

PLEASE NOTE: This version of Change 5 (Decisions version) includes two corrections made to errors in the original version publicly notified on 5 June 2013. The corrections relate to POL LW2.1 and Table 1.

Proposed Change 5 to the Hawke's Bay Regional Resource Management Plan - *Land use and freshwater management*

As amended by Council decisions (tracked changes version) – issued 5 June 2013
corrected 22 August 2013

Insert following as a new chapter in Section 3 of the Regional Resource Management Plan

3. 1A Integrated Land Use and Freshwater Management

ISSUES

ISS LW1A E kore Parawhenua e haere ki te kore a Rakahore

Parawhenua (Water) would not flow if it were not for Rakahore (Rock)

He huahua te kai pai! He wai te kai pai!

Huahua (preserved birds) are a treasured delicacy. However water is a necessity.

Explanation: These two proverbs encapsulate the interrelationship between two significant elements – land and water. The Māori world is formed on the interconnectedness and interdependency of people to all living creatures and to the environments in which they live. The well-being of the whole is dependent on the well-being of its constituent parts.

ISS LW1 ~~Potential for ongoing conflict between m~~Multiple, and often competing, values and uses of fresh water and limited integration in management of land and water to promote sustainable management of the region's natural and physical resources can create conflict in the absence of clear and certain resource management policy guidance.

ISS LW2 Integration of the management of land use and water quality and quantity increases the ability to promote sustainable management of the region's natural and physical resources.

OBJECTIVES

OBJ LW 1 **Integrated management of fresh water and land use and development**

~~The management of f~~Fresh water and land use and development **managed** in an integrated and sustainable manner ~~that~~which includes (in no particular order¹):

1. ~~identifies protecting the quality of~~ outstanding freshwater bodies in Hawke's Bay ~~region~~ and ~~protects their water quality;~~

1A. ~~protecting the significant values of wetlands;~~

¹ Being in no particular order means there is no particular priority among the matters listed.

2. ~~specifies targets and implements methods to assist~~the improvement of water quality in ~~catchments to meet those targets within specified timeframes~~water bodies that have been degraded;
- 2B. avoiding any further over-allocation of freshwater and phasing out existing over-allocation;
3. recognisesing that land uses, freshwater quality and surface water flows can impact on the receiving coastal environment;
4. safeguardsing the life-supporting capacity and ecosystem processes of fresh water, ~~with a priority for~~including indigenous species and their associated fresh water ecosystems;
5. ~~recognises~~recognising the ~~significant national and~~ regional value of fresh water for human ~~drinking~~ and animal drinking usespurposes, and for municipal water supply;
6. recognisesing the significant regional and national ~~value importance~~ of fresh water use for production and processing of beverages, food and fibre ~~production and processing~~;
7. recognisesing the potential ~~for significant regional and~~ national, regional and local ~~benefits value~~ arising from the ~~non-consumptive~~ use of water for renewable electricity generation;
8. ~~promotes and enables the adoption~~recognising the benefits of industry good practice to land and water management ~~practices~~;
- 8A. recognising the role of afforestation in sustainable land use and improving water quality;
- ~~9. ensures efficient allocation and use of water~~;
10. recognisesing and providesing for wairuatanga and the mauri of fresh water bodies in accordance with the values and principles expressed in Chapter 1.6, Schedule 1 and the objectives and policies in Chapter 3.14 of this Plan;~~and~~
- ~~11. recognises the differing demands and pressures on freshwater resources within catchments across the Hawke's Bay region, and where significant conflict exists between competing values, the regional policy statement and regional plans provide clear priorities for the protection or use of those freshwater resources.~~
12. recognising and providing for river management and flood protection activities; and
13. recognising and providing for the recreational and conservation values of fresh water bodies.

OBJ LW2 Integrated management of freshwater and land use development

The management of land use and freshwater use that recognises and balances the multiple and competing values and uses of those resources within catchments. Where significant conflict between competing values or uses exists or is foreseeable, the regional policy statement and regional plans provide clear priorities for the protection and use of those freshwater resources.

Principal reasons and explanation

Objectives LW1 and LW2 (and associated policies) assist HBRC to give effect to the 2011 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management by setting out a broad overall framework (in parallel with other objectives in the RPS) for improving integrated management of the region's freshwater and land resources. These RPS provisions only partly implement the NPS for Freshwater Management. Regional plan policies and methods (including rules) also assist in giving effect to the NPS for Freshwater Management.

