

Appendix I: Regional Fresh Water Plan Background Reports

Discharges to Land and Water - Background Reports:

1. Background Report: Macroinvertebrate Community Related Indices as Water Quality Monitoring and Management Tools (March 1995)
2. Background Report: The Extent of Riparian Margins in Taranaki (February 1995)
3. Background Report: The Taranaki Dairy Industry: Past, Present and Likely Future Trends and the Implications for Land and Water Management (February 1995)
4. Background Report: A Review of Agricultural Nutrient Discharge Regulations in Selected Overseas Countries (April 1995)
5. Background Report: The Likely Influence of International Agreements on Environmental Standards for Agriculture in Taranaki (April 1995)
6. Background Report: Riparian Management: Results of a survey of Recipients of Riparian Management Plans (March 1995)
7. Background Report: Nitrogenous Fertiliser Application within the Taranaki Region (February 1995)
8. Background Report: A Summary of Trends in Unauthorised Incidents Over the Past Three Years (August 1995)
9. Background Report: The Feasibility of an Environmental Management System in the Taranaki Dairy Industry (May 1995) (Zac Oosten)
10. See also Technical Report 95-14 'Pesticides in Shallow Groundwater'

Discharges to Land and Water - Key Policy Development Documents:

11. Priority Taranaki Streams for Strategic remediation or protection measures (November 1995)
12. Nutrient Inputs to Water in Taranaki and their Potential Environmental Effects (November 1995)
13. Strategy for the management of dairymshed effluent (November 1995)
14. Management of Riparian Margins in Taranaki: A discussion document (August 1992)
15. Management of Riparian Margins in Taranaki: Implementation Strategy (February 1993)

Discharges to Land and Water - Discussion Document:

16. Approaches to Managing Discharges to Land and Water in Taranaki (November 1995)
17. Submissions - Approaches to Managing Discharges to Land and Water in Taranaki (March 1996)/Report on Submissions (PP Meeting 21.3.96)

Wetlands - Background Reports

18. Wetlands in the Taranaki Region (March 1996)
19. Wetland Protection - A Preferred Approach (March 1996)
20. Wetlands and Drainage: A Regional Assessment of Wetland Status and Value within Taranaki (June 1995)

Draft Proposed Regional River and Lake Beds Plan for Taranaki

21. Draft Proposed Regional River and Lake Beds Plan for Taranaki (February 1996)

Groundwater

22. Groundwater Resources of the Taranaki Region (August 1996)

Surface water

23. Surface Water Availability under low flow conditions in Taranaki (1995)

24. The taking and use of surface water in Taranaki: A preferred approach (November 1996)

25. The surface hydrology of the Taranaki region: An update TR 96-46 (1997)

26. Stormwater: Towards a Preferred Management Approach (May 1997)

27. On-site wastewater discharges: A preferred management approach (May 1997)

28. Point-Source Discharges: A Preferred Approach (June 1997)

Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan documents

29. Proposed *Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (Working Draft) (Sept 1997)

30. Proposed *Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* Technical Review Comments (October 1997)

31. Proposed *Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* Explanation and Section 32 Document (February 1998)

32. Guide to the *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (February 1998)

33. Public Submissions to the *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (May 1998)

34. *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (notified 28 February 1998)

35. *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* – Summary of Submissions (May 1998)

36. Further Submissions – *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (July 1998)

37. *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (as reported back to the TRC in response to submissions (September 1998)

38. Report on Submissions (as amended following pre-hearing consultation) (November 1998)

39. *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki* (as further amended by officers following pre-hearing consultation) November 1998

40. Evidence and submissions presented at the hearing of submissions (December 1998)

41. Report on Submissions (as amended following the hearing of submissions) (February 1999)

42. Decisions on Submissions (April 1999)

43. *Proposed Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki*, as adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council following the hearing of submissions

Appendix II: Criteria for review

The following criteria were applied when considering making changes to the *Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki*.

(a) **Issues:**

- There is a new issue of regional significance that has emerged since adoption of the Plan that is not addressed in the Plan or in other policies, strategies or plans and, after considering criteria (b) to (g) below, it is necessary and appropriate for that issue to be included in the Plan; or
- An issue already identified in the Plan is no longer appropriate or necessary and after considering criteria (b) to (g) below, that issue should be removed from the Plan.

(b) **Lawfulness:**

- The Plan is clearly leading directly to outcomes that are contrary to the **purpose and principles** of the Act; or
- The Plan is clearly failing in its purpose of achieving **integrated management** and this failure is a consequence of the Plan itself; or
- The provisions of the Plan are **ultra vires** and require immediate change in the interests of clarity and certainty and the efficient, effective and legally correct administration of the Act.

(c) **Clarity:**

- The provisions of the Plan are so **unclear or uncertain** that those provisions are causing confusion and problems in administration and implementation of the Plan to the extent that the Plan requires immediate change.

(d) **Practicability and affordability:**

- The provisions of the Plan have emerged as being not practical or affordable and cannot realistically be undertaken **and** these provisions are causing problems in administration of the Plan that require its immediate change.

(e) **Efficiency:**

- The provisions of the Plan do not promote the efficient management of resources, result in excessive compliance costs or are not cost-effective for the community (ie, costs are too high relative to the benefits expected) to the extent that the Plan requires immediate change.

(f) **Equity:**

- The provisions of the Plan impose unacceptable costs or benefits on one sector and not others to the extent that the Plan requires immediate change.

(g) **Section 32 duties:**

Any change to the Plan is subject to the duties imposed under section 32 of the Act and these must be considered in the review process. In proposing any changes to objectives, policies, or methods the Council must have regard to:

- The extent to which the objective, policy or method is **necessary** in achieving the purpose of the Act;
- **Other means** to achieve the purpose of the Act;
 - The **reasons** for adapting the objective, policy or method, the principal

alternative means available or of taking no action where the Act does not require otherwise;

- **Benefits and costs** of the principal alternative means;
- The **appropriateness** of the objective, policy or method having regard to its efficiency and effectiveness relative to other means.

Part of this assessment will need to include consideration of the:

- **Timeliness** of any change (particularly in view of any proposed changes in legislation, and roles or responsibilities); and
- **Costs** to the Council in processing a change to the Plan and compliance costs imposed on resource users.

Appendix III: Reporting on objectives and policies of the FWP:

		Link to relevant section of report
Issue 3.1:	Protection and enhancement of the natural, ecological and amenity values of fresh water	
OBJ 3.1.1	<i>To protect the waters of the Hangatahua (Stony) River catchment for regionally important fisheries and angling features, scenic characteristics and recreational features and cultural, historical and educational features.</i>	3.2
OBJ 3.1.2	<i>To maintain and enhance the natural, ecological and amenity values of rivers and streams of value in the region, and regionally significant wetlands.</i>	3.3.1 for rivers of value 3.16.2 for regionally significant wetlands
OBJ 3.1.3	<i>To protect the natural character of all of Taranaki's rivers, lakes and wetlands from inappropriate use and development and the adverse effects of appropriate use and development.</i>	3.4
OBJ 3.1.4	<i>To safeguard the life-supporting capacity of water and aquatic ecosystems from the adverse effects of the use and development of fresh water.</i>	3.5
OBJ 3.1.5	<i>To maintain and enhance amenity values and the quality of the environment of Taranaki's rivers, lakes and wetlands and their margins.</i>	3.6
OBJ 3.1.6	<i>To manage the fresh water resources of the Taranaki region in a way that promotes the sustainable management of natural and physical resources, by recognising and providing for the differences in and between rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands in the region.</i>	3.7
POL 3.1.1	The quantity, level and rate of flow of water and the quality of water within the Hangatahua (Stony) River catchment will be retained, as far as possible, in their natural state.	3.2
POL 3.1.2	The adverse effects of activities on the natural character, ecological and amenity values of all rivers, lakes and wetlands and their margins in the Taranaki region will be avoided, remedied or mitigated, having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the topography and form of the river, lake or wetland; (b) the natural flow characteristics, hydrological functions and natural water levels and their fluctuations in rivers, lakes and wetlands; (c) ecosystems, habitats and species; (d) existing water quality and the need to maintain or enhance that quality; (e) recreational, fishery, aesthetic and scenic values. 	This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer to section 4.4 for an analysis of the frequency policies are considered.
POL 3.1.3	The life-supporting capacity of fresh water will be safeguarded and the adverse effects of activities on aquatic habitats and fresh water ecosystems will be avoided, remedied or mitigated having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the maintenance of biological and physical processes; (b) the existing and potential productivity, diversity, importance and variability of aquatic ecosystems; (c) habitat characteristics, including habitats for aquatic species at different stages of their life cycle, habitats of threatened, vulnerable or rare species, and habitats for terrestrial life that use the water body; (d) the significance of indigenous flora and fauna, including the habitat of indigenous fish; (e) the habitat of trout. 	As above.

POL 3.1.4	The high natural, ecological and amenity values of those rivers and streams listed in Appendix IA will be maintained and enhanced as far as practicable. Adverse effects of activities on these values will be avoided as far as practicable, or remedied or mitigated.	3.3.1
POL 3.1.5	The natural, ecological and amenity values and life-supporting capacity of those rivers and streams listed in Appendix IB will be enhanced as far as practicable.	3.5.1
POL 3.1.6	The natural, ecological and amenity values of those wetlands listed in Appendix IIA will be preserved and protected.	3.16.13.16
POL 3.1.7	The natural, ecological and amenity values of those wetlands listed in Appendix IIB will be protected and enhanced, as far as practicable.	3.16.13.16
Issue 3.2:	Maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along rivers and lakes	
OBJ 3.2.1	<i>To maintain and enhance public access to and along rivers and lakes.</i>	3.17
POL 3.2.1	Public access to and along rivers and lakes will be maintained and enhanced as far as practicable, except where restrictions are necessary to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) preserve the natural character of rivers and lakes and their margins; (b) protect private property rights; (c) safeguard ecological or intrinsic attributes of rivers and lakes; (d) avoid conflicts between competing uses; (e) protect cultural and spiritual values of Tangata Whenua; (f) protect human health and safety; (g) protect the integrity of river and flood control works; (h) provide for other exceptional circumstances that are sufficient to justify the restriction, notwithstanding the national importance of maintaining access. 	This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer to section 4.4 for an analysis of the frequency policies are considered.
POL 3.2.2	Where public access along land of the Crown or land vested in the Taranaki Regional Council is denied or restricted by use or development of rivers and lakes, acceptable alternative public access may be required to be provided or improved by that person whose activities are responsible for the denial or restriction of existing access.	as above
POL 3.2.3	Provision shall be made, where appropriate and practicable, to improve the ability of the public to reach and use rivers and lakes to which access is limited for any reason, provided that this is not inconsistent with Policy 3.2.1.	as above
Issue 4.1:	Recognising and providing for the relationship of Tangata Whenua and Iwi and hapu of Taranaki and their culture and traditions with their water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga.	
OBJ 4.1.1	<i>To recognise and provide for the cultural relationship and values of Iwi and hapu of Taranaki with water, and with ancestral land and sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga associated with fresh water, and the beds of rivers and lakes, in a manner reflective of their status as Tangata Whenua and in accordance with Tikanga Maori.</i>	This is a general objective that covers the entire plan. Stakeholders are invited to comment on the effectiveness of achieving this objective.
POL	Wāhi tapu and other sites or features of historical or cultural significance to Iwi and hapu of Taranaki, and the cultural and spiritual values	The analysis of the frequency of

