

## 9 ACHIEVING INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF CROSS BOUNDARY ISSUES

### 9.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBLIGATIONS

- 9.1.1 Section 75 (1) (h) of the Resource Management Act 1991 requires that a district plan must state the processes to be used to deal with issues which cross territorial boundaries.
- 9.1.2 Wairoa District Council shares a boundary with Hastings District Council, Whakatane District Council, Taupo District Council and the Gisborne District Council (unitary authority).
- 9.1.3 The administrative boundaries of the Wairoa District are not recognised by the processes of nature. Many of the issues addressed by this District Plan are also issues in neighbouring districts. The Resource Management Act 1991 allows each district to determine its own approach to these issues. However, some resource management issues cross territorial boundaries and some consistency in the processes for dealing with cross boundary issues as they arise, is desirable.
- 9.1.4 It is necessary to consult with these adjacent Councils to identify relevant issues and agree acceptable procedures for resolving common resource management issues in the future.
- 9.1.5 The development of appropriate, timely and cost-effective procedures for achieving the integrated management of natural and physical resources at both the district and regional levels is required. The Act provides for joint hearings to be held where this is appropriate.

### 9.2 HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

- 9.2.1 The Hawke's Bay Regional Policy Statement encourages co-ordinated administration of plans, co-ordinated responses to resource management issues, and co-ordinated approaches to existing and future essential services, such as network utility operations.

Issues of combined interest to both the Wairoa District Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council include:

- (1) Natural Hazards
- (2) Noise. The Regional Coastal Plan controls noise in the Coastal Marine Area. This standard is being monitored by the District Council.
- (3) Built structures crossing Mean High Water Springs (MHWS). District Council has control over structures above MHWS, and the Regional Council where it is below MHWS. The function of issuing building consents within the Coastal Marine Area has been transferred to the District Council.
- (4) The Regional Council has control of the discharge of contaminants into or onto water, and controls the taking, use, damming and diversion of water together with the quantity, level, and flow of water. These matters are addressed in the Proposed Regional Water Resources Plan and the Proposed Regional Resource Management Plan.
- (5) Riparian Management. The Regional Council has a role in riparian management in terms of soil conservation and water quality. The District Council's role is related to natural character values.
- (6) Subdivision and waste disposal. Waste disposal is controlled by the Regional Council through its Regional Water Resources Plan and Regional Waste & Hazardous Substances Plan, in terms of discharges to land and water. Subdivision

is primarily a District Council function, although Regional Council has responsibility for subdivision where it lies within the coastal marine area.

- (7) Activities on the surface of water bodies. The Regional Council has responsibility for activities on the surface of water within the Coastal Marine Area, and the District Council has responsibility for controlling activities on the surface of lakes and rivers.
- (8) Erosion control and vegetation clearance. The Regional Council's approach in the past has been focused on non-regulatory methods, including education and advocacy, to control erosion and the effects of vegetation clearance. The Proposed Regional Resource Management Plan however, supplements the Regional Council's non-regulatory methods with baseline performance standards for soil disturbance and vegetation clearance within the region. The District Council's role is to control effects on amenity values and areas of significance, and in urban/infrastructure situations such as control over building platforms.
- (9) Hazardous substances. The Regional Council has service delivery and emergency response functions with regard to hazardous substances, and also controls discharges to air, land and water through its Regional Air Plan and Regional Water Resources Plan. The District Council controls land use in regard to the use, storage, disposal and transportation of hazardous substances.
- (10) Provision for network utilities. As networks cross regional and district boundaries, consistency is required between plans to manage their effects on the environment.
- (11) Odour nuisance. The Regional Council controls odour through its Regional Air Plan. The District Council has responsibility in terms of land use location.
- (12) Spray drift. The Regional Council controls spray drift through its Regional Air Plan.
- (13) Gravel extraction. River-based gravel extraction is controlled through the Regional Gravel Extraction Plan, while land-based gravel extraction and its related activities is the responsibility of the District Council.

9.2.2 The Hawke's Bay Regional Council has notified its Proposed Regional Resource Management Plan, incorporating the Regional Policy Statement, regional plans for air, water, waste management and gravel extraction, as well as addressing land management issues. Both Councils should address the issues above in a co-ordinated manner.

### 9.3 GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

9.3.1 Gisborne District lies to the north of Wairoa District. The boundary lies north of Mahia Peninsula. The Proposed Gisborne Combined Regional Land & District Plan predominantly zones land on the Gisborne side of the boundary as "*Rural General*" - with "*Rural Coastal Environment Zone*" at the coast (inland as far as Paritu Road). Overlays 2 (Class VI land) and 3 (Class VII & VIII land) cover much of the "*Rural General Zone*" in this vicinity. These overlays impose rules for land disturbance and vegetation clearance.