In Hawke's Bay, the issues and pressures on land and water resources vary throughout the region. As a result, the urgency for clarity around water allocation and to maintain or improve water quality also varies. For example, the food and wine production Hawke's Bay is renowned for is focussed mostly on the Heretaunga Plains, while for example plantation forestry and ~~fibre (eg: wool and leather)~~wool growing is typically located ~~more~~ on hill country. These catchment differences have influenced HBRC's decision to prioritise catchments where the issues, pressures and conflicts are most pressing.

[OBJ LW1 and OBJ LW2 are intended to outline the broad principles for policy-making and regional plan preparation to improve integrated decisions being made about the way the region's land and freshwater resources are used, developed or protected across the region's varying catchments and sub-catchments.](#)

As well as different pressures in different catchments, freshwater values in Hawke's Bay also vary spatially. In addition to the national values of fresh water identified in the NPSFM's Preamble, HBRC has undertaken a process to assess freshwater values in Hawke's Bay. This included beginning with a Regional Water Symposium in 2010, followed by a process involving stakeholder representatives to develop the Hawke's Bay Regional Land and Water Management Strategy and a second Land and Water Symposium in 2011. This process helped HBRC to understand how to prioritise and strengthen policy options and management decisions for the different catchments. HBRC has also applied the River Values Assessment System (RiVAS)² to assess values of rivers in the region. The results of the RiVAS assessments for Hawke's Bay reinforced the values identified at the symposiums and by the stakeholder reference group.

The predominant view of Māori in Hawke's Bay is that water is the essential ingredient of life: a priceless treasure left by ancestors for their descendants' life-sustaining use. This Plan sets out iwi environmental management principles (see Chapter 1.6), matters of significance to iwi/hapū (see Chapter 3.14) and commentary about the Māori dimension to resource management (see Schedule 1).

POLICIES

POL LW1 Problem solving approach - Catchment-based integrated management

~~1. To adopt an~~ [whole-of-catchment integrated management](#) approach to ~~managing~~ fresh water and land use and development within each catchment area, that (in no particular order³):

- ~~a) is consistent with the integrated management approach outlined in OBJ LW1~~
- b) provides for [Māori mātauranga a hapū and local tikanga](#) values and uses of the catchment ~~in accordance with tikanga Māori;~~
- c) ~~recognises~~ [provides for](#) the inter-connected nature of natural resources within the catchment area, including the coastal environment;
- d) ~~protects~~ [identifies](#) ~~water quality of~~ outstanding freshwater bodies;
- [dA\) maintains, and where necessary enhances, the water quality of those outstanding freshwater bodies identified in the catchment, and where appropriate, protects the water quantity of those outstanding freshwater bodies;](#)
- e) promotes collaboration and information sharing between relevant management agencies, iwi, landowners and other stakeholders;
- f) takes a strategic long term planning outlook of at least 50 years to consider the future state, values and uses of water resources for future generations;
- g) aims to meet the differing demand and pressures on, and values and uses of, freshwater resources to the extent possible ~~in accordance with POL LW2;~~
- [gA\) involves working collaboratively with the catchment communities;](#)
- h) ensures the timely use and adaptation of statutory and non-statutory measures to respond to any significant changes in resource use activities or the state of the environment;
- ~~i) allows reasonable transition times and pathways to meet any new water quantity limits or new water quality limits included in regional plans~~
- [iC\) avoids development that limits the use or maintenance of existing electricity generating infrastructure or restricts the generation output of that infrastructure;](#)
- [iD\) provides opportunities for new renewable electricity generation infrastructure where the adverse effects on the environment can be appropriately managed;](#)

² RiVAS, developed by Lincoln University, provides a standardised method that can be applied to multiple river values. It helps to identify which rivers are most highly rated for each value and has been applied in several regions throughout the country.

³ [Being in no particular order means there is no particular priority among the matters listed.](#)

- j) ensures efficient allocation and use of fresh water within limits to achieve freshwater objectives; and
- k) enables water storage infrastructure which where it can provide increased security water availability and security for water users in water scarce catchments while avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on freshwater values.

