes.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>
<p><u>Policy 26:</u> Natural defences against coastal hazards</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide where appropriate for the protection, restoration or enhancement of natural defences that protect coastal land uses, or sites of significant</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 9-5: Climate change</p>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 9-5 requires the Regional Council and territorial authorities to take a precautionary approach in assessing the effects of climate change and sea-level rise</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>biodiversity, cultural or historic heritage or geological value, from coastal hazards.</p> <p>2. Recognise that such natural defences include beaches, estuaries, wetlands, intertidal areas, coastal vegetation, dunes and barrier islands.</p>	<p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>	<p>on the scale and frequency of natural hazards with regard to decision on:</p> <p>(b) coastal development and coastal land</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>
<p><u>Policy 27</u>: Strategies for protecting significant existing development from coastal hazard risk</p> <p>1. In areas of significant existing development likely to be affected by coastal hazards, the range of options for reducing coastal hazard risk that should be assessed includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. promoting and identifying long-term sustainable risk reduction approaches including the relocation or removal of existing development or structures at risk;</li> <li>b. identifying the consequences of potential strategic options relative to the option of “do-nothing”;</li> <li>c. recognising that hard protection structures may be the only practical means to protect existing infrastructure of national or regional importance, to sustain the potential of built physical resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations;</li> </ol>	<p>(RPS)</p> <p>Policy 9-4: Other types of natural hazards</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Policy 9-4 <i>Other types of natural hazards</i> requires that the Regional Council and territorial authorities manage future development and activities in susceptible areas so they are unlikely to reduce the effectiveness of existing measures to mitigate the effects of natural hazards or cause a significant increase the scale or intensity of natural hazards events. These policies provide a platform for territorial authorities to then manage activities in areas susceptible to coastal hazard. Horizons makes submissions to territorial authorities where necessary to ensure these policies are given effect to.</p> <p>(RCP)</p> <p>-</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. recognising and considering the environmental and social costs of permitting hard protection structures to protect private property; and</li> <li>e. identifying and planning for transition mechanisms and timeframes for moving to more sustainable approaches.</li> </ul> <p>2. In evaluating options under (1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. focus on approaches to risk management that reduce the need for hard protection structures and similar engineering interventions;</li> <li>b. take into account the nature of the coastal hazard risk and how it might change over at least a 100-year timeframe, including the expected effects of climate change; and</li> <li>c. evaluate the likely costs and benefits of any proposed coastal hazard risk reduction options.</li> </ul> <p>3. Where hard protection structures are considered to be necessary, ensure that the form and location of any structures are designed to minimise adverse effects on the coastal environment.</p> <p>4. Hard protection structures, where considered necessary to protect private assets, should not be located on public land if there is no significant public or environmental benefit in doing so.</p>		
<p><u>Policy 28</u>: Monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the NZCPS</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>Not applicable. The information gathering to monitor the effectiveness of the NZCPS is for the Minister of Conservation.</p>



New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>1. To monitor and review the effectiveness of the NZCPS in achieving the purpose of the Act, the Minister of Conservation should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. in collaboration with local authorities collect data for, and, as far as practicable, incorporate district and regional monitoring information into a nationally consistent monitoring and reporting programme;</li> <li>b. undertake other information gathering or monitoring that assists in providing a national perspective on coastal resource management trends, emerging issues and outcomes;</li> <li>c. within six years of its gazettal, assess the effect of the NZCPS on regional policy statements, plans, and resource consents, and other decision-making; and</li> <li>d. publish a report and conclusions on matters (a) to (c) above.</li> </ul>		
<p><u>Policy 29</u>: Restricted Coastal Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Minister of Conservation does not require any activity to be specified as a restricted coastal activity in a regional coastal plan.</li> <li>2. Local authorities are directed under sections 55 and 57 of the Act to amend documents as necessary to give effect to this policy as soon as practicable, without using the process in Schedule 1 of the Act, with the effect that:</li> </ul>	--	<p>Any references to restricted coastal activities contained in the notified version of the One Plan have been removed. The restricted coastal activities also had another consent activity status being either discretionary or non-complying. These consent activity statuses have been retained.</p> <p>28 April 2016 – Plan Change 1: Removed reference to restricted coastal activities.</p>

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (Provisions have been abbreviated)	Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Regional Coastal Plan Component (RCP)	Comment
<p>a. any activity specified as a discretionary activity and a restricted coastal activity becomes a discretionary activity only;</p> <p>b. any activity specified as a non-complying activity and a restricted coastal activity becomes a non-complying activity only.</p> <p>3. Any application for a coastal permit for an activity specified as a restricted coastal activity that has been publicly notified before the date the amendments in clause (2) are made shall continue to be treated as an application for a restricted coastal activity for the purposes of section 117 of the Act.</p> <p>4. Any other application for an activity specified as a restricted coastal activity made before the date of the amendments in clause (2), shall be considered as a discretionary or non-complying activity in accordance with the regional coastal plan or proposed regional coastal plan's classification and section 117 of the Act does not apply.</p>		

## 8 References

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