


FULL PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice of Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region using standard Schedule 1 process and freshwater planning process

Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington Regional Council) has prepared Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region (Plan Change 1), it is partly a standard plan change and partly a freshwater planning instrument.

Plan Change 1 focuses on:

- Management of freshwater and coastal water within Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Te Awarua-o-Porirua and in doing so, it implements the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 within those whaitua
- Amendments to the air quality rules
- Amendments to the beds of lakes and rivers rules
- New sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values.

Part of Plan Change 1 is a 'freshwater planning instrument' and therefore, is subject to the freshwater planning process under both section 80A and Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The Plan Change 1 document identifies the new or amended provisions that form part of the 'freshwater planning instrument' using a freshwater symbol as follows FW. The provisions that are part of the 'freshwater planning instrument' are not part of the regional coastal plan and either relate to an objective/s that gives effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 or are provisions that relate to freshwater which the Council has decided to use the freshwater planning process for.

The remaining Plan Change 1 provisions that are not part of a 'freshwater planning instrument', that is, those provisions that are not identified by the freshwater symbol, will proceed through the standard process for preparing a regional plan change under Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the RMA.

- Plan Change 1 can be inspected online at www.gw.govt.nz/nrp-pc1-consultation or inspected or purchased physically at: Greater Wellington Regional Council – Wellington Office, 100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington
- Greater Wellington Regional Council – Masterton Office, 34 Chapel Street, Masterton
- Public libraries throughout the Region.

If you have any questions about Plan Change 1, please contact Nicola Arnesen at regionalplan@gw.govt.nz.

How to make a submission

The following persons may make a submission on the proposal:

- 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 using the online submission portal ([online submission portal](#)) or by sending a written or electronic submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council by email to regionalplan@gw.govt.nz or by post to PO Box 11646, Manners St, Wellington 6142, ATT: Hearings Advisor.

The submission must be in [Form 5](#) and must state whether or not you wish to be heard on your submission. Copies of this form are available from Greater Wellington Regional Council.

The closing date for receiving submissions is 5.00pm Friday 15 December 2023. The timeframe for making a submission has been extended from the statutory minimum to enable more time for submissions.

Please note that all submissions and accompanying data will be made available for public inspection and Greater Wellington Regional Council will upload all submissions and accompanying data onto its website above. For more information, please see our [Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan Information Statement](#).

What happens next?

- After receiving submissions, we'll prepare a summary of decisions requested by submitters and give public notice of the availability of this summary and where the summary and 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
- For the standard Part 1, Schedule 1 provisions, Greater 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 its decision within 2 years of notifying Plan Change 1 and serve it on every person who made a submission at the same time; and
- For the freshwater planning instrument provisions, the Chief Freshwater Commissioner must convene a freshwater hearings panel to conduct the public hearing of submissions on the freshwater planning instrument provision and provide recommendations to Greater Wellington

Regional Council on the freshwater planning instrument. Greater Wellington Regional Council may accept or reject any such recommendations and notify a decision on them.

- The appeal process after the hearing and decisions will depend on the planning process (ie, freshwater planning process or standard Part 1 Schedule 1 process) as set out below:

For provisions following the freshwater planning process (Part 4 of Schedule 1 RMA):	For provisions following the standard process (Part 1 of Schedule 1 RMA):
<p>A person who made a submission on a freshwater planning instrument provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - may appeal to the Environment Court against a rejected recommendation in the specific circumstances outlined in clause 55 of Schedule 1 of the RMA - may appeal to the High Court on points of law in relation to an accepted recommendation in the specific circumstances outlined in clause 56 of Schedule 1 of the RMA. 	<p>Any person who made a submission on a standard Part 1, Schedule 1 provision has the right to appeal against the decision on Plan Change 1 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 Plan Change.</p>

Daran Ponter

CHAIR

WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

30 October 2023

Greater Wellington, 100 Cuba St, Wellington 6011