2. When preparing regional plans:

- a) use the catchment-wide integrated management approach set out in POL LW1.1; and
- b) identify the values for freshwater and their spatial extent within each catchment, including identifying the values for each of those freshwater bodies identified as outstanding under POL LW1.1(d); and
- c) establish freshwater objectives based on the values identified in clause (b) above and set priorities amongst those values; and
- d) set water quality limits and targets, minimum flows and water quantity allocation limits so as to achieve the freshwater objectives identified under clause (c); and
- e) set out how the water quality and quantity limits and targets will be implemented through regulatory or non-regulatory methods including specifying timeframes for meeting water quality and allocation targets.

3. When setting the values and objectives referred to in POL LW1.2, ensure:

- a) the life-supporting capacity, ecosystem processes and indigenous species including their associated ecosystems of fresh water are safeguarded; and
- b) adverse effects on water quantity and water quality that diminish mauri are avoided, remedied or mitigated; and
- c) the microbiological water quality in rivers and streams is safe for people to swim.

4. When identifying methods and timeframes in regional plans to achieve limits and targets required by POL LW1.2(e) have regard to:

- a) allowing reasonable transition times and pathways to meet any new water quantity limits or new water quality limits included in regional plans. A reasonable transition time is informed by the environmental and socio-economic costs and benefits that will occur during that transition time; and
- b) promoting and enabling the adoption and monitoring of good land and water management practices.

Principal reasons and explanation

Catchment-based resource management is promoted in Policy LW1 and is consistent with Objective C1 of the 2011 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. Policy LW1 provides a 'default' planning approach for all catchments and catchment areas across the region, irrespective of the catchment area's values being identified in Policy LW2. Many of the principles and considerations for catchment-based planning have emerged from the 2011 Hawke's Bay Land and Water Management Strategy.

National values of freshwater have been listed in the NPSFM preamble and values have also been identified in the Hawke's Bay LAWMS. Values include:

- ecosystem values such as natural state, life-supporting capacity, aquatic habitats and biodiversity;
- recreational and cultural values such as contact recreation, amenity and shell fish gathering;
- water use values such as water supply for a range of purposes; and
- social and economic values including the capacity to assimilate pollution, flood control and drainage and to the operation of existing infrastructure.

Approaches to issues, values and uses of catchments will vary so POL LW1.1, POL LW1.2, POL LW1.3 and POL LW1.4 does not prescribe a one-size-fits-all approach for all catchments in Hawke's Bay. Each catchment-based process will need to

tailored for what is the most appropriate approach for that catchment (or grouping of catchments). Regional plans and changes to regional plans will be the key planning instrument for implementing catchment-based approaches to land use and freshwater resource management.

POL LW2 Problem solving approach - Prioritising values

1. ~~Subject to Objective LW1.1 to 1.10, recognise and g~~Give priority to maintaining ~~and or~~ enhancing the primary values and uses of freshwater bodies shown in Table 1 for the following catchment areas⁴ in accordance with Policy LW2.3:
 - a) Greater Heretaunga / Ahuriri Catchment Area;
 - b) Mohaka Catchment Area; and
 - c) Tukituki Catchment Area.

1A. Policy LW2.1 applies:

- a) when preparing regional plans for the catchments specified in POL LW2.1; and
- b) when considering resource consents for activities in the catchments specified in POL LW2.1 when no catchment-based regional plan has been prepared for the relevant catchment.

2. In relation to catchments not specified in POL LW2.1 above, the management approach set out in POL LW1.1, POL LW1.2, POL LW1.3 and POL LW1.4 will apply.

2A. In relation to values not specified in Table 1, the management approach set out in POL LW1.1, POL LW1.2(a), (c), (d) and (e), POL LW1.3 and POL LW1.4 will apply.

3. ~~Subject to Objective LW1.1 to 1.10, m~~Manage the fresh water bodies listed in ~~Policy POL~~ LW2.1 in a manner that:
 - a) recognises and gives priority to maintaining ~~and or~~ enhancing primary values and uses identified in Table 1; and
 - b) avoids, as far as is reasonably practicable, significant adverse effects on secondary values and uses identified in Table 1; and
 - c) uses an integrated catchment-based process in accordance with POL ~~LW1~~LW1.1, POL LW1.2, POL LW1.3 and POL LW1.4 to evaluate and determine the appropriate balance between any conflicting primary values and uses in Table 1.

