

# Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan

Presentation to Te Awa Kairangi communities, 6 December 2023

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## Outline

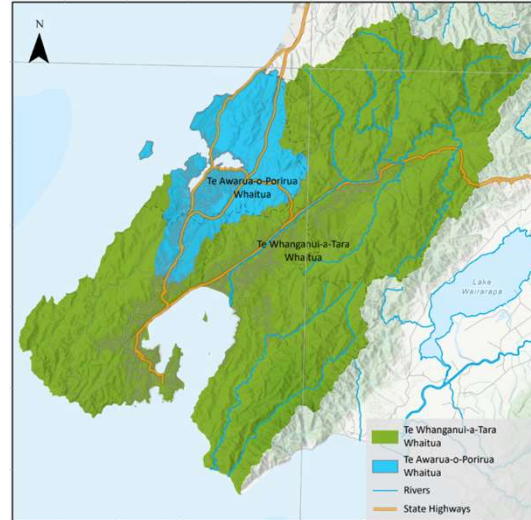
- **Purpose:** provide some background to Plan Change 1 (PC1) and overview of its contents
- **Outline:**
  - What is PC1 and what is it trying to achieve?
  - How does PC1 impact different activities?
  - What happens from here?
  - Q+A session

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## What is PC1?

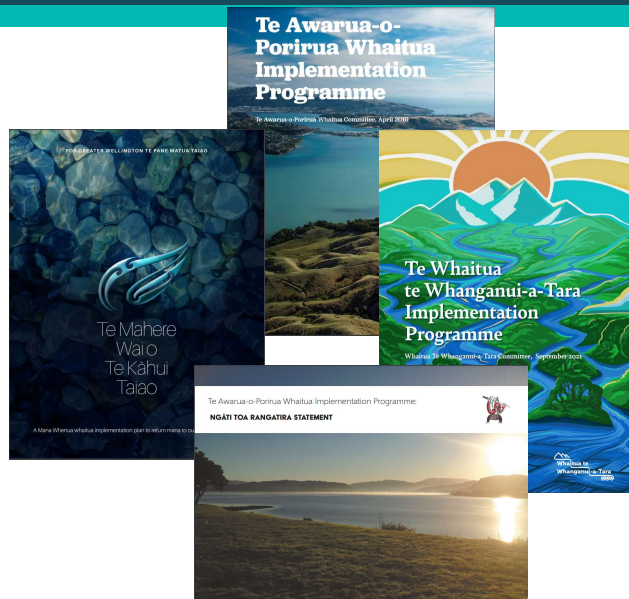
- Proposes changes to the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
- Notified 30 October 2023
- Gives effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) – first time for GWRC
- Applies to Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara whaitua
- Also, some region-wide changes...



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## What is PC1? – Whaitua processes and giving effect to NPS-FM

- All Councils must change to regional plans by Dec 2024
- GWRC set up whaitua process
  - Te Awarua-o-Porirua 2015-2019
  - Te Whanganui-a-Tara 2019-2021
- PC1 embeds the recommendations of the WIPs and mana whenua statements

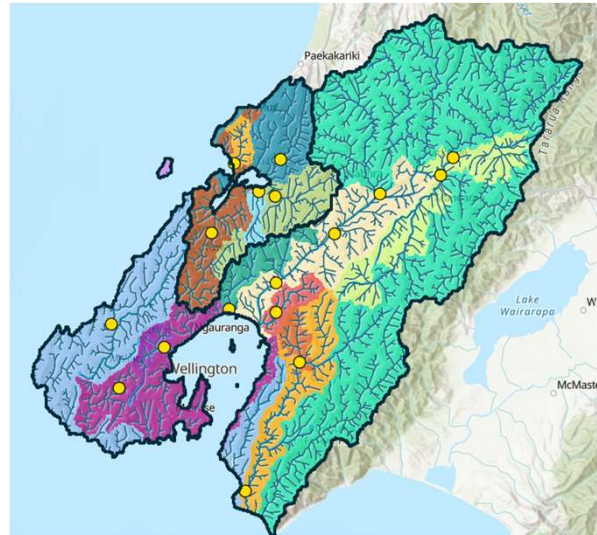


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# Giving effect to the NPS-FM – What does this mean?

