

7C River Recreation Activity Area

7C 1 Issues, Objectives and Policies

7C 1.1 Local Area Issues

7C 1.1.1 Surface and Margins of Rivers

Issue

Activities on the surface of rivers and adjoining banks need to be managed so that natural and ecological qualities are maintained and enhanced.

Objective

To ensure that activities that occur on the surface of rivers and margins have adverse effects which are no more than minor on natural and ecological qualities and access to these areas is maintained.

Policies

- (a) To allow a wide range of low impact recreation activities such as fishing, swimming and other informal recreation and leisure activities.
- (b) To control the use of motorised boating activities on the surface of rivers.
- (c) To ensure that recreation and leisure activities on the surface of rivers and margins have adverse effects which are no more than minor on the stability of river banks.
- (d) To ensure that public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers is maintained and enhanced.
- (e) To ensure that recreation activities have effects that are no more than minor on the natural and ecological qualities of river beds, banks and margins.

Explanation and Reasons

The City's rivers and margins are important ecological areas. It is essential that recreation and leisure activities have adverse effects which are no more than minor on ecological values. It is considered that low impact recreation activities and other informal activities are appropriate.

7C 1.1.2 Managing Adverse Effects on Adjoining Residential Activity Areas

Issue

Recreation and leisure activities on the surface of rivers and margins can have adverse effects on adjoining residential activity areas. It is important that such adverse effects are managed, avoided or mitigated.

Objective

To ensure that river recreation activities have adverse effects which are no more than minor on the amenity values of residential activity areas.

Policies

- (a) To ensure that adverse effects, such as noise, light spill, dust and signs, are managed, avoided or mitigated.
- (b) To control the scale, character and intensity of activities occurring on the surface of rivers and margins adjoining residential activity areas.

Explanation and Reasons

Appropriate conditions to control noise, light spill, dust and signs are necessary to ensure that there are adverse effects which are no more than minor on amenity values.

7C 1.1.3 Flood and River Protection

Issue

The River Recreation Activity Area that is contained within the Primary and Secondary River Corridors is exposed to a significant flood hazard. Activities need to avoid or mitigate potential adverse flood hazard effects associated with these higher-risk areas.

It is important that recreation activities on the surface of rivers and margins have adverse effects which are no more than minor on flood and river protection works, and that flood waters are not impeded. Any extraction activities that occur are for the purposes of flood control.

Objectives

- (a) To ensure that flood and river protection works are not affected adversely by recreation activities and that extraction activities are for the purposes of flood control.
- (b) To ensure that the flood carrying capacity of the river channel and margins is not reduced.

Policies

- (a) To ensure that recreation activities on the surface of rivers and margins have no more than minor adverse effects on flood protection structures.
- (b) To ensure that recreation activities on the surface of rivers and margins have no more than minor effects on the flow of flood waters during flood events.

- (c) To ensure extraction activities are carried out only for the purposes of flood control.
- (d) To provide for activities associated with the protection of the hydraulic capacity of the Hutt River mouth.
- (e) To ensure that any other activities in the Primary or Secondary River Corridor of the Hutt River have no more than minor adverse effects on flood protection structures.

Explanation and Reasons

Recreation activities which affect adversely flood protection measures and river works need to be controlled. The River Recreation Activity Area includes the surface of the river and the adjacent floodway (river berms). The floodway is an area which if only partially blocked, would cause a significant redistribution of flood flow, with potential adverse effects on other areas. It is appropriate for the extraction and grooming of material from rivers to ensure adequate flood control.

Activities in the Primary or Secondary River Corridor of the Hutt River could adversely affect flood protection structures. Additionally, there is the possibility of people being put at risk by activities that allow them to live, work or congregate in the activity area. It is important that any activity in the Primary or Secondary River Corridor shall mitigate adverse effects. The outcomes identified in the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan are relevant and should be taken into account in any assessment of effects.

The Hutt River hydraulic line needs to be protected at the river mouth, and activities associated with sediment extraction in this area may also be appropriate.

7C 1.2 Site Development Issue

7C 1.2.1 Buildings and Structures

Issue

The visual amenity values of the City are enhanced by the open space character and natural qualities of its rivers and margins. The River Recreation Activity Area also provides places for people to participate in informal recreation and leisure activities. Buildings and structures can significantly detract from the visual amenity values of the River Recreation Activity Area, and reduce the area available for recreation and leisure purposes. Except for buildings and structures relating to river and flood protection works, the development of all other buildings and structures is controlled. It is also necessary to ensure that buildings and structures are sited to avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of flood hazards.