TABLE 1:

Catchment Area	Primary Value(s) and Uses – in no priority order	Secondary Value(s) and Uses – in no priority order
Greater Heretaunga / Ahuriri Catchment Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Individual domestic needs and stock drinking needs</u> • Industrial & commercial water supply • <u>Native fish habitat in the Ngaruroro River and Tutaekuri River catchments</u> • <u>The high natural character values in sub-catchments of the Ngaruroro River and its margins upstream of Whanawhana cableway, including Taruarau River</u> • <u>The high natural character values of the Tutaekuri River and its margins above the confluence of, and including, the Mangatutu Stream</u> • Urban water supply for cities and townships <u>and water supply for key social infrastructure facilities</u> • Water use associated with maintaining or enhancing land-based primary production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate supply and extraction in Ngaruroro River downstream of Maraekakaho <u>the confluence with the Mangatahi Stream</u> • Amenity for contact recreation (including swimming) in lower Ngaruroro River, Tutaekuri River and Ahuriri Estuary • Native fish habitat, <u>notwithstanding native fish habitat as a primary value and use in the Tutaekuri River and Ngaruroro River catchments</u> • Recreational trout angling • Trout habitat

⁴ A map illustrating the indicative location of these Catchment Areas is set out in Appendix 'A'.

Mohaka Catchment Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenity for water-based recreation between State Highway 5 bridge and Willowflat • Individual domestic needs and stock drinking needs • Long-fin eel habitat and passage • Recreational trout angling in Mohaka River and tributaries upstream of State Highway 5 bridge • Scenic characteristics of Mokonui and Te Hoe gorges • The high natural character values of the Mohaka River and its margins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate supply and extraction in Mohaka River below railway viaduct • Native fish habitat below Willowflat • Water use associated with maintaining or enhancing land-based primary production • Water use for renewable electricity generation in areas not restricted by the Water Conservation Order
Tukituki Catchment Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual domestic needs and stock drinking needs • Industrial & commercial water supply • Native fish and trout habitat • The high natural character values of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Tukituki River upstream of the end of Tukituki Road; and ○ the Waipawa River above the confluence with the Makaroro River, including the Makaroro River • Urban water supply for towns and settlements and water supply for key social infrastructure facilities • Water use associated with maintaining or enhancing land-based primary production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate supply and extraction in lower Tukituki River • Amenity for contact recreation (including swimming) in lower Tukituki River. • Recreational trout angling in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ middle Tukituki River and tributaries between SH50 and Tapairu Road; & ○ middle Waipawa River and tributaries between SH50 and SH2. • Water use for renewable electricity generation in the Tukituki River (mainstem) and the Waipawa River above SH50 including the Mākaroro River.

Principal reasons and explanation

Policy LW2.1 and 2.3 prioritises values of freshwater in three Catchment Areas where significant conflict exists between competing values. Clearer prioritised values in ‘hotspot’ catchments where significant conflicts exist was an action arising from the 2011 Hawke’s Bay Land and Water Management Strategy. POL LW2 implements OBJ ~~LW1.11~~ LW2 in particular insofar as explicit recognition is made of the differing demands and pressures on freshwater resources, particularly within the three nominated ‘hotspot’ catchment areas. In relation to the remaining catchment areas across the region, Policy LW2 does not pre-define any priorities, thus enabling catchment-based regional plan changes (refer POL LW1) for those areas to assess values and prioritise those values accordingly.

The primary and secondary values in Table 1 are identified to apply to the catchment overall, or to sub-catchments or reaches where stated. ~~When read subject to OBJ LW1.1 to 1.10, the values and uses in~~ Table 1 recognises that not all values are necessarily equal across every part of the catchment area, and that some values in parts of the catchment area can be managed in a way to ensure, overall, the water body’s value(s) is appropriately managed. With catchment-based regional planning processes, it is potentially possible for objectives to be established that meet the primary values and uses at the same time as meeting the secondary values.

[Refer also:

- OBJ1, OBJ2 and OBJ3 in Chapter 2.3 (Plan objectives);
- Objectives and policies in Chapter 3.4 (Scarcity of indigenous vegetation and wetlands);
- Objectives and policies in Chapter 3.8 (Groundwater quality);
- Objectives and policies in Chapter 3.9 (Groundwater quantity);
- Objectives and policies in Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources); and
- Objectives and policies in Chapter 3.14 (Recognition of matters of significance to iwi/hapū)].

