

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Phyllis Sexton

Submitter Number:

S5

FORM 5: SUBMISSION FORM – PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN FOR THE WELLINGTON REGION

This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

NAME/ORGANISATION

SS

#1521662

P H Y W L W I S S E X T O N

NUMBER

STREET NAME

49

O X F O R D S T

SUBURB/TOWN

POSTCODE

T A W A 5 0 2 8 W E L L I N G T O N

PHONE

EMAIL

0 4 2 3 2 6 3 0 8

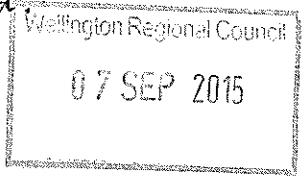
The Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email No email.

The specific provision(s) of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is:

Please specify the provision/section number: Discharges to Water. Discharges to Land

My submission on this provision is:

- I support the provision
I oppose the provision
I wish to have the specific provision amended



Reasons for my submission:

Danger to Health: contaminants being discharged into water.
Need for WCC drainage to be updated to stop flooding my property, causing erosion and slippage; and running suspected contaminated water on my land.

I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details):

That these two matters will be resolved, and cease

Please continue on separate sheet(s) in similar format or download a submission form from www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our submission at hearings
I/We do not wish to be heard in support of my/our submission.
If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Trade competition

[Cross out this shaded section if you could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission]
I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission
I/we could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission

I/we am/am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that:
(a) adversely affects the environment; and
(b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

Publication of details

The Wellington Regional Council is legally required to publicly notify a summary of submissions including your name and address. Your name and address will be there to enable other submitters who may wish to make a further submission to be able to serve you with a copy of it.

Signature: P. Sexton Date: 2/9/15

Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission

Post your submission to: Freepost 3156 Wellington Regional Council PO Box 11646 Wellington 6142



Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

Pursuant to Clause 5 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991, Wellington Regional Council gives public notice that it has prepared a Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.

The purpose of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region is to identify outcomes for the management of natural and physical resources and to put in place processes and methods (including rules) to achieve the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991. The Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region is a combined Regional and Coastal Plan and once operative will replace the existing Regional Plans (Regional Coastal Plan, Regional Air Quality Management Plan, Regional Freshwater Plan, Regional Plan for Discharges to Land and Regional Soil Plan).

All rules within the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region have immediate legal effect.

A copy of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and the Section 32 Reports are available for public inspection during normal working hours at:

- The offices of the Wellington Regional Council at:
 - Shed 39, 2 Fryatt Quay, Pipitea, Wellington 6011
 - 34 Chapel Street, Masterton 5810
- The head offices of the District/City Councils in the Wellington Region
- All public libraries in the Wellington Region
- The Wellington Regional Council website <http://www.gw.govt.nz/Regional-plan-review/>

A copy of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and the Section 32 Reports can be downloaded from the Wellington Regional Council website or a USB can be obtained free of charge by contacting the Hearings Officer on 04 384 5708 / 0800 496 734 or by emailing Regionalplan@gw.govt.nz. Paper copies of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and the Section 32 Reports are available for purchase from the offices of the Wellington Regional Council at the above addresses.

Please contact the Hearings Officer on 04 384 5708 / 0800 496 734 or Regionalplan@gw.govt.nz if you have any questions about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.

SUBMISSIONS

The following persons can make a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region:

- The local authority in its own area may make a submission; and
- Any other person may make a submission, but if the person could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, then the person may do so only if the person is directly affected by an effect of the proposal that -
 - adversely affects the environment; and
 - does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

You may make a submission by sending a written or electronic

submission to the Wellington Regional Council at:
Email submissions to: Regionalplan@gw.govt.nz or post to:
Freepost 3156
The Proposed Natural Resources Plan
The Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646, Manners St
Wellington 6142

The submission must be on the official form 5 and must state whether or not you wish to be heard on your submission. Copies of this form are available from:

- Offices of the Wellington Regional Council
- The Wellington Regional Council website <http://www.gw.govt.nz/Regional-plan-review/>
- Calling 0800 496 734 or by emailing Regionalplan@gw.govt.nz.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS 5PM FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

The process for public participation in consideration of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region is as follows:

- After the closing of submissions, the Wellington Regional Council must prepare a summary of decisions requested by submitters and give public notice of the availability of this summary and where the summary of submissions can be inspected; and
- There must be an opportunity for the following persons to make a further submission in support of, or in opposition to, the submissions already made:
 - Any person representing a relevant aspect of the public interest;
 - Any person who has an interest in the proposal greater than the general public has;
 - The local authority itself; and
- If a person making a submission asks to be heard in support of his or her submission, a hearing must be held; and
- The Wellington Regional Council must give its decision on the provisions and matters raised in the submissions (including its reasons for accepting or rejecting submissions) and give public notice of that decision within 2 years of notifying the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region and serve it on every person who made a submission at the same time; and
- Any person who has made a submission has the right to appeal against the decision on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region to the Environment Court if:
 - In relation to a provision or matter that is the subject of the appeal, the person referred to the provision or matter in the person's submission on the proposal, and
 - The appeal does not seek the withdrawal of the proposal as a whole.