4.1.1	associated with fresh water, will be protected from the adverse effects of activities, as far as practicable.	policies considered highlighted the large number of times that these policies are included in officer's reports.
POL 4.1.2	Adverse effects of activities on mahinga kai and the habitats of species harvested by Tangata Whenua, will be avoided or mitigated to the fullest extent practicable.	
POL 4.1.3	Access to mahinga kai and identified areas of historical or cultural significance to Iwi and hapu of Taranaki associated with fresh water, will be maintained or enhanced, except where restrictions are appropriate to achieve the purpose of the Act, the Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki and this Plan.	
POL 4.1.4	The aspirations of Iwi and hapu of Taranaki to develop fresh water within their rohe will be recognised and provided for, where this is appropriate and consistent with the purpose and principles of the Act, the Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki and this Plan.	
POL 4.1.5	Opportunities for incorporating the customary knowledge of Iwi and hapu of Taranaki about river and lake resources, and for involving kaitiaki, as a means of promoting sustainable management or protecting taonga of fresh water, will be recognised and utilised by the Taranaki Regional Council where appropriate.	3.18
POL 4.1.6	Procedures and approaches will be adopted to enable Iwi and hapu of Taranaki to participate in fresh water management decision making.	OBJ 4.1.1 Recognising and providing for relationship of Tangata Whenua with water.3.18
Issue 5.1:	Enabling appropriate use and development of fresh water	
OBJ 5.1.1	<i>To enable people and communities to use and develop fresh water resources and the beds of rivers and lakes to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety, in accordance with the sustainable management of those resources.</i>	4
OBJ 5.1.2	<i>To provide efficient and streamlined administrative procedures for those activities which have no or only minor adverse effects on the environment.</i>	4
POL 5.1.1	When managing the use and development of fresh water and the beds of rivers and lakes, the Taranaki Regional Council will recognise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the need for all activities to avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse environmental effects in accordance with the objectives and policies of this Plan; (b) the positive benefits to people and communities arising from the use or development; (c) existing uses of physical resources including any human-made resources that have a specific-use purpose; (d) the effects on existing lawfully established activities; (e) the need to allow existing users to progressively upgrade their environmental performance, where improvements are necessary to meet the provisions of this Plan. 	In the analysis of policies included in officer's reports (section 3.10), this policy was the most frequently referred to policy.
POL 5.1.2	The Taranaki Regional Council will minimise administrative procedures for those activities with minor or no adverse effects on the environment.	4.1 – management of permitted activities; 4.2.3 for controlled/discretionary activities; 4.2.4 for timelines; 4.2.5 for costs of resource consents.

Issue 6.1:	The adverse effects of the taking, use, damming and diversion of surface water																	
OBJ 6.1.1	<i>To promote the sustainable management of the surface waters of Taranaki while avoiding, remedying or mitigating any actual or potential adverse effects from the taking, use, damming or diversion of surface water.</i>	3.8																
POL 6.1.1	<p>The Taranaki Regional Council will prohibit the taking and use of water in the catchments or reaches listed in Table 1, except for minor takes and where the taking or use is necessary to meet an individual's reasonable domestic or stock water needs or for fire-fighting purposes.</p> <p>Table 1 Catchments or reaches where taking and use of water will be prohibited</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="324 507 1346 703"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="324 507 846 544">7.1.1.1 Catchment</th> <th data-bbox="846 507 1346 544">Reach</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 544 846 639">Maketawa Stream catchment except Ngatoro Stream catchment above the confluence with the Ngatoro-iti Stream</td> <td data-bbox="846 544 1346 639">To confluence with Manganui River</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 639 846 703">Manganui River except Te Popo Stream catchment</td> <td data-bbox="846 639 1346 703">Catchment above 100 m above weir (located at NZMS 260 Q19: 202-200)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	7.1.1.1 Catchment	Reach	Maketawa Stream catchment except Ngatoro Stream catchment above the confluence with the Ngatoro-iti Stream	To confluence with Manganui River	Manganui River except Te Popo Stream catchment	Catchment above 100 m above weir (located at NZMS 260 Q19: 202-200)	Refer Table in section 3.8.3 for the frequency this policy has been used in the processing of applications for take and use of surface water.										
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Maketawa Stream catchment except Ngatoro Stream catchment above the confluence with the Ngatoro-iti Stream	To confluence with Manganui River																	
Manganui River except Te Popo Stream catchment	Catchment above 100 m above weir (located at NZMS 260 Q19: 202-200)																	
POL 6.1.2	<p>The Taranaki Regional Council will as far as practicable, strictly limit the taking, use, damming and diversion of water above the existing level of use in the catchments or reaches listed in Table 2. All applications for existing and any further taking, use, damming or diversion of water in these catchments will be assessed on a case-by-case basis according to Policies 6.1.3 and 6.1.5-6.1.9.</p> <p>Table 2 Catchments or reaches where taking, use, damming and diversion of water will be limited</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="324 922 1346 1214"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="324 922 846 959">7.1.1.2 Catchment</th> <th data-bbox="846 922 1346 959">Reach</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 959 846 991">Kapuni Stream</td> <td data-bbox="846 959 1346 991">Whole catchment</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 991 846 1023">Kaupokonui Stream</td> <td data-bbox="846 991 1346 1023">Whole catchment</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1023 846 1054">Mangorei Stream</td> <td data-bbox="846 1023 1346 1054">Whole catchment</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1054 846 1086">Patea River</td> <td data-bbox="846 1054 1346 1086">Above Mangaehu Stream confluence</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1086 846 1118">Waiongana Stream</td> <td data-bbox="846 1086 1346 1118">Whole catchment</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1118 846 1150">Waingongoro River</td> <td data-bbox="846 1118 1346 1150">Whole catchment</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1150 846 1214">Waiwhakaihō River</td> <td data-bbox="846 1150 1346 1214">Catchment above 100 m above weir (located at NZMS 260 P19: 078-298)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	7.1.1.2 Catchment	Reach	Kapuni Stream	Whole catchment	Kaupokonui Stream	Whole catchment	Mangorei Stream	Whole catchment	Patea River	Above Mangaehu Stream confluence	Waiongana Stream	Whole catchment	Waingongoro River	Whole catchment	Waiwhakaihō River	Catchment above 100 m above weir (located at NZMS 260 P19: 078-298)	As above
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POL 6.1.3	<p>Notwithstanding Policy 6.1.4, when assessing the quantity of water that may be taken, used, dammed or diverted from any surface water body, the Taranaki Regional Council will have particular regard to:</p> <p>(a) the natural, ecological and amenity values of the water body;</p>	This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer																

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) the relationship of Tangata Whenua with the water body; (c) the importance of the water body to meet existing or reasonably foreseeable needs for community water supplies, agricultural, industrial or other use; (d) the effects of water levels and flows on water quality; (e) the hydrological characteristics of the catchment including flow variability, flow recession characteristics and the relationship to groundwater recharge; (f) the significance of flows and groundwater recharge for the maintenance or enhancement of downstream flows; (g) the extent to which the adverse effects of the taking, use, damming or diversion of water can be avoided, remedied or mitigated. 	to section 3.8.3 for an analysis of the frequency policies are considered.
POL 6.1.4	Subject to Policy 6.1.3, when assessing resource consents and imposing conditions for the taking, use, damming or diversion of surface water the Taranaki Regional Council will require quantities, levels and flows of water in rivers and streams (excluding those in Policies 6.1.1 and 6.1.2), that retain at least $\frac{2}{3}$ habitat at mean annual low flow.	As above
POL 6.1.5	<p>When assessing resource consent applications for the taking, use, damming or diversion of water, the Taranaki Regional Council will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the need to ensure that surface water is available for reasonable domestic needs, stock drinking water requirements, and fire fighting purposes; (b) where there are competing uses for water, or in catchments identified in Policy 6.1.2, the degree of community or regional benefit from the taking, use, damming or diversion as distinct from private or individual benefit; (c) the need for the volumes of water sought; (d) the need to use water efficiently and with a minimum of waste; (e) what alternative sources of water or water collection or storage methods have been considered; (f) possible mitigation measures including the maintenance of adequate minimum flows or flow regimes, the reduction or suspension of takes, the location, timing, duration and rate of the abstraction, the maintenance of fish passage, the application of riparian planting, use of gradient control for diversions, or other measures; (g) the need to install systems to accurately measure the volumes of water abstracted and to reduce or suspend abstractions. 	<p>This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer to section 3.8.3 for an analysis of the frequency policies are considered.</p> <p>Also see discussion in section 3.8.3 regarding 6.1.5 (f).</p>
POL 6.1.6	The conservation and efficiency of use of the surface waters of Taranaki, including reduction of losses from water treatment and distribution systems, will be promoted.	Promoted as a 'good practice tip' in the 'Guide to surface water availability and allocation in Taranaki.'
POL 6.1.7	Water harvesting, including the use of storage reservoirs or impoundments to store water at times of high river flow, or the collection or storage of rainwater, will be encouraged, provided adverse effects can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.	Promoted as a 'good practice tip' in the 'Guide to surface water availability and allocation in Taranaki.'
POL 6.1.8	During times of water shortage or when flows are likely to fall below that which retains $\frac{2}{3}$ habitat at mean annual low flow or any prescribed minimum flows, the Taranaki Regional Council will instigate appropriate procedures including:	Processes followed during periods of low flow, e.g. summer 07-08.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) advising abstractors to conserve water; (b) advising abstractors to restrict non-essential use of water as far as practicable; (c) advising abstractors to suspend takes in accordance with the conditions of their resource consents; (d) considering the need to issue water shortage directions under Section 329 of the Act. 	
POL 6.1.9	<p>The Taranaki Regional Council will allow, on application, the transfer of the whole or any part of a permit to take water, to any owner or occupier of the site to which the permit relates or to another person on another site or to another site provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the transfer occurs within the same catchment; (b) the transfer is consistent with the objectives and policies of this Plan; (c) the transfer does not result in a flow that is below any prescribed minimum flow; (d) there are no significant adverse environmental effects from the transfer. 	No transfer permits on the R2D2 database.
Issue 6.2:	Adverse effects on surface water quality from the discharge of contaminants from point sources	
OBJ 6.2.1	<i>To maintain and enhance the quality of the surface water resources of Taranaki by avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of contaminants discharged to land and water from point-sources.</i>	3.9
POL 6.2.1	<p>In managing point-source discharges to land and water, the Taranaki Regional Council will recognise and provide for the different values and uses of surface water including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) natural, ecological and amenity values; (b) the relationship of Tangata Whenua with water; (c) the maintenance and enhancement of aquatic ecosystems, and water quality for fisheries and fish spawning; (d) use of water for water supply purposes; (e) use of water for contact recreation. 	This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer to section 3.9.1 for an analysis of the frequency policies are considered and for discussion of role of policies in setting consent conditions.
POL 6.2.2	<p>Discharges of contaminants or water to land or water from point sources should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be carried out in a way that avoids, remedies or mitigates significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems; (b) maintain or enhance, after reasonable mixing, water quality of a standard that allows existing community use of that water for contact recreation, and water supply purposes, and maintains or enhances aquatic ecosystems; (c) be of a quality that ensures that the size or location of the zone required for reasonable mixing does not have a significant adverse effect on community use of fresh water or the life supporting capacity of water and aquatic ecosystems. 	As above
POL 6.2.3	<p>Waste reduction and treatment practices which avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse environmental effects of the point-source discharge of contaminants into water or onto or into land will be required. In assessing applications for resource consents to discharge contaminants or water to land or water, the Taranaki Regional Council will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the natural, ecological and amenity values of the water body; (b) the relationship of Tangata Whenua with the water body; (c) the allowance for reasonable mixing zones and sufficient flows (determined in accordance with (a) to (k) of this policy); (d) the potential for cumulative effects; (e) the actual or potential risks to human and animal health from the discharge; 	As above