POL LW3 Problem solving approach – Managing use of production land use

1. To manage the use of, and discharges from, production land in specified catchments so that:
 - a) the discharge-loss of nitrogen from the root zone of crops and plants grown on production ~~to~~ land, and thereafter to groundwater and surface water, does not cause catchment area or sub-catchment area limits for nitrogen set out in regional plans to be exceeded;
 - b) the discharge of faecal matter from livestock to land, and thereafter to groundwater and surface water, does not cause faecal indicator bacteria water quality limits for human

consumption and irrigation ~~guidelines for water quality purposes~~ set out in regional plans to be exceeded;

- c) ~~any monitored exceedence of soluble reactive phosphorus limits set out in Policy 71 of this Plan is used to target and prioritise the Regional Council's non-regulatory methods from production land into groundwater or surface water does not cause limits set out in regional plans to be exceeded.~~

2. To review regional plans and prepare changes to regional plans to promote integrated management of land use and development and the region's water resources.

Principal reasons and explanation

Policy LW3 makes it clear that HBRC will manage ~~the loss of contaminants (nitrogen, phosphorus and faecal indicator bacteria) from~~ production land ~~use activities leaching nitrogen and faecal coliform bacteria~~ to groundwater and surface water ~~under section 9 of the RMA~~ in order to ensure that groundwater and surface water ~~values objectives and limits~~ identified in specified catchment areas are ~~maintained or enhanced where necessary~~ achieved. Restrictions under section 15 of the RMA may also ~~be applied~~ apply to production land use activities. Phosphorus leaching and run-off will be primarily managed by non-regulatory methods as it is primarily caused by soil loss and cannot be practicably controlled by way of permitted activity conditions or consent conditions. This approach will be complemented by industries' implementation of good agricultural practices.

Most regional plan changes will be on a catchment-basis, although some changes may be prepared for specific issues that apply to more than one catchment. HBRC has prepared a NPSFM Implementation Programme that outlines key regional plan and policy statement change processes required to fully implement the NPSFM by 2030.

POL LW4 Role of non-regulatory methods

To use non-regulatory methods, as set out in Chapter 4, in support of regulatory methods, for managing fresh water and land use and development in an integrated manner, including:

- a) **research, investigation and provision of information and services** – HBRC has in place a programme of research, monitoring and assessment of the state and trends of Hawke's Bay's natural resources. That programme will continue to be enhanced to assist HBRC implement the NPSFM and Hawke's Bay Land and Water Management Strategy;
- b) **advocacy, liaison and collaboration** – HBRC will promote a collaborative approach to the integrated management of land use and development and the region's freshwater resources;
- c) **land and water strategies** – the 2011 Hawke's Bay Land and Water Management Strategy contains a variety of policies and actions. A range of agencies and partnerships will be necessary to implement the actions and policies in the Strategy;
- ~~d) **regional plan provisions** – HBRC will review regional plans and prepare changes to those regional plans to promote integrated management of land use and development and the region's water resources. Most regional plan changes will be on a catchment basis, although some changes may be prepared for specific issues that apply to more than one catchment. HBRC has prepared a NPSFM Implementation Programme that outlines key regional plan and policy statement change processes required to fully implement the NPSFM by 2030.~~
- e) **industry good practice** – HBRC will strongly encourage industry and/or catchment-based good practices for production land uses along with audited self management programmes as a key mechanism for achieving freshwater objectives at a catchment or sub-catchment level. HBRC will also strongly encourage collaborative partnership initiatives through the Pan Sector Group⁵ for the effective and efficient delivery of industry good practice programmes and for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of such programmes.

⁵ The Pan Sector Group was officially formed at the beginning of 2012, in recognition of the need to work collaboratively to drive continued investment into research and development of regional initiatives around best practice and farm profitability. The Group includes regional and national representatives of the leading primary sector industry organisations and research agencies. The initial focus was on realising the potential benefits socially, economically and environmentally of the Ruataniwha Water Storage Scheme but the group has increasingly had a role in assisting shaping policies, rules and regulations within the proposed Regional Plan Change 6 for the Tukituki catchment.

Principal reasons and explanation

Policy LW4 sets out the role of HBRC's non-regulatory methods in supporting regional rules and other regulatory methods to assist management of freshwater and land use and development in an integrated manner. This policy (and POL LW1) recognises the need for a collaborative approach as an important means of minimising conflict and managing often competing pressures for the use and values of fresh water.