Objective

To control the number, location and external appearance of all buildings and structures not associated with flood protection measures and river works and ensure that buildings and structures are sited to avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of flood hazards.

Policies

- (a) To limit the number of buildings and structures not associated with flood protection measures and river works.

- (b) To control the design and external appearance of all buildings and structures not associated with flood protection measures and river works.
- (c) To allow buildings and structures associated with flood protection measures and river works.
- (d) To ensure that public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers is maintained and enhanced.
- (e) To ensure that buildings and structures are sited to avoid increasing the flood risk.

Explanation and Reasons

Buildings and structures in the River Recreation Activity Area can have an adverse effect on the amenity values of the area. In addition, buildings and structures will reduce the area available for recreation and leisure purposes.

7C 2 Rules

7C 2.1 Permitted Activities

- (a) Works necessary for the management of any river or stream by the Wellington Regional Council or the Hutt City Council.
- (b) All recreation and leisure activities, but excluding motorised activities.
- (c) Landscape furniture.
- (d) On the land identified in DP 72284 but excluding that area identified as 'G' and shown on Appendix River Recreation 1, extraction activities limited to extraction, processing, storage, removal, ancillary earthworks, removal and deposition of overburden and rehabilitation works, and ancillary administrative activities

7C 2.1.1 Permitted Activity - Conditions

- (a) **Lighting:**
Any activity which requires outdoor areas to be lit must ensure that direct or indirect illuminance does not exceed 8 lux at the window of a dwelling on a neighbouring site.
- (b) **General Rules:**
Compliance with all General Rules - see Chapter 14.
- (c) **On the land identified in DP 72284 but excluding that area identified as 'G' and shown on Appendix River Recreation 1 the following Permitted Activity Conditions shall apply:**
 - (i) Any permitted extraction activity may only occur for a maximum of 21 days, but not necessarily consecutive, in a 90 day period. The operator shall maintain and make available to Council on request, records of the dates on which extraction activities occur.

- (ii) Except for structures and equipment associated with processing activities, the maximum height shall be 8.0m. For structures and equipment associated with processing activities, the maximum height shall be 12.0m. Formed stockpiles shall not exceed a maximum height of 12.0m.
- (iii) Landowners and adjacent landowners shall be advised of the activity at least one week in advance of the commencement of the activity.
- (iv) All activities shall be undertaken in a way that avoids creation of a dust nuisance at or beyond the boundary of the area identified by DP 72284 but excluding that area identified as 'G'.
- (v) For all activities:
 - 6.00am – 6.00pm Monday to Friday (excl public holidays) and
 - 6.00am – 1.00pm Saturday (excl public holidays)
- (vi) Structures and equipment shall be removed from the area following the completion of each phase of the extraction activity.
- (vii) The area shall be managed and maintained in a tidy and safe manner at all times. Any accumulated non-alluvial materials associated with the extraction activity shall be removed from the area at least once every six month period.
- (viii) Waste alluvial material shall be spread over the extraction area at the completion of each phase of extraction activity.

7C 2.2 Discretionary Activities

- (a) Motorised recreation activities on the surface of rivers.
- (b) Buildings and structures not associated with flood protection measures or river works.
- (c) Hutt River Mouth, Part Section 1 SO 36292 (identified in Appendix River Recreation 2), the processing (crushing, screening, washing and blending), storage, distribution and sale of aggregates, ancillary earthworks, rehabilitation works, and associated buildings and structures.
- (d) Except where stated in the General Rules, any Permitted Activity which fails to comply with any of the relevant Permitted Activity Conditions, or relevant requirements of Chapter 14 - General Rules.

7C 2.2.1 Assessment Matters for Discretionary Activities

- (a) The matters contained in sections 104 and 105, and in Part II of the Act shall apply.
- (b) The degree of compliance or non-compliance with any relevant Permitted Activity Conditions.

7C 2.3 Non-Complying Activities

- (a) All other activities not listed as a Permitted or Discretionary Activity.

7C 2.4 Other Provisions

- (a) Subdivisions - See Chapter 11.
- (b) Financial Contributions - See Chapter 12.
- (c) Utilities - See Chapter 13.
- (d) General Rules - See Chapter 14

7C 3 Anticipated Environmental Results

- (a) Activities carried out on the surface and margins of rivers will have adverse effects which are no more than minor on ecological values.
- (b) Activities carried out on the surface and margins of rivers will have adverse effects which are no more than minor on adjoining residential activity areas.
- (c) The adverse effects of buildings and structures on amenity values will be avoided, remedied or mitigated.
- (d) Activities carried out on the surface and margins will have no more than minor effects on flood protection measures and river works.

Appendix River Recreation 2