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (f) the degree to which the needs of other resource users may be compromised; (g) the effect of the discharge on the natural state of the receiving environment; (h) measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate the effects of contaminants to be discharged; (i) measures to reduce the volume and toxicity of the contaminant; (j) the use of the best practicable option for the treatment and disposal of contaminants; (k) the availability and effectiveness of alternative means of disposing of the contaminant (including discharge of wastewater into a municipal sewerage system). 	
POL 6.2.4	<p>The Taranaki Regional Council may, where appropriate, require the adoption of the best practicable option to prevent or minimise adverse effects on the environment from the discharge of contaminants to land or water. When considering what is the best practicable option, the Taranaki Regional Council will give consideration to the following factors, in addition to those contained in the definition in the Act of best practicable option:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the capital, operating and maintenance costs of relative technical options, the effectiveness and reliability of each option in reducing the discharge, and the relative benefits to the environment offered by each option; (b) the weighing of costs in proportion to any benefits to the receiving environment to be gained by adopting the method or methods; (c) maintaining and enhancing the existing water quality in the area as far as practicable. 	The standardised consent conditions recommends a condition whereby the consent holder shall take all reasonable steps to minimise the amount of sediment discharged to the stream, minimise the amount of sediment that becomes suspended in the stream and mitigate the effects of sediment in the stream.
POL 6.2.5	<p>The Taranaki Regional Council will promote the best practicable option for the disposal of farm dairy effluent. Disposal may either be to land or to surface water. Matters that will be considered in the assessment of the best practicable option include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) topography and land area; (b) weather and soil conditions; (c) assimilative capacity of receiving water; (d) cumulative adverse effects on receiving water; (e) use of systems appropriate to the receiving environment. 	See discussion in section 3.9.1 and 3.9.2
POL 6.2.6	The Taranaki Regional Council will advocate the tertiary treatment or land application of farm dairy effluent as a sustainable method of effluent disposal.	As above.
POL 6.2.7	Contingency plans and other measures to reduce the risk and effect of any spill event will be required at all sites which are subject to the risk of a spill that may have significant actual or potential effects.	Contaminant spill contingency plans are an integrated tool in the Council's efforts to prevent or mitigate spills. As at 30 June 2007 a total of 320 contingency plans are operational. Of these, 304 are prepared by resource consent holders as a condition of their consents and another 16 have been prepared voluntarily. In 2006/07 Council officers reviewed 30 existing contingency plans to ensure they continue to be relevant.

Issue 6.3	Adverse effects on surface water quality from diffuse source discharges																																	
OBJ 6.3.1	<i>To maintain and enhance the quality of the surface water resources of Taranaki by avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of contaminants discharged to water from diffuse sources.</i>	3.10																																
OBJ 6.3.2	<i>To maintain and enhance the riparian margins of surface waterbodies in order to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse effects of activities on water quality, and aquatic and instream habitat.</i>	3.10																																
POL 6.3.1	<p>Land use practices which avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on water quality will be encouraged and promoted including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the careful application of appropriate types and quantities of fertiliser; (b) the careful application of the appropriate quantity of farm dairy effluent having regard to topography, land area, weather and soil conditions; (c) the careful use of agrichemicals; (d) land development and restoration of disturbed land to reduce diffuse source discharge of contaminants to water; (e) stock control procedures to avoid, remedy or mitigate the effects of stock entry to rivers and streams, trampling and pugging by stock, and accelerated erosion from overgrazing; (f) land management practices, including the discharge of contaminants to land, that avoid or reduce contamination of surface water; (g) land management practices that retain riparian buffer zones. 	Land Management Officers and Inspectorate Officers work with landowners.																																
POL 6.3.2	Existing riparian vegetation along the margins of Taranaki's rivers, streams and lakes will be protected and enhanced, as far as is practicable, for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing water quality and the effective functioning of riparian zones.	3.10.1																																
POL 6.3.3	The Taranaki Regional Council will promote the restoration of riparian margins where riparian vegetation will provide net water quality benefits.	As above																																
POL 6.3.4	<p>The retirement and Planting of riparian margins will be promoted, where appropriate, on all or parts of the ring plain catchments listed in Table 3.</p> <p>Table 3 Riparian management catchments</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="324 1002 1346 1267"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hangatahua (Stony) River</td> <td>Mangaoraka Stream</td> <td>Punehu Stream*</td> <td>Waimoku Stream</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Huatoki Stream</td> <td>Mangatoki Stream</td> <td>Pungareere Stream*</td> <td>Waingongo River*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kahouri Stream</td> <td>Mangorei Stream</td> <td>Tapuae Stream</td> <td>Waiongana Stream*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kai Auai Stream</td> <td>Ngatoro Stream*</td> <td>Taungatara Stream</td> <td>Wairau Stream</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kapuni Stream*</td> <td>Ngatoro-nui Stream</td> <td>Tawhiti Stream</td> <td>Waitara River*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kaupokonui Stream*</td> <td>Oakura River</td> <td>Te Henui Stream</td> <td>Waiwhakaho River*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maketawa Stream</td> <td>Okahu Stream</td> <td>Timaru Stream</td> <td>Warea River</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Manganui River*</td> <td>Patea River*</td> <td>Waiaua River*</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Waterways which are also community water supply catchments</p>	Hangatahua (Stony) River	Mangaoraka Stream	Punehu Stream*	Waimoku Stream	Huatoki Stream	Mangatoki Stream	Pungareere Stream*	Waingongo River*	Kahouri Stream	Mangorei Stream	Tapuae Stream	Waiongana Stream*	Kai Auai Stream	Ngatoro Stream*	Taungatara Stream	Wairau Stream	Kapuni Stream*	Ngatoro-nui Stream	Tawhiti Stream	Waitara River*	Kaupokonui Stream*	Oakura River	Te Henui Stream	Waiwhakaho River*	Maketawa Stream	Okahu Stream	Timaru Stream	Warea River	Manganui River*	Patea River*	Waiaua River*		3.10.2 especially the table noting progress with implementing riparian plans in four monitored catchments. Note the Council's riparian planting programme has moved away from targeted catchments and now covers the whole Taranaki ring plain.
Hangatahua (Stony) River	Mangaoraka Stream	Punehu Stream*	Waimoku Stream																															
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Issue 6.4:	Adverse effects on the environment from the taking and use of groundwater	
OBJ 6.4.1	<i>To promote the sustainable management of groundwater resources by avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of the taking and use of groundwater.</i>	3.11
POL 6.4.1	The taking of water from shallow groundwater within close proximity of a surface water body may affect water levels and flows in the surface water body and accordingly any consideration of such an abstraction will take into account: (a) the contribution of groundwater to surface flows; (b) the effects of any abstraction on the surface water body at the location in question.	These policies are considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer to section 4.4 for an analysis of the frequency policies are considered.
POL 6.4.2	The taking of groundwater will be limited to the sustainable yield of the aquifer to ensure that groundwater will be available for present and future generations. When assessing resource consents for the taking of groundwater, the Taranaki Regional Council will take into account the need to: (a) maintain a sustainable yield of the aquifer; (b) avoid the inflow of poor quality water into aquifers; (c) avoid saltwater intrusion into aquifers; (d) avoid significant interference with existing lawfully established and sustainable water uses.	
POL 6.4.3	When assessing resource consents for the taking and use of groundwater, the Taranaki Regional Council will take into account: (a) the need to ensure groundwater is available for reasonable domestic needs, stock watering requirements and fire fighting purposes; (b) the need for the volumes of water sought; (c) the need to use water efficiently and with a minimum of waste; (d) the degree to which use of groundwater will avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on surface water resources; (e) the need to install systems to accurately measure the volumes of water abstracted.	
Issue 6.5:	Adverse effects on groundwater quality from the discharge of contaminants to land and water	
OBJ 6.5.1	<i>To avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on groundwater quality from bore and well drilling, construction or alteration.</i>	3.12
OBJ 6.5.2	<i>To promote the sustainable management of groundwater while avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on groundwater quality from the discharge of contaminants.</i>	3.12
POL 6.5.1	Drilling and well or bore construction or alteration will be managed to prevent aquifer cross-contamination and aquifer contamination from the surface due to open or unsealed bores or wells, or contamination from other drilling activities.	These policies are considered in decision making on groundwater related consents.
POL 6.5.2	Old, damaged and unused wells or bores will be managed to prevent adverse effects on groundwater quality from contamination.	
POL 6.5.3	The Taranaki Regional Council will manage the discharge of contaminants to land and water such that any actual or potential adverse effects on groundwater quality are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	
POL	The deepwell injection of wastewater or other contaminants to groundwater will only be allowed at depths and locations and under	