Anticipated Environmental Results

[Refer also anticipated environmental results in Chapters 3.3; 3.4; 3.7; 3.8; 3.9; 3.10; and 3.11]

Anticipated Environmental Results	Indicator(s)	Data Source(s)
1. Land and water management is tailored and prioritised to address the key values and pressures of each catchment	Freshwater objectives, targets and limits for catchments and/or groups of catchments are identified in regional plans for catchments	Regional plans and changes to regional plans HBRC's NPSFM Implementation Programme
2. Primary values and uses identified in POL LW2 Table 1 are maintained and or enhanced.	Freshwater objectives, targets and limits for catchments and/or groups of catchments are included in regional plans for catchments. Physical and biological parameters Social, cultural and economic indices	SOE monitoring and reporting Local authority records User surveys Catchment-specific monitoring programmes
3. Significant adverse effects on secondary values and uses identified in POL LW2 Table 1 are avoided.	Freshwater objectives, targets and limits for catchments and/or groups of catchments are included in regional plans for catchments. Physical and biological parameters Social, cultural and economic indices	SOE monitoring and reporting Local authority records User surveys Catchment-specific monitoring programmes
4. Regional economic prosperity is enhanced	Regional GDP trends and unemployment trends for primary sector and associated manufacturing and processing	Statistics NZ Economic activity surveys Employment records by sector
5. Water is efficiently allocated	Level of allocation Catchment contaminant load modelling and monitoring Water use restriction timings and durations	SOE monitoring HBRC Consents records Compliance records Catchment-specific monitoring reports Water-supply management plans
6. Quality of fresh water in region overall is <u>maintained or</u> improved.	<u>Catchment targets are met and</u> Limits in regional plans are not exceeded <u>Catchment contaminant load modelling and monitoring</u>	SOE monitoring Compliance records Catchment-specific monitoring reports
7. Community <u>Water storage projects are</u> is developed in water-scarce catchments to <u>provide increased water availability and security for water users</u>	<u>Commissioning of large scale water storage feasibility reports</u> Consents issued for water storage projects <u>Improved security of supply of water for users in times and places of water scarcity</u>	<u>Strategic partners and funding agencies for large scale water storage feasibility projects</u> HBRC consent records Building consent authority records

Insertions to other chapters in Part 3 (RPS) of HB Regional Resource Management Plan

NOTE: In the following section, new text is represented in underlined italics and text to be deleted is struckout.

→ ~~Amend Objective 15 and insert new Objective into Chapter 3.4 (Scarcity of indigenous vegetation and wetlands) as follows:~~

~~**OBJ 15** — The preservation and enhancement of remaining areas of significant indigenous vegetation, and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and ecologically significant wetlands.~~

~~**OBJ 15A** — The management of fresh water and land use and development in a manner which protects significant values of wetlands.~~

→ ~~Insert following as explanation of new Objective 15A into Chapter 3.4:~~

~~Objective 15A assists in giving effect to Objectives A1 and B4 of the 2011 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. Objective 15A also closely mirrors similar provisions relating to freshwater bodies (eg: Objective LW1) in relation to protection of 'outstanding' freshwater bodies.~~

→ Amend Policy 4 and insert a new policy into Chapter 3.4 (Scarcity of indigenous vegetation and wetlands) as follows:

POL 4A To use non-regulatory methods, as set out in Chapter 4 and in Policy 4(a) to (d) below, in support of regulatory methods for protecting significant values of wetlands.

POL 4 To use non-regulatory methods, as set out in Chapter 4, as the primary means for achieving the preservation and enhancement of remaining areas of significant indigenous vegetation ~~and ecologically significant wetlands~~ and ecologically significant wetlands, in particular: ...

- (b) **Works and services** - Providing works and services, or financial support, for the preservation of remaining ecologically significant indigenous wetlands at a level of funding as established in the HBRC's Annual Plan, subject to a management plan or statutory covenant being established for each wetland receiving assistance. Priority for Council's works and service-related projects will be given to the following wetlands⁴ (see Figure 4): ...

plus consequentially amend footnote 4 to read:

⁴ Priority wetlands for works and services - Note that some of these wetland areas are located within the coastal marine area (and therefore fall under the provisions of the Regional Coastal Plan rather than this Plan). However, the full list of priority wetlands for works and services has been included for the sake of completeness.

