

Golden Bay Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes

Draft Plan Change

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Welcome

Purpose of this presentation

Introduce and explain the Draft Plan Change on Golden Bay's outstanding natural features and landscapes.

Presentation Outline

- Background and history
- Recent progress
- Location recommendations
- Drafted policy and rule responses
- Next steps
- Q&A

Background and history

Council is required to act by Section 6(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991:

“In achieving the purpose of this Act, all persons... shall recognise and provide for the following matters of national importance...

(b) the protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development”

- Council is also required to give effect to the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010, Objective 2 and Policies 13 and 15
- TDC included landscape provisions in the Proposed TRMP 1996, and its final decisions were appealed in 2001 by Friends of Nelson Haven and Tasman Bay
- An MOU between TDC and the appellants was agreed in 2007 to review the coastal landscape provisions and maps

Recent progress

- 2008: First engagement with wider Golden Bay community
- 2010: Large Working Group (LWG) established
- 2011: Small Working Group (SWG) established from LWG
- 2012-2016: SWG identify outstanding natural features and landscapes, and present recommendations to the Council
- Early-mid 2016: Council develops and releases the Draft Plan Change for wider public consultation

The Small Working Group

The **Small Working Group** was drawn from the Large Working Group

- 9 members representing local interests including:
- Federated Farmers
- Friends of Golden Bay / Mohua
- Friends of Nelson Haven and Tasman Bay
- Forest and Bird
- Manawhenua ki Mohua
- Local economic sectors e.g. quarrying and aquaculture

Purpose of the SWG

- Identify Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes in Golden Bay
- Represent interest groups, stakeholders and the wider community in this consensus-making process

The Small Working Group's recommendations

There were four general types of recommendations that the Small Working Group made

- General areas recommended for exclusion
- Landscape recommendations
- Feature recommendations
- No-consensus locations

General areas recommended for exclusion

- Northwest Coast (select coastal locations)
- Kahurangi National Park east of Kaihoka
- Aorere Valley
- Takaka Valley

Landscape recommendations

- Northwest Coastal Marine
- Golden Bay – Mohua Coastal Marine

- Northern Northwest Coast
- Southern Northwest Coast
- Parapara-Kahurangi Ranges
- Abel Tasman

Feature recommendations

- Aorere River, Gorge and Tributaries
- Big River Estuary
- Farewell Spit
- The Grove
- Hanson Winter
- Paynes Ford
- Tarakohe Cliffs
- Te Waikoropupu Springs (Pupu Springs)
- Wainui Bay Inlet
- Whanganui Bay Inlet

No-consensus locations

- Puponga inlet headland
- Pakawau inlet headland
- Parapara inlet headland
- Mount Burnett
- Northwest Nelson Conservation Park – Sam's Creek
- Northwest Nelson Conservation Park – Te Tai Tapu estate

Draft policy and rule responses

Response 1: Rationale

Response 2: Existing building, structures and tracks, and associated earthworks

Response 3: New building, structures and tracks, and associated earthworks

Response 4: Protection of natural features and the coastal environment

Rationale

- Council is required to “protect outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate... activities”
- Appropriateness and inappropriateness are measured against what we’re trying to protect – landscape characteristics
- Any landscape is made up of landscape characteristics
 - Visual characteristics e.g. plant and animal life, water, valleys and hills
 - Non-visual characteristics e.g. local history, cultural and historical values
- Inappropriate - activities that would damage or degrade these characteristics
- Appropriate - activities that would maintain or improve these characteristics are appropriate
- Activities are not inherently appropriate or inappropriate, but are made so due to their design

Existing buildings, structures and tracks, and associated earthworks

- Existing man-made modifications to the environment are part of the landscape
- Maintenance, repair or removal of existing buildings, structures and tracks are permitted so do not require a resource consent
- Alteration of existing building, structures and tracks to the same or similar scale are permitted so do not require a resource consent
- Activities that are already permitted under existing rules remain permitted, provided they do not trigger vegetation removal rules
- Vegetation destruction or removal is permitted if it is for removing exotic weeds or for clearing regrowth on previously cleared land

New activities, buildings and structures, and associated earthworks

- New man-made modifications are not part of the existing landscape and may require some a resource consent
- Examples of new activities:
 - Non-weed vegetation removal
 - Constructing new buildings, structures or tracks
 - General activities such as farming, rural living or tourism
- New activities may require either a controlled activity resource consent or a restricted discretionary activity resource consent
- Activities “for or in connection with maintaining an existing activity” are a controlled activity
 - Building tracks, fences and barns for farming operations
 - Vegetation clearance for or in connection with an existing general activity
- Activities on a Feature and in the Coastal Environment Area are a restricted discretionary activity

Protection of natural features and the coastal environment

- Outstanding natural features and the coastal environment are both more vulnerable to man-made change than dry-land landscapes, which can absorb effects
- Features are also vulnerable to activities that occur adjacent to them, not just activities within their boundaries
- Construction of new buildings and structures that are not fences or tracks within 20m of a Feature boundary require resource consent

Feedback sought

Council is seeking feedback on:

- The locations of outstanding natural features and landscapes
- The boundaries of outstanding natural features and landscapes
- The draft policies, rules and other provisions

Next steps

Currently

- Draft Plan Change consultation open from July 4 to September 30
- Three public meetings were held in Takaka, Parapara and Pakawau
- Staff are organizing individual and collective hui with the eight Te Tau Ihu iwi

Next Steps

- The next steps of this process will be in the hands of the next term of Council
- These steps include
 - Further staff advice to Council following feedback received
 - Further development of the Plan Change text and maps
 - Public notification of the Proposed Plan Change
- Council cannot publically notify a Proposed Plan Change until consultation with iwi has been completed

Questions?