6.5.4	circumstances in which there is no significant risk of contamination of groundwater resources which may be used for consumptive purposes.	
POL 6.5.5	Information on all bores and those wells greater than 10 metres in depth will be gathered to assist in promoting the sustainable management of groundwater.	Bore log information required under the permitted rule is not always provided, so Council will be working with bore owners and drillers to encourage the provision of this information.
Issue 6.6: Adverse effects on the environment from uses of river and lake beds		
OBJ 6.6.1	<i>To promote the sustainable management of the beds of rivers and lakes by avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of the use of the beds of rivers or lakes.</i>	3.13
OBJ 6.6.2	<i>To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of flooding and erosion on land uses in floodplains.</i>	3.14
POL 6.6.1	The placement or maintenance of structures within river and lake beds will be managed so as to avoid, remedy or mitigate: (a) adverse effects on the habitat of aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna, including the passage of fish; (b) erosion or accretion of river and lake beds or banks; (c) the exposure or destabilisation of existing structures within the bed; (d) the effects of flooding and erosion; (e) adverse effects on water quality and aquatic life.	These policies are considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports. Refer to section 3.13.1 for a discussion on the role of policies in developing standard consent conditions.
POL 6.6.2	Structures in or on river and lake beds will be required to provide for the unrestricted passage of fish, or will be required to contain suitable facilities to enable fish passage through or past the structure.	
POL 6.6.3	The Taranaki Regional Council will require that structures in river and lake beds be designed, placed and maintained to avoid reducing the capacity of river channels to convey flood flows, the unintentional impoundment of water and adverse effects of flooding on adjacent properties and other structures within river beds.	
POL 6.6.4	The Taranaki Regional Council will: (a) provide for the removal of vegetation and other material, and any associated temporary disturbances to river and lake beds, for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating the adverse effects of flooding; (b) control the introduction and planting of plants.	As above
POL 6.6.5	The extraction of material (ie sand, gravel and rock) from river beds, will be prohibited, except for: (a) extraction of sand and gravel from the dry areas of river beds to meet reasonable domestic and on-farm needs; (b) the purpose of avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of flooding and erosion; (c) as necessary for the placement and maintenance of structures within the bed.	As above
POL 6.6.6	Disturbances to river and lake beds shall be timed, and/or carried out in a manner and location, that will avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on seasonal fish migration or spawning, including the disturbance of: (a) gravel bedded rivers on the ring plain between May and October; (b) lower river and estuarine areas between March and June.	As above

	(c) lower river and estuarine areas between mid-August and end-November.	
POL 6.6.7	The Taranaki Regional Council will promote the removal or decommissioning of unused structures in or on river beds which restrict fish passage or cause flooding and erosion problems, provided the advantages of removal or decommissioning outweigh the disadvantages, taking into account any actual and potential adverse effects associated with the removal or decommissioning.	The Council, having identified structures in the 'Dams, weirs and barriers to fish passage' document has progressively worked with owners of structures to either remove them or retrofit with fish passes.
POL 6.6.8	The Taranaki Regional Council will advocate and promote the avoidance and mitigation of the adverse effects of flooding on land use in floodplains, as a natural hazard of regional significance.	Section 3.14 describes the Council's flood protection works.
POL 6.6.9	When assessing resource consent applications for uses of river and lake beds, the Taranaki Regional Council will consider: (a) the natural, ecological and amenity values of the water bodies; (b) the relationship of Tangata Whenua with the water body; (c) adverse effects on water quality and aquatic life and instream habitat; (d) possible mitigation measures including appropriate timing of works, provision of fish passage and provision of alternative access.	This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports.
POL 6.6.10	When assessing resource consent applications for river and flood control works, the Taranaki Regional Council will consider: (a) the matters contained in Policy 6.6.9; (b) the degree of flood risk; (c) the extent and scale of the potential adverse effects of flooding; (d) the costs and benefits to people and the community; (e) the likely effectiveness of the river and flood control works and the practicality of alternative means of reducing flood risk, including the relocation of existing development or infrastructure away from areas of flooding risk; (f) any actual or potential adverse effects on the environment.	As above
Issue 6.7:	Adverse effects on the environment from land drainage	
OBJ 6.7.1	<i>To promote the sustainable management of land drainage while avoiding, remedying or mitigating actual or potential adverse effects on the environment.</i>	3.15
POL 6.7.1	Land drainage activities will be managed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment. Matters to be considered in relation to land drainage activities will include actual or potential effects on: (a) the natural character of rivers, lakes and wetlands and their margins; (b) the natural, ecological and amenity values of any water body; (c) the relationship of Tangata Whenua with the water body, particularly with taonga; (d) the frequency and magnitude of natural hazards such as flooding and erosion; (e) other water users.	This policy is considered by consent officers in the preparation of consent reports and therefore by decision makers reading those reports.
Issue 6.8:	Adverse effects of land use activities on wetlands	
OBJ 6.8.1	<i>To provide for the protection of wetlands from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</i>	3.16

OBJ 6.8.2	<i>To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of appropriate use and development of wetlands.</i>	3.16
POL 6.8.1	The Taranaki Regional Council will prohibit the diversion of water, the discharge of contaminants and the drainage or reclamation of the regionally significant wetlands listed in Appendix IIA.	These policies have only been needed on very rare occasions.
POL 6.8.2	The Taranaki Regional Council will manage the diversion of water, the discharge of contaminants and the drainage or reclamation of the regionally significant wetlands listed in Appendix IIB.	
POL 6.8.3	The Taranaki Regional Council will promote the protection of all wetlands in the Taranaki region from inappropriate use and development and the adverse effects of appropriate use and development.	Promoted through land management programme.
POL 6.8.4	When assessing resource consent applications for activities affecting wetlands, the Taranaki Regional Council will consider: (a) the natural character of wetlands and their margins; (b) the natural, ecological and amenity values of the waterbody; (c) the relationship of Tangata Whenua with the water body, particularly with taonga; (d) the significance of wetlands in buffering or augmenting flows downstream; (e) the alternatives to the activity proposed; (f) measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of the activity.	Research on the extent of non-significant wetlands is still ongoing.
POL 6.8.5	The enhancement and creation of wetland areas will be encouraged where appropriate.	Promoted through the land management officers.
POL 6.8.6	The Taranaki Regional Council will promote the integrated management of the effects of land uses on wetlands.	As above.

Appendix IV: Progress against the methods

		Implementation assessment	On track ?
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 3.1.1 to 3.1.7:		
METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan to protect the waters of the Hangatahua (Stony) River catchment.	Refer to discussion in section 2.2.1	√
METH 2	Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan to protect and enhance the natural, ecological and amenity values of fresh water.	Refer monitoring information in section 3 and discussion on the resource consent process in section 4.	√
METH 3	Promote the protection, maintenance and enhancement of the natural, ecological and amenity values of rivers, lakes, wetlands and their margins through education , the provision of information and advice and through implementation of the Taranaki Regional Council's sustainable land management programme and riparian management strategy .	Refer to section 5 for discussion on progress with non-regulatory methods and section 2.5.2 for progress with the preparation of riparian management plans.	√
METH 4	Evaluate the use of ecotyping including the use of macroinvertebrate community index data as a means of classifying rivers for targeting of management objectives.	Refer to discussion in 2.2.6. Focus has shifted to the use of the river environment classification system for selection of SOE sites.	In part
METH 5	Investigate the targeting of the Maketawa Stream catchment (excluding the Ngatoro Stream above the confluence with the Ngatoro-iti stream), with the objective of obtaining and sustaining a water quality status perceived to be of a quality which matches that of the Hangatahua (Stony) River.	Refer to discussion on section 2.2.2(b) for summary of this resource investigation.	√

METH 6	Advocate to territorial authorities that objectives, policies and methods be included in district plans to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of land uses on the natural, ecological and amenity values of rivers, lakes, wetlands and their margins.	Refer to Appendix VII for a list of documents the Council has made submissions on. Only one submission has been made on a district plan change between 1999 and 2007. All the district plans were well through their statutory planning phase before the Plan became operative. However, considerable advocacy had been carried out during their development.	In part
METH 7	Advocate to relevant agencies , the use of other legislation or mechanisms such as the Conservation Act 1987, the National Parks Act 1980, the Reserves Act 1977, the Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust Act 1977, the Forest Heritage Fund, and the Taranaki Tree Trust to protect the natural, ecological and amenity values of rivers, lakes, wetlands and their margins.	Refer to Appendix VII for a list of documents the Council has made submissions on. Land Management Officers have a good relationship with the QEII field representative, and have worked collaboratively with QEII to secure protection of regionally significant wetlands.	√
METH 8	Consider the use of economic instruments such as grants and subsidies to assist with the protection and enhancement of the natural, ecological and amenity values of fresh water.	The Environmental Enhancement Grant has been extensively used to secure protection (by way of fencing etc) for regionally significant wetlands. Refer discussion in section 2.9.2.	√
METH 9	Monitor and gather information on the state of fresh water, rivers, lakes and wetlands and their beds, and groundwater resources within the Taranaki region to enable assessment of the effectiveness of the objectives and policies of the Plan.	Section 2 of this report discusses results from the Council's state of environment monitoring and compliance monitoring.	√
METH 10	Consider during the five-year review of the Plan the inclusion of additional rivers, streams or reaches, and values in Appendix IA.	Discussed in section 2.2.2 Stakeholders are invited to make submissions any need to include additional rivers, streams, reaches or values in Appendix 1A.	To happen with this report.
The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 3.2.1 to 3.2.3:			
METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan in relation to the use and development of fresh water and the beds of rivers and lakes.	Refer monitoring information in section 2 and discussion on the resource consent process in section 3.	√
METH 2	Advocate to territorial authorities the establishment of public access to and along rivers and streams in Appendix IA, through esplanade reserves, esplanade strips or access strips following subdivision, or through other means, as appropriate.	Refer to appendix VII for a list of documents Council has made submissions on. Only one submission has been made on a district plan change between 1999 and 2007. All the district plans were well through their statutory planning phase before the Plan became operative. However, considerable advocacy had been carried out during their development.	In part