## National Objectives Framework (NOF):

- Set up a spatial boundaries, where...
- Objectives for the health of waterways are set, which are met by ...
- Placing limits on resource use as rules, supported by non-regulatory methods including Freshwater Action Plans



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# PC1 – What you'll see

- Most content in Chapters 8 and 9
  - Objectives for 2040 and 2100
  - Policies
  - Rules: stormwater, wastewater, earthworks, forestry, farming, greenfield and brownfield development
  - Te Awarua-o-Porirua whitua only: rules for take and use of water
- Changes to definitions, other methods, schedules and maps

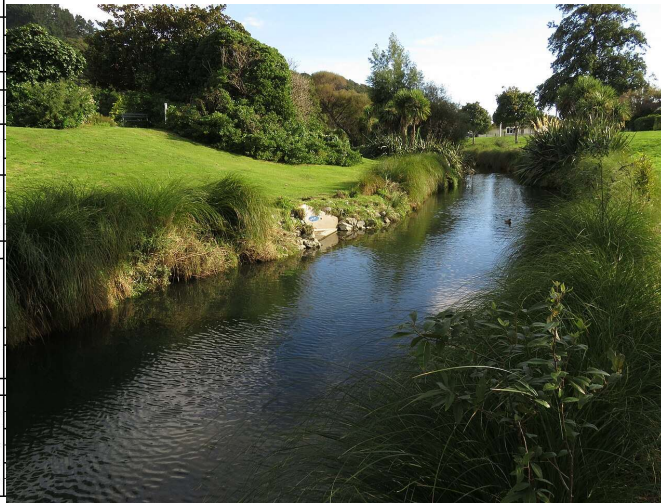
Table B.6: Target attribute states for rivers

Parameter	Unit	Statistic	Resource	For Freshwater Management Units for Ta Aua Kaitiaki, Otara and Waikaiti (Mau 70)													
				Whakarewa R. & Riverstone			Mau 40 Riverstone			Mau 30 Riverstone			Mau 20 Riverstone				
				Resource	State	State	Resource	State	State	Resource	State	State	Resource	State	State		
Periphyton biomass	mg ash/dwt	SP7-30a	Resource	0.00	A												
Ammonia nitrogen	mg/L	SP7-30b	Resource	0.002	A												
Water turbidity	NTU	SP7-30c	Resource	0.001	A												
Escherichia coli cf. count	CFU/100L	SP7-30d	Resource	0.1	A												
Escherichia coli cf. count	CFU/100L	SP7-30e	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB1	CFU/100L	SP7-30f	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB2	CFU/100L	SP7-30g	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB3	CFU/100L	SP7-30h	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB4	CFU/100L	SP7-30i	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB5	CFU/100L	SP7-30j	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB6	CFU/100L	SP7-30k	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB7	CFU/100L	SP7-30l	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB8	CFU/100L	SP7-30m	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB9	CFU/100L	SP7-30n	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB10	CFU/100L	SP7-30o	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB11	CFU/100L	SP7-30p	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB12	CFU/100L	SP7-30q	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB13	CFU/100L	SP7-30r	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB14	CFU/100L	SP7-30s	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB15	CFU/100L	SP7-30t	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB16	CFU/100L	SP7-30u	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB17	CFU/100L	SP7-30v	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB18	CFU/100L	SP7-30w	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB19	CFU/100L	SP7-30x	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB20	CFU/100L	SP7-30y	Resource	0.1	A												
ESB21	CFU/100L	SP7-30z	Resource	0.1	A												

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## Example of what this means – Waiwhetū Stream

		Waiwhetū Stream at Whites Line East		Part FMU default TASs
		State (band)		
	Parameter	Baseline	TAS	
NRP 2A attributes	Periphyton biomass	No baseline, insufficient data	C	M
	Ammonia (toxicity)	B	A	I
	Nitrate (toxicity)	A	A	M
	Suspended fine sediment	A	A	I
	E. coli	E	C	I
Fish com	Fish (IBI)	No baseline, insufficient data	A	M
	Macroinvertebrates 1 (MCI and QMCI)	D	C	I
NRP 2B attributes	Macroinvertebrates 2 (ASPM)	D	C	I
	Deposited fine sediment	D	C	I
	Dissolved oxygen	No baseline, insufficient data	A	M
Dist	Dissolved reactive phosphorus	Improve		M
	Ecosystem metabolism	Maintain		I
Whānau attributes	Dissolved copper	C	A	I
	Dissolved zinc	D	B	I
	Fish community health	No baseline, insufficient data	C	I



