



# PowerPoint slides – 4c RMA Basics

(Note: PowerPoint presentations include dropdown teacher notes)



## RMA Basics


Topic 4 – Planning & the decision making process



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## What we will cover:

- Resource consents
- Types of activities
- Decision making under the RMA



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## Resource Management Act 1991



- Governs how we use and manage most of our natural resources
- Land, air, coastal areas and waterways (not fisheries)
- Promotes sustainable management of natural and physical resources



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## RMA 1991

- Local authorities (Regional, City and District Councils) prepare Policy Statements, Plans to guide development, use and protection of natural and physical resources
- They grant resource consents
- Resource consent needed when you want to do something not allowed under the Act
- Regional and District plans outline when a consent is needed



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## Resource Consents

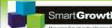

- Different types issued by Regional, City and District Councils.
- **Land use consents:** needed for any use of land which infringes a rule in a district plan (buildings, decks, fences that exceed the maximum height)



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## Resource Consents

- **Subdivision consents:** required for any subdivision of land which infringes a rule in a District Plan (almost all)
- **Water permits:** required for taking, using, damming or diverting water, or heat or energy from water, where not a permitted activity in a Regional Plan



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## Resource Consents

- **Discharge permits:** needed for any discharge of contaminants to the environment (air, water or land) not a permitted activity in a regional plan
- **Coastal permits:** needed for any activity in the coastal marine area (the area below high tide mark) not a permitted activity in a regional coastal plan



## Types of activities

- **Type of activities – what a developer can and can't do**

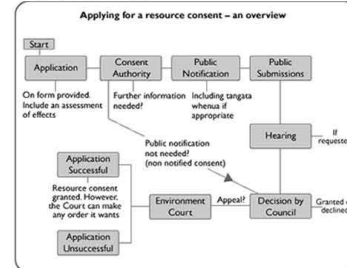
- Under the RMA there are different labels for activities. Regional and District plans allocate one of these labels to each activity. Subdividing in a residential zone might be labelled as a controlled activity.



## Types of activities

- **Permitted activities:** no consent required, may be stipulations on how the activity is conducted
- **Controlled activities:** consent will be granted, might be subject to conditions
- **Discretionary activities:** require a consent application, may be granted or declined
- **Non-complying activities:** require a consent, may be granted or declined. For instance, business development in residential zone
- **Prohibited activities:** not allowed, no consent can be applied for.

## Applying for consents



## How are decisions made?

- **Section 5:** "purpose of this Act is to promote the **sustainable management** of natural and physical resources" - "managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well being and for their health and safety while:
  - (a) Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
  - (b) Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil ecosystems; and
  - (c) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment."

## Key agencies

- **Agencies with a key role:**
  - Regional Council
  - District Council
  - Ministry for the Environment
- **Other organisations:**
  - Department of Conservation
  - The Environment Court

## Getting involved

Source: Ministry for the Environment at [www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz)

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## Activity/Mahi:

- Review these slides before completing the RMA 'fly swat' quiz!

... swat the correct flies to win!

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