METH 3	Promote the enhancement of public access to and along rivers and lakes through agreements or covenants with landowners under the New Zealand Walkways Act 1990, the Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust Act 1977, or through the voluntary creation of esplanade strips under the Resource Management Act 1991.	Refer to 2.10 for discussion on public access	in part
METH 4	Recognise and promote the provision of public access to and along rivers and lakes in the implementation of the Taranaki Regional Council's riparian management strategy and in the preparation of riparian management Plans in conjunction with landowners, where appropriate.	The provision of public access to and along rivers through the riparian management programme has not been actively promoted. It is considered that to do so would jeopardise landowners uptake of the programme given more recent public debate surrounding access to private land.	X
The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 4.1.1 to 4.1.6:			
METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan to recognise and provide for the relationship of Tangata Whenua with their water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga.	Refer monitoring information in section 2 and discussion on the resource consent process in section 3.	√
METH 2	Consult with Iwi and hapu with regard to the identification of places of special cultural and traditional value associated with fresh water and river and lake beds, as appropriate, with the aim of ensuring these values are recognised and provided for in the resource consent process and, where appropriate, these places and values are adequately protected from the adverse effects of activities.	Refer to discussion in section 3.7 on analysis of Iwi involvement in resource consents.	√

METH 3	<p>In accordance with the Taranaki Regional Council's Resource Consents Procedures Document, provide full opportunity for Tangata Whenua to participate in the resource consent process by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) encouraging consent applicants to provide information to, and consult with, Iwi, hapu or whanau groups in relation to resource consent applications for activities within the rohe of those groups that may affect them; (b) requiring applicants for non-notified resource consent applications to obtain the written approval of affected Iwi or hapu, where appropriate and in accordance with this Plan; (c) notifying affected Iwi of all notified resource consent applications for activities in fresh water; (d) providing adequate information and technical advice to assist with the preparation of submissions by Iwi, hapu or whanau, when required; (e) arranging and facilitating pre-hearing meetings between consent applicants and members of Iwi, hapu or whanau affected by the consent proposal, where appropriate; (f) contracting as may be appropriate, representatives of Iwi or hapu to supply information, provide representative views and undertake specific research work in relation to particular resource consent applications; and (g) extending consent application time limits when appropriate, to enable adequate consultation and possible resolution of issues. 	<p>Refer to discussion in 3.7 on Iwi involvement in consents. Section 2.11 notes progress with relationships between Council and Tangata Whenua, particularly as cemented through MOUs. Statutory acknowledgements are a part of the <i>Fresh Water Plan</i>.</p>	√
METH 4	<p>Provide for Tikanga Maori in the hearings process by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provision of interpretation services for the presentation of evidence in Te Reo Maori; (b) holding pre-hearing meetings and hearings on Marae at the request of affected Iwi or hapu with the agreement of the applicant; and (c) public exclusion from hearings and restrictions on the publication of evidence when this is necessary to avoid offence to Tikanga Maori and the disclosure of the location of wāhi tapu. 	<p>The Council's procedures for hearings allow for the provision of interpretation services and these are offered whenever Iwi are presenting evidence. Council frequently holds pre-hearing meetings and hearings on marae, e.g. hearings for the Pohakura were held on Owae marae in Waitara.</p>	√
METH 5	<p>Support Iwi or hapu initiatives to identify wāhi tapu and sites or features of historical or cultural significance associated with fresh water, and the development of wāhi tapu inventory, 'silent files' and Iwi Planning documents by providing planning assistance and investigating funding options on a case by case basis.</p>	2.11	√
METH 6	<p>Encourage Iwi or hapu participation in environmental monitoring with respect to fresh water, including input into the design of monitoring programmes and involvement in monitoring activities, where appropriate.</p>	<p>So far there has been little involvement of Iwi with monitoring fresh water consents. However, the opportunity is always there.</p>	X

	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 5.1.1 and 5.1.2:		
METH 1	<p>Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan to allow, regulate or prohibit the following activities:</p> <p>(a) taking, use, damming and diversion of surface water; (b) discharges of contaminants to land and water; (c) use of groundwater; (d) use, maintenance, removal and placement of structures; (e) removal and introduction of plants; (f) other uses of river and lake beds; (g) land drainage; (h) drainage and reclamation of, and diversion of water from regionally significant wetlands.</p>	Refer to discussion on processing resource consents in section 3, managing consents in section 4 and reviewing regional rules in section 5.	√
METH 2	<p>Consider policies in Parts Two and Three of this Plan relevant to the activity, together with Part II and section 104 of the Act as the primary assessment criteria when:</p> <p>(a) considering whether or not to grant a resource consent for a discretionary or non-complying activity; and (b) considering the conditions to set on a resource consent for controlled, discretionary or non-complying activities.</p>	The Council's Resource Consents procedure Document directs consent officers to analyse the policies in the Plan during the preparation of their officer's reports. This is standard procedure.	√
METH 3	Provide information and advice on appropriate methods to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects of the use and development of fresh water and the beds of rivers and lakes.	Refer to section 5.1 for discussion on Council's education, information and advice programmes.	√
METH 4	Support initiatives by resource users to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of the use and development of fresh water and river and lake beds, including the preparation of guidelines or codes of practice .	Council supports the use of industry initiatives, e.g. the Fertiliser Code of Practice.	√
METH 5	Apply the enforcement provisions of the Act to require compliance with the provisions of this Plan.	Refer to section 3.12 for a discussion of Council's enforcement procedures and outcomes.	√
METH 6	Monitor and gather information on the use of fresh water, rivers, lakes and wetlands and their beds within the Taranaki region and the benefits to people, communities and the environment from such use.	Section 2 discusses results from the Council's state of environment monitoring and compliance monitoring of consented and permitted activities.	√
METH 7	Implement other methods contained in Section 6 of this Plan as are relevant to the use and development of fresh water and river and lake beds.		
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.1.1 to 6.1.9:		
METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan, to allow, regulate or prohibit the taking, use, damming or diversion of surface water.	Refer monitoring information in section 2 and discussion on the resource consent process in section 3.	√

METH 2	Promote the conservation and efficiency of use of surface water through the resource consents process and through education and the provision of information and advice.	The Council's guide to surface water availability and allocation in Taranaki promotes the wise use of water and managing adverse effects. The guideline to surface water availability also contains standard conditions used for water take consents. This includes a requirement that the consent holder shall adopt the best practicable option to prevent or minimise any actual or likely adverse effect on the environment, including the efficient and conservative use of water (p.14).	√
METH 3	Encourage water harvesting and the use of storage or impoundments to store water at times of high river flow.	Promoted as a 'good practice tip' in the 'Guide to surface water availability and allocation in Taranaki.'	√
METH 4	Promote the use of alternative sources of water, including groundwater or rainwater, to maintain or enhance surface water levels and flows.	Council officers provide informal advice to applicants when they enquire.	√
METH 5	Promote the adoption of water saving practices and the use of water saving devices and water metering .	The standard conditions outlined in the surface water guideline includes a requirement that the consent holder shall maintain a water meter for the purposes of recording the abstraction.	√
METH 6	Encourage , or when appropriate, require water audits by water users or suppliers, to identify water losses or wastage or opportunities to conserve or use water more efficiently.	Encouraged through the 'Guide to surface water availability and allocation in Taranaki'.	√
METH 7	Monitor and gather information , and if necessary measure abstractions of surface water in the region, and flows in rivers and streams.	Refer section 2 for state of environment monitoring information and section 6.5 for discussion on resource investigation on water availability.	√
METH 8	Liase with water users prior to and during low flow periods regarding restrictions on water use and to promote the efficient use of water.	The guidelines outline the Council's procedure for dealing with water shortage events. The Council has also prepared a Water Shortage Event Standard Operating Procedure. As a water shortage event happens there is a sequence of steps, and specific Council actions for each step (p 15 of guidelines).	√
METH 9	Investigate the methods (such as contingency plans or response strategies) by which the Taranaki Regional Council might address an actual or potential water shortage event.	The Council has prepared a Water Shortage Event Standard Operating Procedure. As a water shortage event happens there is a sequence of steps, and specific Council actions for each step (p 15 of guidelines).	√
METH 10	Promote or undertake research into methods of water allocation, the setting of water levels and flows and the conservation and more efficient use of water.	Refer section 6 describing resource investigations into water allocation and availability of water.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.2.1 to 6.2.7:		

METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in Section 7 of this Plan, to allow, regulate or prohibit point-source discharges of contaminants or water into water and/or into or onto land where the discharge may have an adverse effect on water.	Refer monitoring information in section 2 and discussion on the resource consent process in section 3.	√
METH 2	Have regard to water quality guidelines contained in Appendix V of this Plan when assessing applications for resource consents to discharge contaminants to water or land.	Consent officers consider these in the preparation of officer's reports. There is a standard set of conditions for dairy discharge to water that reflect the standards/terms and conditions of the controlled rules.	√
METH 3	Encourage the adoption of waste minimisation or reduction practices to reduce the quantity of contaminants being discharged to the environment.	A number of larger point source consents are required to adopt waste minimisation practices.	√
METH 4	Apply , where appropriate, in conjunction with the objectives, policies and rules in this plan, the best practicable option for preventing or minimising any actual or potential adverse effect on the environment of any discharge of a contaminant or water to water or into or onto land.	Every discharge consent requires the consent holder to adopt the best practicable option for minimising adverse effects on the environment.	√
METH 5	Consider the use of riparian planting as a means to mitigate the effects of point-source discharges, where appropriate.	Sometimes considered but rarely implemented. See section 3.9.1 for discussion.	X
METH 6	Support the preparation and implementation of codes of practice and guidelines by industry aimed at reducing the effects of point-source discharges, and support their implementation and adoption where appropriate.	Industry codes of practice supported.	
METH 7	Promote or require in relation to soil disturbance activities , adherence to recognised or accepted industry guidelines or codes of practice .	Council has developed guidelines for earthworks that set out best practice for this activity (see Appendix VIII)	√
METH 8	Promote the continued improvement of the management of all farm dairy waste treatment and land application systems, with an inspection, advice and monitoring focus on those systems which are performing poorly.	Council has a comprehensive programme for the consenting, monitoring and enforcement of farm dairy discharges.	√
METH 9	Apply conditions on discharge permits to require the preparation of contaminant spill contingency plans .	Contaminant spill contingency plans are an integrated tool in the Council's efforts to prevent or mitigate spills. As at 30 June 2007 a total of 320 contingency plans are operational. Of these, 304 are prepared by resource consent holders as a condition of their consents and another 16 have been prepared voluntarily. In 2006/07 Council officers reviewed 30 existing contingency plans to ensure they continue to be relevant.	√
METH 10	Advocate , as appropriate, for territorial authorities to construct and upgrade stormwater reticulation systems and wastewater treatment systems where urban development makes such an upgrade desirable.	Council has advocated for the improvement of stormwater and wastewater discharges. E.g. have worked with South Taranaki on improving their stormwater infiltration, have encouraged the removal of the Eltham and Inglewood wastewater discharges from freshwater.	√