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## NRP PC1 – Achieving the objectives (TASs)



Wastewater and stormwater networks



Urban development and redevelopment (Stormwater)



Sediment management – earthworks, farming on highest erosion risk land must revegetate 50% area in ten years; significant Council support required; forestry is highly controlled



Farming – focused farm environment plan system; registration required for smaller farms (4-20ha)



Council to prepare and deliver Freshwater Action Plans for Greater Wellington targeting of non-regulatory actions

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## Wastewater network

- Wastewater treatment plant and wastewater network catchment discharges:
  - Wastewater discharges must meet standards by 2040
  - Addresses wet weather overflows and dry weather discharges
  - Driven by E. coli TAS in freshwater and enterococci in coastal water – significant improvements required for freshwater
  - Global consents to implement a Wastewater Network Catchment Improvement Strategy

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## Stormwater network (existing urban development)

- Discharges from stormwater networks must meet standards for copper and zinc by 2040
- Requires catchment-scale treatment thru Wellington Water global stormwater consent
- Costs borne by ratepayers
- Reducing the burden on ratepayers by requiring new development and redevelopment to implement stormwater treatment
- Currently in the NRP - similar requirement to improve water quality but with no standards or timeframes



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## Stormwater – new and redeveloped impervious surfaces

- Best opportunity to reduce zinc and copper in freshwater is through ensuring stormwater treatment when development new urban areas
- PC1 has new rules requiring stormwater treatment for new development and redevelopment
- Defined term for ‘redevelopment’ – intended to capture redevelopment (i.e. rebuilding) in all existing urban situations, i.e., roads, urban properties
- Permitted activity subject to conditions - less than 1000m<sup>2</sup> of new or redeveloped impervious surfaces



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## Stormwater – new and redeveloped impervious areas

- Consent required for sites >1000m<sup>2</sup> in both existing urban areas and new greenfield areas:
  - Devices must capture and treat 85% of mean annual runoff – this is a standard for greenfield development and a target for existing urban areas
- Greenfield development:
  - Requires a financial contribution to ‘offset’ residual contaminants - no option under NPS-FM to deteriorate water quality through a new discharge
  - Is prohibited in outside of planned areas (see Maps 86-89)



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## Earthworks

- Provisions seeking a reduction of sediment entering watercourses which affects water clarity and deposited sediment
- Step up in good practice expected on small and large sites
- Small urban sites (<3,000m<sup>2</sup>) there is no discharge to water, including via a stormwater network – permitted activity
- Large sites: consent required, now need to meet discharge standard and new winter shut down requirement



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## Vegetation clearance, plantation forestry

- New maps identifying highest and high erosion risk land
- Consent now required for vegetation clearance >200m<sup>2</sup> on highest erosion risk land (unless part of erosion management). Must have an **erosion risk management plan**.
- Afforestation, earthworks or mechanical land preparation for plantation forestry is no longer allowed on **highest erosion risk land**.
- Consent required for other plantation forestry activities on other land.



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## Farming

- Focuses on improving nitrogen, sediment and *E. coli* TAS
- Farming generally permitted, but requires Farm Environment Plans for large farms and generally just registration with GW if small block
- Resource consent required where land is changed to a more intensive land use that generates higher nutrient discharges



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## Farming – high risk activities

- Activities on highest erosion risk land (Maps 90-95)
  - Farming must include Erosion Risk Treatment Plan driving 50% of highest erosion risk land retired and planted in 10 years
- Annual nitrogen loss risk assessment to demonstrate N loss risk is not increasing
- Additional requirements for Mākara and Mangaroa catchments

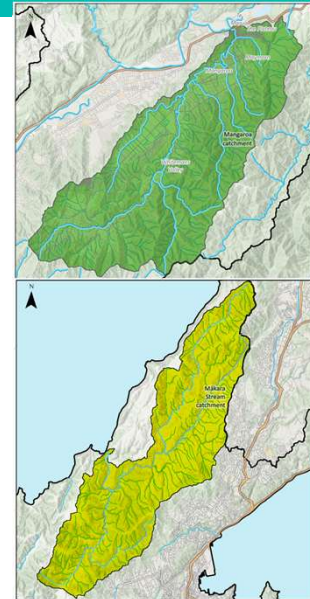


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## Stock exclusion – Mākara and Mangaroa catchments