Greg Campbell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

31 July 2015

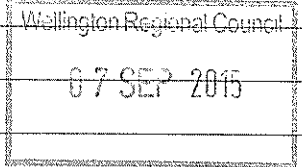
The address for service of the Wellington Regional Council is the same as the address for submissions as set out above.

Mrs. P. A. Sexton

49 Oxford St

Tawa 5028

WELLINGTON



1st September, 2015.

My submission is in regard to Discharges to Water & Discharges to Land.

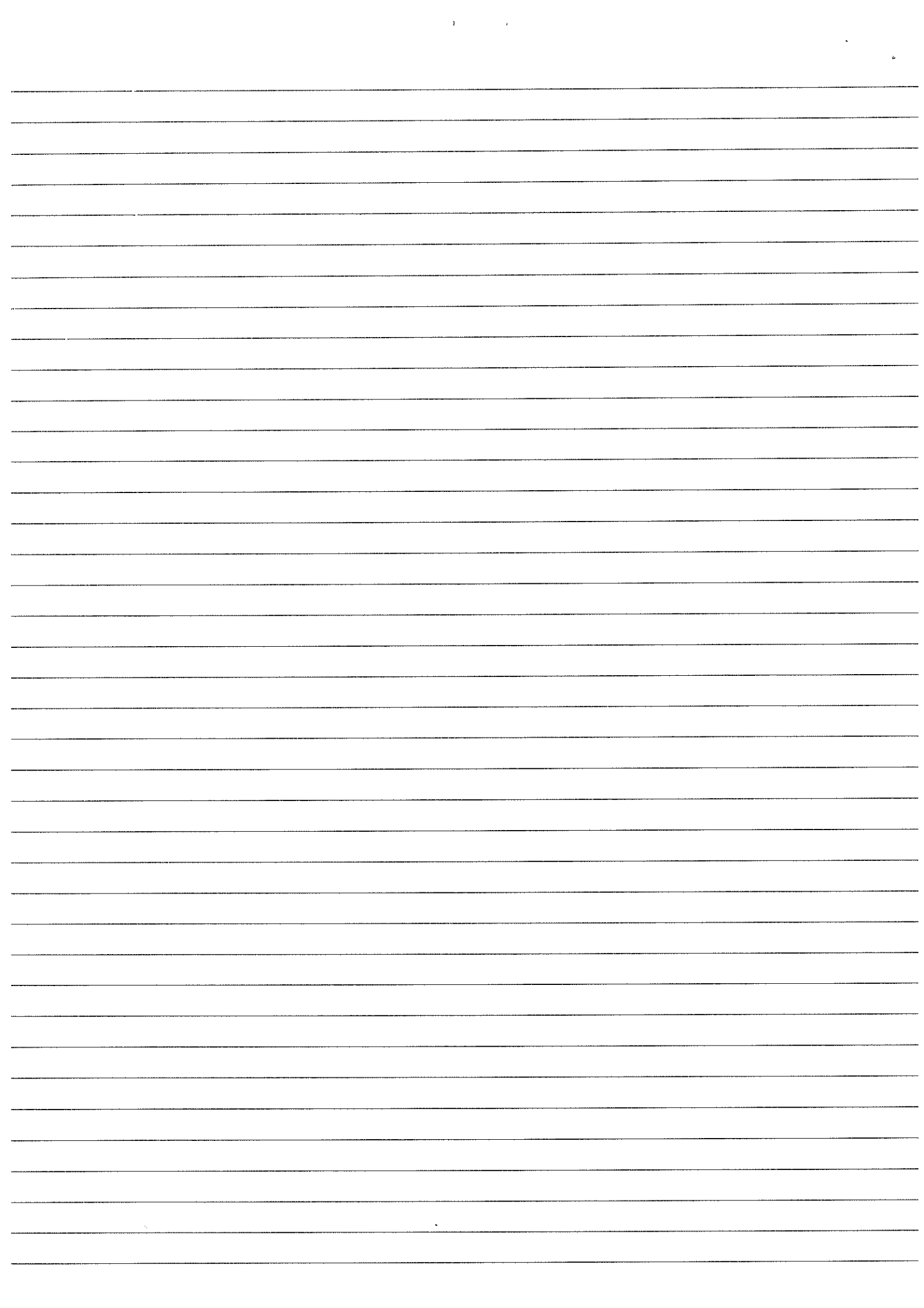
currently my property at 49 Oxford St, Tawa, is subject to storm water discharges into what was originally a small stream that ran through my property, and that the Wellington City Council now uses as an open stormwater drain. There are two sources of water being discharged on to my property. One source is from a stream that runs down behind Lyndhurst Rd., under the main Rd. through my property and ultimately discharges into the Porirua stream. The other source is from a large Wellington City Council pipe, that discharges more water, from a different and unknown source. The open drain on my property cannot cope with the excess water at peak times, and subsequently causes flooding. This flooding happens quite frequently, but the worst flooding was in May 2015 when the flood level rose to almost 2 metres across my entire property. At that time the garage under my house was flooded, and had to be cleaned and sanitized because of suspected sewage contamination in the water; and the contents of my garage, and my car, removed and disposed of due to the suspected contamination by sewage in the water.