METH 11	Promote or undertake research into methods of water quality management.	Section 2.3 lists specific resource investigations undertaken.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.3.1-6.3.4:		
METH 1	Promote , through the Taranaki Regional Council's sustainable land management programme , sustainable land use practices, that will avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of diffuse source discharges.	Council's riparian plan preparation and hill country farm plans promote sustainable land use practices that improve the management of diffuse source discharges.	√
METH 2	Promote the planting and appropriate management of riparian margins through the implementation of the Taranaki Regional Council's riparian management strategy , including the preparation of riparian management plans in conjunction with landowners.	See section 3.10 for discussion on progress with riparian plans.	√
METH 3	Support the preparation and adoption of codes of practice by industry aimed at reducing diffuse source discharges, and support their implementation and adoption where appropriate.	Council supports the use of Fertiliser code of practice and agricultural codes of practice, and provides such advice to callers.	√
METH 4	Support the preparation and adoption by the agricultural sector of codes of practice and farm standards for quality assurance schemes to reduce diffuse source discharges.	As above.	√
METH 5	Continue to support the work of the Taranaki Tree Trust.	Council supports the work of the Taranaki Tree Trust through supplying a part time coordinator and a grant every year.	√
METH 6	Consider the use of economic instruments for the promotion of riparian retirement and planting.	Council, through its support of the Taranaki Tree Trust work has encouraged and facilitated the use of grants to assist landowners with riparian planting.	√
METH 7	As part of the preparation of a Regional Soil Plan for Taranaki , include objectives, policies and methods to address vegetation disturbance issues that may give rise to the discharge of diffuse source contaminants.	Regional Soil Plan prepared	√
METH 8	Advocate to territorial authorities that policies, rules and guidelines be included in district plans and that conditions on resource consents be imposed, to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of land use activities and management practices on water quality.	See appendix VII	√
METH 9	Advocate and promote through district plans, resource consents and voluntary agreements, the retention or planting of riparian vegetation, including through district rules for the creation of esplanade reserves, esplanade strips and access strips when land is subdivided.	As above.	√
METH 10	Prepare guidelines on principles and practices of riparian management including planting, fencing and management.	See list of guidelines produced on riparian management in Appendix VI.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.4.1-6.4.3:		

METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in section 7 of this Plan to regulate or allow the taking and use of groundwater.	Refer section 3.11	√
METH 2	Promote through education, information and advice , conservation and efficiency of use of groundwater resources.	Undertaken by Council officers.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.5.1-6.5.5:		
METH1	Apply regional rules contained in section 7 of this Plan to allow or regulate the drilling and/or construction of bores and wells and the discharge of contaminants to groundwater by deep-well injection.	Refer section 3.11	√
METH 2	Require that bore completion logs be prepared for all bores in the region and for wells over 10 metres in depth. The information to be provided with a bore completion log will include: (a) location and bore owner; (b) drillers' log; (c) length and placement of casing and screens; (d) bore or well capacity and pump information; (e) standing water-level and any aquifer observations.	Not all bore owners are providing Council with the bore completion log. Council plans to better educate/inform bore drillers of the need to provide this information.	in part
METH 3	Require deepwell injectors and other point-source discharges that have a risk of adversely affecting the quality of actual or potential water supply aquifers, to demonstrate how this risk will be reduced to levels that are not significant.	Required through the consenting process.	√
METH 4	Prepare guidelines as a means of providing advice and avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of activities on groundwater, including information on: (a) drilling of wells and bores, including the preparation of bore completion logs; (b) construction or alteration of wells and bores; (c) abandonment of old, damaged or unused wells and bores; (d) permitted point-source discharges; (e) control of regulated point-source discharges, eg land application of effluent; and (f) management of diffuse source discharges.	The Council has prepared a number of guidelines to the regional plans to provide guidance for these activities (refer Appendix VI).	√
METH 5	Provide advice, information and technical assistance on appropriate methods of well or bore construction, maintenance, alteration, or abandonment and methods of avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of these activities.	Council officers provide advice, information and technical assistance on these matters.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.6.1-6.6.10:		

METH 1	<p>Apply regional rules contained in section 7 of this Plan to allow, regulate or prohibit the following activities:</p> <p>(a) placement, maintenance and removal of structures;</p> <p>(b) removal and introduction of Plants;</p> <p>(c) other uses of river and lake beds, including extraction of gravel and sand.</p>	Refer section 3.13	√
METH 2	<p>Provide advice, information and technical assistance on appropriate methods of avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of flooding and erosion and effects on water quality, aquatic life, instream values and other uses, resulting from river and lake bed uses, including advice on:</p> <p>(a) the placement, maintenance and removal of structures;</p> <p>(b) the provision of effective fish passage facilities;</p> <p>(c) the need for, and likely effectiveness of, river control works and erosion protection structures;</p> <p>(d) the need for, and likely effectiveness of, removing obstructions and vegetation that could cause flooding or erosion.</p>	The Council has prepared an information booklet on the importance of providing fish passage and a fact sheet on stream crossings (see Appendix VI). Council consent officers constantly provide advice over the phone on these matters. Land Management Officers provide this information to landowners on a daily basis.	√
METH 3	<p>Promote the retirement, establishment or planting of riparian margins as an appropriate method for avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of erosion on the banks of rivers and lakes.</p>	The sustainable land management riparian programme promotes these through the establishment of riparian plans.	√
METH 4	<p>Prepare guidelines as a means of providing advice, including guidelines on:</p> <p>(a) maintenance of structures;</p> <p>(b) removal, demolition or decommissioning of structures;</p> <p>(c) permitted access structures ie, culverts, bridges, fords;</p> <p>(d) permitted barrier structures ie, dams and weirs.</p>	The Council has prepared guidelines (refer Appendix VI).	√
METH 5	<p>Monitor and gather information on structures within river and lake beds and provision of fish passage.</p>	Fish passage monitoring is part of structure monitoring programmes (refer section 3.13)	√
METH 6	<p>Examine unused structures and promote, facilitate, require and/or undertake, as appropriate, the removal or decommissioning of such structures, provided the benefits outweigh the disadvantages, taking into account any potential adverse effects.</p>	The Council is progressively working through the structures identified in the Dams, Weirs and other Barriers to Fish Passage through its programme of fish pass restoration.	√
METH 7	<p>Provide advice to territorial authorities on land use consent and subdivision applications for activities in floodplains notified to the Taranaki Regional Council, with respect to known or likely flood hazards and levels of the land in question and the potential effects of stormwater drainage on river flows and downstream flood and erosion hazards.</p>	The Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan outlines flood hazard areas etc. The Council also has flood hazard maps etc.	√
METH 8	<p>Advocate to territorial authorities that provisions be included in district plans with respect to the avoidance of flood hazards from subdivision, use and development in floodplains, and the retention of existing forest cover and the reforestation of upper catchment areas as a component of flood and erosion management.</p>	The Council advocates for this through submissions on district plans (refer Appendix VII). The Regional Policy Statement sets out requirements that district councils have to give effect to.	√

METH 9	Provide advice to people and organisations on request , in relation to known or likely flood hazards in floodplains, in terms of the known or likely flood levels within these areas.	Council provides advice on an ongoing basis.	√
METH 10	Promote the retention of existing forest cover and the reforestation of upper catchment areas as a component of flood and erosion management.	The retention of existing forest cover, particularly in the hill country, is a key component of the sustainable land management programme through the development of comprehensive farm plans.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policy 6.7.1:		
METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in section 7 of this Plan to allow, regulate or prohibit the following activities: (a) diversion of water for land drainage purposes; (b) realignment and modification, or drainage and reclamation of river and lake beds;	Refer section 3.15	√
METH 2	Provide advice, information and technical assistance on land drainage activities including drain construction and maintenance, and mechanisms for protecting wetlands.	Consent officers provide advice and information on the phone. Land Management Officers provide land owners with information informally on a daily basis and formally through the preparation of property plans.	√
	The Taranaki Regional Council will use the following methods to implement Policies 6.8.1-6.8.6:		
METH 1	Apply regional rules contained in section 7 of this Plan, to regulate or prohibit activities in regionally significant wetlands.	Refer section 3.16	√
METH 2	Promote the protection of remnant wetlands in Taranaki, with a priority on regionally significant wetlands, through fencing, riparian planting and formal protection mechanisms.	The Council has worked with owners of regionally significant wetlands to increase the number with formal protection mechanisms (refer section 3.16)	√
METH 3	Promote the protection of wetlands and wetland values through education and the provision of information and advisory services , including through the Taranaki Regional Council's sustainable land management advisory services.	Consent officers provide advice and information on the phone. Land Management Officers provide land owners with information informally on a daily basis and formally through the preparation of property plans.	√
METH 4	Maintain a schedule of wetland sites under 5 hectares that contain nationally or regionally rare, threatened or uncommon indigenous flora or fauna and promote their protection through rules in the Plan and through other, voluntary, methods in conjunction with landowners.	The Council has maintained a schedule of such wetlands through the regionally significant wetland programme (refer to TRC Dec 2005, the inventory of regionally significant wetlands).	√
METH 5	Provide advice, information and technical assistance on Taranaki's wetlands and options for protecting them eg, fencing, riparian planting and covenanting.	The Council has produced an information booklet on the importance of wetlands, entitled 'Wetlands of Taranaki' (ref Appendix VI)	√

METH 6	Prepare guidelines on: (a) principles and practices of riparian management; (b) mechanisms for protecting wetlands.	Refer list of guidelines produced (Appendix VI)	√
METH 7	Advocate to relevant agencies, the use of other legislation or mechanisms such as the Conservation Act 1987, the National Parks Act 1980, the Reserves Act 1977, the Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust Act 1977, the Forest Heritage Fund and the Taranaki Tree Trust, to protect wetlands.	Refer list of advocacy undertaken in Appendix VII	√
METH 8	Consider the use of economic instruments , such as grants and subsidies , to assist with the protection of wetlands on privately owned land with a priority on regionally significant wetlands.	The Council use the environmental enhancement grant to assist with the protection of regionally significant wetlands.	√
METH 9	Advocate to territorial authorities that policies, rules and guidelines be included in district plans to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of land use activities and management practices on wetlands.	Refer list of advocacy undertaken in Appendix VII	√
METH 3	Prepare guidelines on permitted land drainage activities, including procedures to be followed upon the discovery of taonga.	Guidelines produced for earthworks. (Oct 2006).	√

Appendix V: Internal audit of fresh water management in Taranaki.

