

**Changes to the Regional Land and Water Plan required by the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management – October 2024**

The following additions and changes to text shown below in track changes (underline) is required to be made to the West Coast Regional Land and Water Plan by the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management – October 2024, under section 55 of the Resource Management Act 1991:

**CHAPTER 6. WETLAND MANAGEMENT**

**6.3.6 Policies**

**National Direction – National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 and 2024 (NPSFM)**

Part 1 Preliminary provision 1.7(1) of the NPSFM provides that Implementation Requirement 3.22(1) (Natural inland wetlands) must be added to regional plans without using the public consultation process in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA).

Under Section 55(2A) of the RMA, Implementation Requirement 3.22(1) (Natural inland wetlands) is accordingly included in this Plan as Policy 6.3.6 below.

* + 1. **The loss of extent of natural inland wetlands is avoided, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted, except where:**
1. **the loss of extent or values arises from any of the following:**
2. **the customary harvest of food or resources undertaken in accordance with tikanga Māori**
3. **wetland maintenance, restoration, ~~activities~~ or biosecurity (as defined in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management)**
4. **scientific research**
5. **the sustainable harvest of sphagnum moss**
6. **the construction or maintenance of wetland utility structures (as defined in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020)**
7. **the maintenance or operation of specified infrastructure, or other infrastructure (as defined in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020**
8. **natural hazard works (as defined in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020); or**

1. **The West Coast Regional Council is satisfied that:**
2. **the activity is necessary for the purpose of the construction or upgrade of specified infrastructure; and**
3. **the specified infrastructure will provide significant national or regional benefits; and**
4. **there is a functional need for the specified infrastructure in that location; and**
5. **the effects of the activity are managed through applying the effects management hierarchy; or**
6. **The West Coast Regional Council is satisfied that:**
7. **the activity is necessary for the purpose of urban development that contributes to a well-functioning urban environment (as defined in the National Policy Statement on Urban Development); and**
8. **the urban development will provide significant national, regional or district benefits; and**
9. **the activity occurs on land identified for urban development in operative provisions of a regional or district plan; and**
10. **the activity does not occur on land that is zoned in a district plan as general rural, rural production, or rural lifestyle; and**
11. **there is either no practicable alternative location for the activity within the area of the development, or every other practicable location in the area of the development would have equal or greater adverse effects on a natural inland wetland; and**
12. **the effects of the activity will be managed through applying the effects management hierarchy; or**
13. **The West Coast Regional Council is satisfied that:**
14. **the activity is necessary for the purpose of quarrying activities; and**
15. **the extraction of the aggregate will provide significant national or regional benefits; and**
16. **there is a functional need for the activity to be done in that location; and**
17. **the effects of the activity will be managed through applying the effects management hierarchy; or**
18. **The West Coast Regional Council is satisfied that:**
19. **the activity is necessary for the purpose of the extraction of minerals and ancillary activities; and**
20. **the extraction of the mineral will provide significant national or regional benefits; and**
21. **there is a functional need for the activity to be done in that location; and**
22. **the effects of the activity will be managed through applying the effects management hierarchy; or**
23. **The West Coast Regional Council is satisfied that:**
24. **the activity is necessary for the purpose of constructing or operating a new or existing landfill or cleanfill area; and**
25. **the landfill or cleanfill area:**
	1. **will provide significant national or regional benefits; or**
	2. **is required to support urban development as referred to in paragraph (c); or**
	3. **is required to support the extraction of aggregates as referred to in paragraph (d); or**
	4. **is required to support the extraction of minerals as referred to in paragraph (e); and**
26. **there is either no practicable alternative location in the region, or every other practicable alternative location in the region would have equal or greater adverse effects on a natural inland wetland; and**
27. **the effects of the activity will be managed through applying the effects management hierarchy.”**

Note: The terms “natural inland wetlands”, “restoration”, “loss of….values”, “functional need”, and “effects management hierarchy”, are defined in clause 3.21 of the NPSFM 2024. These definitions as used in the above policy relate only to Policy 6.3.6 and do not apply to the rest of the Plan.

**CHAPTER 7. SURFACE WATER QUANTITY**

**7.3 Policies**

**National Direction – National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 and 2024 (NPSFM)**

Part 1 Preliminary provision 1.7(1) of the NPSFM provides that Implementation Requirement 3.24(1) (Rivers) must be added to regional plans without using the public consultation process in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA).

Under Section 55(2A) of the RMA, Implementation Requirement 3.24(1) (Rivers) is accordingly included in this Plan as Policy 7.3.8A below.

**7.3.8A The loss of river extent and values is avoided, unless the West Coast Regional Council is satisfied that:**

1. **~~That~~ there is a functional need for the activity in that location; and**
2. **the effects of the activity are managed by applying the effects management hierarchy.**

Note: The terms “loss of….values”, “functional need”, and “effects management hierarchy”, are defined in clause 3.21 of the NPSFM 2024. These definitions as used in the above policy relate only to Policy 7.3.8A and do not apply to the rest of the Plan.