During the normal flow of the water in the open drain, the water is often contaminated with other discharges of a strange colour - an orange shade; and at other times a chalky white colour, through the entire length of the stream. As far as I know, these contaminants have never been tested to ascertain what they are, or where they are coming from.

Now the Wellington City Council is moving to approve infill, high density housing in Tawa, and there will be a big increase of subsequent water draining through my property. I am of the opinion that before infill, high density housing becomes a reality, a prerequisite must be that the installation of a proper drainage system must be in place - not retain the open stormwater drainage system that is currently in place at present; which is inadequate for the current volume of water, which rises from half a metre to 2 metres over my land during heavy rain; and suspected of containing serious contaminants and other substances which could be dangerous and cause serious health hazards to everyone who has this open drain running through their properties.

In light of this, I would hope the Greater Wellington Regional Council would strongly advocate that the current outdated, and potentially dangerous to health, system should be replaced, and correctly drained through a pipe sufficiently large enough, and drain directly into the Porirua Stream, as befits the 21st century.

P. A. Sexton.



City's streams getting dirtier

Streams full of chemicals too

Whilst refreshing to see the long-neglected streams of Wellington on the front page (*City's streams getting dirtier*, August 26), it is disappointing that you only highlight the perilous ecological condition of these once abundant waterways.

The article focused attention on the recent poor record with regards to faecal contamination, obviously a significant concern. What wasn't mentioned was the apparent lack of information about the heavy metals, petrochemicals and other pollutants which also drain through the stormwater network and into these streams.

The assertion that the "affected streams were all urban streams that were not used for recreational activities" defies the status of Wellington as a biophilic city. This city is internationally regarded for its fantastic town belt, urban reserves and waterfront and the streams which formed the landscape are an integral part of this.

Anyone who has walked alongside any of these streams will appreciate this. Anyone who swims or boats in our harbour should also be informed of the cocktail of pollutants which feed into the harbour.

It is not acceptable to bury our heads in the filth and continue to view these once pristine streams as drains any longer.

TOM ODUM
Dunedin 29/8/15 Kilbirnie [abridged]

KATIE CHAPMAN

WELLINGTON'S urban streams are failing to meet clean water targets, and they're getting worse.

Fewer than 75 per cent of freshwater sites in Wellington City are meeting water quality standards, and quality has been declining steadily in recent years, a report from Wellington Water shows.

The aim is for 90 per cent of the monitored sites to record a median faecal contamination level of less than 1000cfu (colony forming units) of enterococci bacteria per 100 millilitres of water.

But in the last quarter of 2014-15 only 74 per cent of the 27 monitored sites around the capital made the grade - the lowest pass rate for three years, after quality peaked at 100 per cent compliance in the second quarter of 2012-13.

Wellington Water says investigations are under way to find the sources of pollution. Old, cracked and leaking pipes are likely to be among the reasons.

The benchmark of less than 1000cfu is set in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

Senior investigations engineer Iqbal Idris said the affected sites were all urban streams that were not used for recreational activities such as fishing or swimming.

Fish levels remained steady, but it was important to reverse the decline and get the water quality up, he said. "There's a lot of room for improvement."

Some of the seven sites that failed had been improving, but not by enough to meet the target, he said.

There was ongoing work to identify the problem areas, with the joints of old clay pipes often the sites of leaks in the stormwater and sewage systems.

Where pollution was identified, teams had to then find the old pipes, and use cameras to identify weak points.

It was also possible the 2013 earthquakes had weakened the pipes, some of which were more than 100 years old, he said.

But community education was also important.

Items such as lime paint or chemicals tipped into the stormwater system could end up

MUDDY WATERS

Seven monitored freshwater sites around Wellington have failed to meet water quality standards:

- Ngauranga Stream: two sites in Johnsonville and one in Newlands
- Kaiwharawhara Stream at Cummins Park
- Owhiro Bay Stream
- Karori Stream
- Houghton Bay

in waterways, and drains and pipes on private property should be maintained to ensure there were no weak points in the system.

Wellington City Council environment committee chairwoman Iona Pannett said there was a programme in place to renew pipes through the city, but the large cost meant it had to be staged over many years.

"There's no way we could afford to do it even over 10 years."

The council budgeted about \$277 million for the renewal of water, wastewater and stormwater pipes around the capital in the 10-year Long-Term Plan adopted in July.

Pannett said it was important to make sure the surrounding environment was protected, and that came both through improving the network of pipes and education of the public.

Many people did not appreciate where waste could end up if it was tipped into the stormwater system.

"I don't think people always have that understanding ... We need to do some more public education."

The council also had to work with private property owners to make sure they were checking and maintaining drains, and paying to fix them, she said.

"It does hurt, and it's not very exciting to think about your drains, but it is important to make sure they're in good working order."

Hutt City Council had 86 per cent of its sites compliant. There was no data for Porirua or Upper Hutt yet.