Table 1: Adequacy of Taranaki Regional Council planning documents

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance	
Do planning documents provide guidance?	Are regional plans useable?	Clearly outline water management problems & issues	YES
		Clearly outline objectives	YES
		Clearly outline policies, methods & rules	YES
		Transparent flow from issues to objectives, policies, methods & environmental results anticipated	YES
		Staff able to describe how issues will be addressed & there are processes for following issues through to policies & methods	YES - Plans also supported by procedure documents & user guides. Training & information dissemination also undertaken
		Objectives & environmental results anticipated are linked to procedures monitoring effectiveness of plans	IN PART - Objectives are goal type statements. They guide policy. ERAs often repeat the objective. Some objectives & ERAs may be difficult to measure
	Have environmental values been identified?	Scientific studies & consultation undertaken	YES
		Environmental values are specific	YES
		Environmental values are included in the plan	YES
		Clear to stakeholders the environmental values for specific water bodies	YES - waterways & wetlands with regionally significant values identified in Plan & other supporting information
Do the planning documents set a water	Scientifically & legally sound	YES	

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
	allocation framework?	techniques for setting aside minimum flows to protect identified environmental values
	Resource consent conditions set that reflect minimum flows	YES
	Plan is clear how much water is available for use for specific water bodies	IN PART - consents to take water are considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with plan policies & criteria addressing water allocation. Hydrological characteristics & demands on individual water bodies vary too much (& change over time) for the Plan to specify how much water is available for individual catchments. Water allocation guidelines have been prepared that addresses such information for 38 catchments in the Taranaki region
	Do the planning documents address water quality issues?	Water quality standards are set where appropriate
	Plan makes it clear where future discharges will be allowed	YES - water quality standard guidelines & good practice guidelines are presented in the Plan's appendices. Policies relating to point source discharges also set out narrative standards
	Regional Council does not allow discharges to breach sections 70 & 107 of the Act	YES - there are no restrictions on where discharges are allowed except in those situations where rules prohibit discharges
		YES - by way of conditions & standards in the Plan & conditions on resource consents

Assessment questions		Assessment criteria	Performance
	Do the planning documents explain the roles & responsibilities of the Regional Council & the territorial authorities?	Expectation for territorial authorities & land use controls are clear	YES - RPS specifies methods for territorial authorities to consider to achieve objectives for water management
		Formal agreement between Regional Council & territorial authorities on responsibilities	YES - protocols with territorial authorities for resolving cross-boundary issues
Objectives, policies, methods & ERA meet best practice	Are objectives measurable?	Objectives set a clear direction & guide policy	IN PART - objectives are goal type statements. They guide policy. Some objectives may be difficult to measure depending upon the effects being considered
	Do policies specify a course of action?	Policies flow from objectives	YES
		Policies deal with existing uses & potential future uses	YES
		Policies provide guidance when processing resource consents	YES
	Do methods include a range of regulatory methods, education initiatives & economic instruments?	Range of methods dealing with existing activities & potential future uses	YES - rules target point source discharges & water allocation supported by other methods. Riparian management programme addresses diffuse source discharges from intensive agricultural land supported by other non-regulatory methods. Financial incentives also available for wetland protection & removal of fish barriers
Are the environmental results anticipated achievable within the life of the planning documents?	Specify & set targets for what will be achieved over the period covered by the planning documents	IN PART - planning documents often repeat the objectives & do not have timetables associated with them. However, there are supporting	

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
		documents & timeframes underpinning objectives & ERAs eg, Riparian Programme
Planning documents comply with RMA requirements	Do the planning documents describe how policies & methods will be monitored for effectiveness & efficiency?	Planning documents state how policies & methods will be monitored for effectiveness & efficiency
		Each policy & method has a specific monitoring approach
		Systems in place so that lessons learned can be carried through to the next plan
	Have Iwi Management plans been taken into account in the planning documents?	Iwi management plans taken into account & evidence of Iwi consultation
		Cultural monitoring considered where Iwi expressed desire for such monitoring
		Plan methods for joint monitoring with tangata whenua being implemented
		Staff have an appreciation of Iwi issues, needs & values
		YES - includes a section identifying key monitoring programmes for assessing the effectiveness of the Plan
		IN PART - monitoring section in the plan is not directly linked to measuring the achievements of the objectives or ERAs. However, state of the environment programmes & reports address most of the policies & methods identified
		YES - regular & comprehensive monitoring & procedures for undertaking 5-yearly reviews. File maintained on possible changes to be considered for next Plan
		YES - no Iwi management plans in Taranaki. Iwi consultation during development of the Plan documented in officer & hearing committee reports
		YES
		YES
		YES - policies set out in policy documents, including declaration of understanding & code of conduct set out in the RPS. Further guidance

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
		provided in procedure documents & staff training provided as required
	Staff & councillors trained to recognise activities that may have implications for tangata whenua	YES - see comments above

Table 2: Implementation of policies and methods by the Taranaki Regional Council

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
Regional & district councils to work together	Does the Regional Council & territorial authorities work together to manage water resources?	Planning framework for the Regional Council and the territorial authorities to work together to manage water resources implemented
		Territorial authorities notify the Regional Council of publicly notified resource consents
Regulatory methods, education initiatives, & economic	Have regulatory methods specified in planning documents for water quality been implemented?	Regulatory methods implemented
		Regulatory methods effective

Assessment questions		Assessment criteria	Performance
	Have regulatory methods specified in planning documents for water allocation been implemented?	Regulatory methods implemented	YES - Plan prepared with policy guidance for resource consent applications to take water in terms of adverse effects to be addressed, the amount of water that can be taken & water allocation priorities. Compliance with consent conditions achieved through a comprehensive compliance & enforcement regime. See Table 1 for further information on water allocation planning
		Regulatory methods effective	YES - state of the environment monitoring indicates that most rivers and streams have further water available for further consumptive uses at mean annual low flow while maintaining the life-supporting capacity of the water
	Have education initiatives been implemented?	Education initiatives implemented, or provision made to implement initiative	YES - all education initiatives implemented in full or part. It includes school educational programmes, the preparation of guidelines & the implementation of the riparian and sustainable land management programmes
	Have economic instruments identified in planning documents been implemented	Economic instruments implemented	YES - environmental enhancement grants provided for wetland protection & removal of fish barriers
	Have policies for increasing Maori participation & protecting mauri been implemented	Iwi consulted about resource consent applications for activities with effects of concern to Maori	YES

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
	Staff & councillors trained to recognise activities that may have implications for Maori, & to discharge their obligations in a manner that recognises the special interest of Maori	YES - policies set out in policy documents, including declaration of understanding & code of conduct set out in the RPS. Further guidance provided in procedure documents & staff training in encouraged
Is there a system in place to ensure policies & methods are implemented	Systems in place to ensure policies & methods are implemented	YES - implementation factored in to the LTCCP & annual plans as appropriate. Progress on implementation is reviewed after 5 years of the planning documents becoming operative. Of note 100% of RPS methods have been implemented while a majority of the majority of the policies & plans set out in the Plan have also been implemented

Table 3: Monitoring performed by the Taranaki Regional Council

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance	
Planning monitoring activities, & managing & sharing data	Is monitoring planned?	YES - state of the environment monitoring closely linked with issues, objectives, policies & ERAs raised in planning documents	
	Clear strategies for state of the environment, compliance, & effectiveness & efficiency monitoring	YES - clear strategies for state of the environment and compliance monitoring backed up by procedure documents. Performance targets for compliance monitoring are also set out in the Council's Annual Plan. Commitment to monitoring effectiveness & efficiency of planning documents is set out in those documents. The Council's state of the environment monitoring is reviewed annually	
	Is data managed & shared?	Monitoring information is in a useful & accessible form for all Regional Council staff who require it	YES - Compliance monitoring information is maintained on the Council's database & is readily access to all staff across all departments. Improvements in trend analysis of state of the environment data being investigated
		Opportunities are explored to share information with other agencies	YES - there is frequent collaboration between the Regional Council & other agencies on sharing information of mutual interest. Examples include identification of coastal sites of value, the development of the Xplorer website & the regular exchange of information

Assessment questions		Assessment criteria	Performance
			maintained by the respective parties
State of the environment monitoring	What water quantity monitoring is done?	There is regular state of the environment water quantity monitoring	YES - river levels & flows monitored. Maximum takes are set through the resource consents process. Recent consents require water take information to be supplied by water users. Annual report on water allocation & use prepared
	What water quality monitoring is done?	There is regular state of the environment water quality monitoring of appropriate parameters at sites representative of the region	YES - extensive physicochemical, biological & bacteriological monitoring at representative sites throughout the region
		There are benchmarks for assessing water quality	YES - the Regional Council uses a number of benchmarks including ANZECC guidelines to assess water quality for contact recreation, aquatic ecology & stock water
		State of the environment data is analysed to determine trends in water quality	YES - Data is collated, analysed & annually reported. The five year State of the Environment Report also includes such information
Compliance monitoring	Is compliance with resource consent conditions monitored?	Resource consents contain conditions that can be monitored & enforced	YES
		Resource consents are monitored	YES
		Resource consent data is analysed to determine compliance	YES

