

PART IV: RIVERS AND LAKES

INTRODUCTION

Part IV of the Tasman Resource Management Plan applies to all activities carried out in the beds of rivers and lakes and on the surface of the water.

The bed of a river includes the banks and is described in the Act as the space of land which the waters of the river cover at its fullest flow without overtopping its banks. This includes underground rivers flowing in karst terrain. A lake bed means the space of land which the waters of the lake cover at its highest level without exceeding its margin.

Chapter 27 deals with the issues surrounding the use of river and lake beds and the surface of the waters, and contains the objectives, policies and methods for managing the adverse effects of activities.

Chapter 28 states the land use rules applying to activities carried out in the bed and on the surface of rivers and lakes.

Chapter 29 gives guidance for the information that may be required to accompany any application to carry out an activity in the bed of a river or lake.

Part IV constitutes the regional plan provisions controlling any activities in the beds of rivers and lakes. It also contains district plan provisions for controlling activities on the surface of the water.

The effect of regional rules on activities carried out in the beds of rivers and lakes and the effect of district rules on activities carried out on the surface of rivers and lakes is described in section 1.8.2.

Part II of the Plan, particularly Chapters 17 and 18, manages the effects of activities on riparian land adjacent to rivers and lakes.

Part V of the plan regulates the taking, using, damming, and diverting of water and Part VI of the Plan manages the effects of contaminant discharges. Both may also contain provisions relevant to Part IV activities.

Any activity covered in Parts II, IV, V and VI may affect the uses and values of a river. Schedule 30A in Part V lists uses and values of rivers and other water bodies and is relevant and applicable to the management of activities in these parts of the Plan.

When operative, Part IV of the Plan will replace the parts of the Transitional Regional Plans that deal with the maintenance of watercourses and defences against water.

In developing Part IV, Council has had regard to planning documents recognised by iwi, and these are the eel management plans, Te Waka a Maui me ona Toka Mahi Tuna (South Island Eel Management Plan) and the Te Tau Ihu Mahi Tuna (Nelson Marlborough Eel Management Plan).

Iwi are currently engaged in preparation of an Iwi Management Plan and Council supports and encourages this. The objective of both Council and iwi is to ensure an integrated approach to the management of rivers. The other parts of the Plan dealing with contaminant discharges and water uses must be read together with Part IV and the overall purpose of the Act for sustainable management aligns closely with the philosophical and cultural views or kaupapa of Maori. Kaitiakitanga and the Act both have outcomes for conservation and sustainable use and Part IV provides a compatible approach consistent with each.