→ Insert following as new part of explanation for Policy 4A and Policy 4:

These non-regulatory methods will assist HBRC in protecting the significant values of wetlands in accordance with Objective A2(B) of the 2011 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. These methods will complement regional rules that are included elsewhere in this Plan and the Regional Coastal Environment Plan. Significant values of wetlands can include nutrient filtering, flood flow attenuation, sediment trapping, habitats for flora and fauna, recreation, cultural values and educational value.

→ Delete Objective 21 and amend Objective 22 in Chapter 3.8 (Groundwater quality) as follows, and consequentially amend duplicate objectives OBJ 42 and OBJ 43 in Chapter 5.6 to read the same:

~~OBJ 21~~ No degradation of existing groundwater quality in the Heretaunga Plains and Ruataniwha Plains aquifer systems.

OBJ 22 Subject to Objective LW1, t~~The~~ maintenance or enhancement of groundwater quality in the Heretaunga Plains and Ruataniwha Plains aquifer systems and in unconfined or semi-confined productive aquifers in order that it is suitable for human consumption and irrigation without treatment, or after treatment where this is necessary because of the natural water quality.

→ ~~Amend Policy 16 by adding the following to bulleted list of activities:~~

- ~~the effects of land use activities on production land~~

→ Amend Anticipated Environmental Result in Chapter 3.8 (Groundwater quality) to read:

Anticipated Environmental Result	Indicator	Data Source
No degradation of existing groundwater quality in confined productive aquifers <u>beyond a level suitable for human consumption and irrigation without treatment</u>	Nitrate levels <u>Organic and inorganic determinands of significance in NZ Drinking Water Standards</u> <u>E.coli levels</u> Pesticides and herbicides	Ministry of Health Council monitoring

→ Amend Issue statement in Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources) to read:

The potential degradation of the values and uses of rivers, lakes and wetlands in Hawke's Bay as a result of:

- The taking, use, damming and diversion of water, which may adversely affect aquatic ecosystems and existing lawfully established resource users, especially during droughts.
- ~~Non-point source discharges and~~ Stock access to water bodies and non-point source discharges (including production land use activities), which cause contamination of rivers, lakes and wetlands, and degrade their margins.
- Point source discharges which cause contamination of rivers, lakes and wetlands.

→ Amend Objective 25 in Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources) to read:

OBJ 25 Subject to Objective LW1, t~~The~~ maintenance of the water quantity of water in the wetlands, rivers and lakes in order that it is suitable for sustaining aquatic ecosystems in catchments as a whole, and ensuring resource availability for a variety of purposes across the region, while recognising the impact caused by climatic fluctuations in Hawke's Bay.

→ Amend Objective 27 in Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources) to read:

OBJ 27 Subject to Objective LW1, The maintenance or enhancement of ~~t~~The water quality of in rivers, lakes and wetlands in order that it is suitable for sustaining or improving aquatic ecosystems in catchments as a whole, and for other freshwater values identified in accordance with a catchment-based process as set out in POL LW1 and LW2, including contact recreation purposes where appropriate.

→ **Insert new objective into Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources) to read:**

OBJ 27A Subject to Objective LW1, remnant indigenous riparian vegetation on the margins of rivers, lakes and wetlands is maintained or enhanced in order to:

- a) maintain biological diversity; and
- b) maintain and enhance water quality and aquatic ecosystems; and
- c) support the use of surface water resources in accordance with tikanga Māori.

→ **Amend Policy 47 in Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources) to read:**

POL 47 Subject to Objective LW1, to manage activities affecting the quality of water in wetlands, rivers and lakes in accordance with Objectives 25 and 27 and the environmental guidelines and implementation approaches set out in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

→ **Insert new policy into Chapter 3.10 (Surface water resources) to read:**

POL 47A Decision-making criteria - Land-based disposal of contaminants

Subject to Objective LW1, promote land-based disposal of wastewater, solid waste and other waste products so that:

- a) the adverse effects of contaminants entering surface waterbodies or coastal water are avoided as far as practicable;
- aA) where it is not practicable to avoid any adverse effects of contaminants entering surface waterbodies or coastal water, then adverse effects are remedied or mitigated; and
- b) any disposal of wastewater, solid waste or other waste products to a surface waterbody or coastal water occurs only when it is the best practicable option.