9.3.2 The main cross boundary issues between Wairoa District and Gisborne District are:

- (1) approach to forestry
- (2) rules for land disturbance and vegetation clearance
- (3) coastal environmental issues
- (4) riparian issues
- (5) approach to network utilities

9.3.3 Forestry is covered by the definition of "farming", and is therefore treated the same way. Clearing of existing forestry has been given controlled activity status. There are triggers outlined in the Gisborne Combined Regional & District Plan indicating when consents are

required for earthworks (in terms of volume of earth moved), vegetation removal, activities within riparian margins, and activities on Class VIII land (by way of rules for the overlay areas).

- 9.3.4 The “Rural Coastal Environment Zone” covers the coastal area landward to the first dominant ridgeline. This zone provides for farming, also planting of plantation forestry with height and density conditions (although neighbour consent allows some flexibility). Dwellings on sites already in existence are provided for, however, additional dwellings require consent. Industry, transfer stations and sanitary landfills etc require consent in the coastal zone.

#### **9.4 HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- 9.4.1 Hastings District lies to the south of Wairoa District. The boundary lies mainly along the Waikare River and the Mohaka River crosses the boundary inland. Land on the Hastings side of the boundary is zoned ‘Rural’ within the Proposed Hastings District Plan.
- 9.4.2 The main cross boundary issues are similar to Gisborne District, namely approaches to forestry and network utilities, rules for land disturbance and vegetation removal, coastal environment issues, and issues affecting the surface of rivers (especially in relation to the Mohaka River).

#### **9.5 WHAKATANE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- 9.5.1 Whakatane District lies to the west of the Huiarau Ranges and Te Urewera National Park/Lake Waikaremoana. The main cross boundary issue with Whakatane District is provision for Te Urewera National Park. Land on the Whakatane side of the boundary is predominantly rural (Rural 2 Foothills Zone in the Proposed Whakatane District Plan).
- 9.5.2 The main cross boundary issues between Wairoa District and Whakatane District are:
- (i) provision for Te Urewera National Park.
  - (ii) Approach to network utilities

#### **9.6 TAUPO DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- 9.6.1 Taupo District Council only just touches the district at a point in the steep hill country area to the west. There is no record of cross boundary activities being addressed by the two Councils. Network utilities are possibly the only potential cross boundary issue in this instance.

#### **9.7 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

- 9.7.1 Adverse effects of activities may impact on the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in neighbouring territorial authorities.
- 9.7.2 Current lack of integrated management on territorial issues.

## **9.8 OBJECTIVES**

- 9.8.1 To ensure activities and their environmental effects that may impact on the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in a neighbouring territorial authority, are managed in an integrated way.
- 9.8.2 To ensure processes for dealing with cross territorial issues are workable and cost-effective in delivering sound environmental outcomes.
- 9.8.3 To promote the integrated management of natural and physical resources.

## **9.9 POLICIES**

- 9.9.1 Ensure a collaborative approach is adopted when considering resource consent applications that affect other District Councils and or the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

## **9.10 METHODS AVAILABLE USING THE PROVISIONS IN THE DISTRICT PLAN**

- 9.10.1 Reach agreements on joint processes/protocols/studies to address those matters identified as cross boundary issues in a co-ordinated way.
- 9.10.2 Advocate stated resource management policies from the District Plan as part of the statutory process dealing with plans and policy statements of the adjoining territorial authorities.
- 9.10.3 Provide for joint hearings on applications where it is appropriate to do so.
- 9.10.4 Require assessments of environmental effects to take account of activities that may impact on the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in neighbouring territorial authorities.
- 9.10.5 Advocate District Council views on resource management to neighbouring territorial authorities.

## **9.11 EXPLANATION AND REASONS**

- 9.11.1 The environment does not acknowledge local authority boundaries. Therefore, similar activities and consequential adverse effects can take place that cross the district boundary into or from an adjoining district. It is important to have a procedure in place for dealing with such activities or situations in an integrated way with neighbouring Councils and relevant Regional Councils.
- 9.11.2 It is also important for the District Council to liaise with Hawke's Bay Regional Council on issues that are region-wide, to ensure consistency of approach and sound environmental outcomes.

## **9.12 ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS**

- 9.12.1 Effective and co-ordinated resource management processes to resolve cross territorial issues.

- 9.12.2 Integrated management and good working relationships with adjoining territorial authorities.
- 9.12.3 Effective advocacy of District Council policies.
- 9.12.4 Promotion of sustainable management.

**Cross References:**

[Part C](#) – Land Management Zones and Rules

[Part D](#) – District Wide Rules

Planning Maps