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
Monitoring planning & effectiveness of policies & methods in planning documents monitored?	Specific monitoring approach for each policy & method & which are linked to objectives & ERAs in planning documents to determine their effectiveness & efficiency	IN PART - efficiency & effectiveness of planning documents prepared every five years to assess implementation of policies & methods & their effectiveness in terms of the environmental outcomes achieved. However, this monitoring is not targeted to specific policies, methods or ERAs that are specified in the planning documents
Monitoring water bathing, including rivers, monitored?	Participate in monitoring water quality at bathing beaches, including rivers	YES - the Regional Council monitors bathing standards at popular coastal & river sites. Up-to-date information is maintained on the Council's database.
Iwi involvement in monitoring	Cultural monitoring is considered where Iwi had expressed a desire for it & policies & methods involving joint monitoring with tangata whenua are implemented	IN PART - provision for such monitoring is provided for in planning documents. On a case-by-case basis, Iwi representatives may be involved in compliance monitoring & results reported to Iwi. However, the Regional Council does not operate programmes for monitoring cultural values

Table 4: Responses to monitoring and the provision of information by the Taranaki Regional Council

Assessment questions	Assessment criteria	Performance
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Assessment questions		Assessment criteria	Performance
Responding to non-compliance with resource	Are the enforcement options under the RMA applied?	Policies developed & applied in relation to enforcement action	YES - well established protocols & procedure documents relating to enforcement, including reporting requirements
		Regional Council takes enforcement action for serious non-compliance	YES - this may involve warnings, the issue of abatement notices & infringement notices, enforcement orders or prosecution
Responding to complaints & environmental incidents	Are procedures in place for responding to complaints?	Procedures are in place to respond to complaints	YES - pollution hotline. The Regional Council's has well established protocols & procedure documents relating to enforcement, including reporting requirements & the Annual Plan sets targets for responding to public complaints
	Are causes for complaints investigated?	Causes of complaints are responded to	YES - all pollution incidents investigated & responded to. Procedures include reporting back to complainants & the Council on the result of any investigations
	Is action taken to prevent further incidents & address adverse environmental effects?	Action is taken to prevent repeat pollution incidents & address their adverse effects	YES - see comments above
		Enforcement action is taken when necessary	YES - see comments above
Responding to incidents	Is monitoring information used to inform management action?	Programmes & budgets are put in place as issues are identified	YES - examples include applied research & education initiatives in response to new information eg, soil health, water allocation guidelines

Assessment questions		Assessment criteria	Performance
		Monitoring data is analysed, reported & acted upon	YES - see earlier comments on monitoring
		Plan changes are undertaken as required.	YES - no changes to policy documents necessary to date. However, processes are in place to review issues & identify possible changes to future documents
Information provided to the community	How accurate & understandable is the information that is provided to the community?	Information on water quality & quantity in the region is accurate & made available to the community in an understandable form	YES - eg, state of the environment reports, website. Also responsive to requests for information
		The Regional Council publicly reports on whether objectives & ERAs have been achieved	IN PART - Regional Council reports broadly on issues in its state of the environment report & interim review reports for plans. However, the Council does not directly link & report publicly its monitoring against all objectives & ERAs

Appendix VI: Guidelines and information sheets

Guidelines

- A Guide to Regional Plans in Taranaki for dairy, sheep and beef farming activities
- A Guide to Regional Plans in Taranaki for local government and utility operators
- A Guide to Regional Plans in Taranaki for oil and gas exploration and production activities
- A Guide to Regional Plans in Taranaki for small industrial and manufacturing businesses
- Environmental Management Guide: A guide for business and industry to improve environmental performance and prevent pollution.
- Guidelines for the control of drilling waste disposal onto and into land
- Guidelines for Earthworks in the Taranaki Region [October 2006]
- A guide to surface water availability and allocation in Taranaki [April 2005]
- Design, construction and maintenance guidelines for the oxidation pond treatment of dairy shed and feedpad wastes.
- Design, construction and maintenance guidelines for the spray irrigation of dairy shed waste.
- Looking after your household sewerage system.
- Hearings for Resource Consents under the Resource Management Act: A Guide for Regional Council Staff
- Hearings for Resource Consents under the Resource Management Act: A Guide for Applicants and Submitters
- Hearings for Resource Consents under the Resource Management Act: A Guide for Committee Members

Information sheets

- Applying for a resource consent: a guide for applicants
- Making a submission: a guide for submitters
- Pre-hearing meetings and hearings: a guide for applicants and submitters
- Culverts
- Road culvert maintenance
- Bridges
- Discharge of stormwater from wellsites
- Flaring of petroleum from exploration or production activities
- Guidelines for clean-fill disposal
- Diverting rivers and streams
- Air quality guidelines for automotive spray painting
- Guidelines for locating and constructing a groundwater well or a bore

- Stream crossings: Farm bridges and culverts benefit both your business and the environment.
- Sustainable Land Management Information Sheet : Fresh Water Plan – rules which affect farm dams
- Sustainable Land Management Information Sheet: Fresh Water Plan – rules which affect farm activities in riverbeds
- Wetlands

Riparian information sheets:

- Riparian Management Guide
- Why manage stream banks – The importance of riparian management (#21)
- Why manage stream banks ? – The benefits of riparian management (#22)
- General principles and practices of riparian management (#23)
- Riparian fencing options and costs (#24)
- Plants for riparian margins (#25)
- Establishing riparian vegetation (#26)
- Maintaining riparian vegetation (#27)
- Maintaining channels and floodplains (#28)
- Spraying for weed control in riparian margins (#29)
- Trapping and poisoning for pest control in riparian margins (#30)

Information booklets:

- Investing in our banks: The benefits of riparian management
- Rights of Passage: Removing the Barriers for our Fresh Water Fish
- Wetlands of Taranaki

Appendix VII: Advocacy to other agencies

Financial year	Agency	Document submitted on
2007/08	Stratford District Council	Proposed District Plan (Plan Change 14 and 15) (Nov 07)
	Ministry of Consumer Affairs	Proposed Implementation of Mandatory Water Efficiency Labelling – Discussion document for consultation under the Fair Trading Act 1986 (Aug 07)
	Maritime NZ	Urenui River – proposal to remove permanent speed uplifting (Aug 07)
	South Taranaki District Council	Rotokare Scenic Reserve Draft Management Plan (Aug 07)
	South Taranaki District Council	Plan Change 10: Scheduled Rivers and Streams (Feb 08)
2006/07	LG & Environment Committee Secretariat	Waste Minimisation (Solids) Bill (July 2006)
	Standards, Working with LG Ministry for the Environment	National Implementation Plan – Persistent Organic Pollutants (July 2006)
	Department of Building and Housing	Dam Safety Regulations under the Building Act 2004 (Aug 06)
	Ministry of Fisheries	Proposed purpose to allow for taking of aquatic life to relocate it elsewhere (Oct 06)
	MAF	Building resilience – a review of the on-farm adverse events recovery framework (Oct 06)
	New Plymouth District Council	Application by Dow AgroSciences (NZ) Ltd re the operation of the existing secure waste containment facility on land at the Waireka Research Station, Omata. (Oct 06)
	Maori Land Court	Application under s.48 of the Act by Kanihi Umutahi me etahi Hapu for a customary rights order (Nov 06)
	NPDC	RMA 1991: Section 96 requirement to designate land for the NP WWTP (Nov 06)
	Ministry for the Environment	Proposed Environmental Standard for Water Measuring Devices – Discussion Document (Feb 07)
	Ministry for the Environment	Working towards a comprehensive policy framework for managing contaminated land in New Zealand (Feb 07)
	NPDC	New Plymouth's Land Supply Review (May 2007)
2005/06	MfE	Proposed National Environmental Standard for Human Drinking-water Sources (Oct 2005)
	Stratford District Council	Proposed Stratford District Trade Waste Bylaw (November 2005)
	NZ Historic Places Trust	Draft Guide to Heritage Provisions: Dangerous Earthquake Prone, Insanitary Buildings and Dangerous Dams Policies Building Act 2004 (March 06)
	New Plymouth District Council	Draft NPDC Structure Plans for Urenui and Oakura (March 06)
	South Taranaki District Council	Proposed Ten Year Plan (May 2006)
	New Plymouth District Council	Proposed ten year community Plan (May 2006)
2004/05	LGNZ	Overseas Investment (Queen's Chain Extension) Amendment Bill Questionnaire (September 2004)
	MfE	Proposed national environmental standards – raw drinking water sources (September 2004)
	MfE	Fresh Water for a sustainable future: Issues and Options (March 2005)
	South Taranaki District Council	Operative South Taranaki District Plan: Submission on Plan Change 1: Subdivision (March 2005)
	Education and Science Committee Secretariat	Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Approvals and Enforcement) Amendment Bill (April 2005)
	New Plymouth District Council	Draft Waste Management Plan for the NP District (April 2005)
	Stratford District Council	Stratford and District assessment of water & sanitary services (May 2005)
	South Taranaki District Council	South Taranaki District: Plan change 1: Subdivision (June 2005)
	South Taranaki District Council	South Taranaki Draft Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services (June 2005)
2003/04	Land Access Group – MAF	Land Access Report (September 2003)
	Ministry of Justice	Review of Data Quality Requirements for the filing of infringements (September 2003)
	MfE	Proposed Landfill Gas Collection and Destruction Standard

		(October 2003)
	MfE	Hazardous substance strategy proposed to amend the HSNO Act 1996 (June 2004)
2002/03	Standards New Zealand	Organic Production (December 2002)
	MfE	Submission on microbiological water quality guidelines for marine and fresh water recreational areas (June 2003)
2001-2002	South Taranaki District Council	2002/2003 Draft Annual Plan (May 2002)
	The Law Commission	Review of the New Zealand Court System (June 2002)
2000/01	MfE	Used oil recovery, reuse and disposal in New Plymouth (22.3.2001)
	MfE Hazardous Waste Management Programme	Landfill acceptance criteria for wastes with hazardous properties: issues and options (June 2001)
1999/00	MfE	Resource Management Amendment Bill (2.9.99)
	MfE	Towards a New Zealand Definition of Hazardous Wastes (25.11.99)
	MfE Land and Water Group	National Agenda for Sustainable Water Management Draft Action Plan (3.2.2000)