- PC1 seeks stock exclusion for small streams in Mākara and Mangaroa - sediment below the national bottom line
- Three options:
  - Fence off
  - Include a Small Stream Riparian Programme in a Farm Environment Plan, or
  - Seek resource consent to depart requirements
- Assesses risk of stock accessing streams, what can be done to limit access, whether fencing is practicable and where not, offsetting options



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## Freshwater Action Plans

- Alongside limits and consent conditions, Freshwater Action Plans deliver key actions for achieving TASS
- PC1 directs preparation of FAPs in secondary process:
  - Where the NPS-FM makes it compulsory
  - Where we need it to support and supplement regulatory actions
  - For areas with very high values e.g. Lakes Kōhangaterā and Kōhangapiripiri
- FAPs will be region-wide process, undertaken in partnership with mana whenua
- Will be highly engaged with communities and stakeholder partners

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## Waiwhetū Stream – how activities will be managed

				Waiwhetū Stream				Part FMU default TAS <sup>1</sup>
				Waiwhetū S. @ Whites Line East				
				Baseline		TAS <sup>2</sup>		
Parameter	Unit	Statistic	Timeframe	Numeric	State	Numeric	State	
Periphyton biomass <sup>3</sup>	mg chl-a/m <sup>2</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup> %ile		Insufficient data		≤200	C	M
		Median		0.027	B	≤0.02	A	I
Ammonia (toxicity)	mg/L	95 <sup>th</sup> %ile		0.076		≤0.05	A	I
		Median		0.5	A		A	M
Nitrate (toxicity)	mg/L	95 <sup>th</sup> %ile		0.9			A	M
		Median		1.1	A		A	M
Suspended fine sediment	Black disc(m)	Median		496		≤130		
		%>260/100ml		73	E	≤34	C	I
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ( <i>E. coli</i> )	/100ml	%>540/100ml		42		≤20		
		95 <sup>th</sup> %ile		5,800		≤1200		
Fish	Fish-IBI	Latest		Insufficient data		≥34	A	M
Fish community health (abundance, structure and composition) Expert assessment <sup>4</sup>					N/A <sup>1</sup>		C	
Macroinvertebrates (1 of 2)	MCI	Median	By 2040	55.4	D	≥50	C	
	QMCi	Median		2.2		≥4.5		
Macroinvertebrates (2 of 2)	ASPM	Median		0.1	D	≥0.3	C	I
Deposited fine sediment <sup>5</sup>	%cover	Median		30	D	≤20	C	
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	1-day minimum 7-day mean minimum		Insufficient data		≥7.5 ≥8.0	A	
Dissolved inorganic nitrogen <sup>6</sup>	mg/L	Median		0.56		M	M	
Dissolved reactive phosphorus <sup>6</sup>	mg/L	Median		0.024		≤0.018		
		95 <sup>th</sup> %ile		0.049		≤0.049		
Dissolved copper	µg/L	Median		1.0		≤1		
		95 <sup>th</sup> %ile		4.0	C	≤1.4	A	I
Dissolved zinc	µg/L	Median		18.3		≤8		
		95 <sup>th</sup> %ile		51.6	D	≤15	B	
Ecosystem metabolism	g O <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-2</sup> d <sup>-1</sup>	N/A <sup>1</sup>						



Wastewater consents with strategies to improve to achieve *E. coli* TAS

GW prepares and delivers Action Plan, including riparian restoration programme

Stormwater consent strategy to improve to achieve TAS  
Brownfield urban development, strengthened minimum standards for stormwater treatment  
Action Plan: pollution prevention focus on high risk industry

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## NRP PC1 – Timing

- Submissions open till 15 December 2023
- Further submissions February 2024
- Hearings mid-2024
- Email address for questions: [regionalplan@gw.govt.nz](mailto:regionalplan@gw.govt.nz)
- PC1 website: <https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/plans-policies-and-bylaws/updating-our-regional-policy-statement-and-natural-resources-plan/natural-resources-plan-2023-changes/>
- Maps: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/ecd4158b2adf40f185f8897551b41d46>

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# Pātai/Questions?