→ ~~**Amend Objective 29 in Chapter 3.11 (River bed gravel extraction) to read:**~~

~~**OBJ 29** Subject to Objective LW1, the facilitation of gravel extraction from areas where it is desirable to extract excess gravel for river management purposes and the minimisation of flood risk, or to maintain or protect the functional integrity of existing structures, whilst ensuring that any adverse effects of gravel extraction activities are avoided, remedied or mitigated.~~

→ ~~**Amend Objective 30 in Chapter 3.11 (River bed gravel extraction) to read:**~~

~~**OBJ 30** Subject to Objective LW1, the maintenance of the use and values of the beds of rivers and the avoidance of any significant adverse effects on the river bed resulting from the extraction of gravel.~~

→ **Amend Policy 50(b) in Chapter 3.11 (River bed gravel extraction) to read:**

POL 50 To assess the availability of river bed gravel by:

- (a) ...
- (b) ensuring that as far as practicable, long term gravel extraction is undertaken at a level consistent with maintaining the rivers close to their design profiles, while maintaining compatibility with other resource management and environmental values, particularly those any values and uses identified described in Objective Policy LW1 and Policy LW2.

→ ~~**Amend Policy 53 in Chapter 3.11 (River bed gravel extraction) to read:**~~

~~**POL 53** In considering consent applications for the extraction of river bed gravel, to have regard to the following criteria, subject to Objective LW1: ...~~

→ Amend Glossary by adding new definition to read:

Catchment area

For the purpose of this Plan, means a grouping of surface water catchments and groundwater catchments. Indicative location of each Catchment Area is set out in Appendix A.

Efficient allocation

has the same meaning as given in the NPSFM's interpretation section. For the purposes of this Plan, economic efficiency means water use which results in the optimum outcome for the environment and community; technical efficiency means the amount of water beneficially used in relation to that taken; and dynamic efficiency means the adaptability of water allocation to achieve ongoing improvements in efficiency.

Freshwater objective

has the same meaning as given in the NPSFM's interpretation section.

Greater Heretaunga / Ahuriri Catchment Area

Means a catchment area including the Ahuriri Estuary, Karamū Stream, Ngaruroro River, Tutaekuri River, their tributaries, plus associated Heretaunga Plains groundwater catchments. Indicative location of the Greater Heretaunga / Ahuriri Catchment Area is set out in Appendix A.

Limit

has the same meaning as given in the NPSFM's interpretation section.

Mohaka Catchment Area

Means a catchment area including the Mohaka River, its tributaries, plus associated groundwater catchments. Indicative location of the Mohaka Catchment Area is set out in Appendix A.

NPSFM

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011.

Outstanding freshwater body

has the same meaning as given in the NPSFM's interpretation section.

Target

has the same meaning as given in the NPSFM's interpretation section.

Tukituki Catchment Area

Means a catchment area including the Waipawa River, Tukituki River, Makāretu River, Makaroro River, Makara Stream, Omakere Stream, their tributaries, plus associated groundwater catchments. Indicative location of the Tukituki Catchment Area is set out in Appendix A.

→ Amend definition of 'wetland' as follows in Chapter 9 and consequentially delete footnotes⁶ stating similar elsewhere in Plan:

Wetland includes permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water, and land water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions. *For the purposes of this Plan, a wetland is not:*

a) wet ~~production-pasture or cropping land~~

b) artificial wetlands used for wastewater or stormwater treatment

c) farm dams and detention dams

cA) reservoirs, dams and other areas specifically designed and established for the construction and/or operation of a hydro-electric power scheme

⁶ Examples of such footnotes are those associated with Chapter 3.4.7 and Rule 10(g).

- d) land drainage canals and drains
- e) reservoirs for fire fighting, domestic or municipal water supply
- f) temporary ponded rainfall
- g) artificial wetlands created for beautification purposes.

And make any other consequential amendments to the Regional Resource Management Plan

→ Amend Table 1 (RPS objectives and regional plan objectives) in Chapter 2.3 by adding the following row:

<i>OBJECTIVE</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>
<u>Objectives LW1 – LW2</u>	<u>Integrated land use and freshwater management</u>	<u>Regional Policy Statement</u>

→ Amend Table 2 (Summary of objectives, policies and methods in Chapters 3 and 5) in Chapter 3.1 by adding the following row:

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Policies</i>	<i>Rule Number</i>	<i>Non Regulatory Methods</i>
<u>Objectives LW1 – LW2</u>	<u>LW1, LW2, LW3, LW4</u>		<u>Refer Policy LW4</u>

Appendix A – Indicative locations of 'Catchment Areas' in POL LW2

