



04/08/2021

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Bay of Plenty Regional Council
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Dear Fiona

SUBMISSION OF HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA TO BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 5 (KAITUNA RIVER) TO THE BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

Proposed Plan Change 5 seeks to fulfil the Bay of Plenty Regional Councils (BOPRC) obligations under the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014 which requires it to recognise and provide for the vision, objectives and desired outcomes of Kaituna He Taonga Iho-A Treasure Handed Down (the Kaituna River Document). The proposed plan change includes issues, objectives, policies and methods specific to the Kaituna River and its tributaries to be included into the BOPRC Regional Policy statement (RPS).

TO: BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL

FROM: HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA

1. This is a submission on the BOPRC proposed Plan Change 5 to the RPS.
2. The proposal seeks to:

Fulfil the BOPRC obligations under the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014 which requires it to recognise and provide for the vision, objectives and desired outcomes of Kaituna he Taonga Iho-A Treasure Handed Down (the Kaituna River Document). The proposed plan change includes issues, objectives, policies and methods specific to the Kaituna River and its tributaries to be included into the BOPRC RPS.

3. **Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.**
4. **The specific provisions of the proposal that HNZPT's submission relates to are:**

that the proposal, through the inclusion of issues, objectives, policies and methods related to the Kaituna River, will result in the additional recognition of sites of importance to iwi and hapu.

5. **HNZPT's submission is:**

HNZPT supports proposed Plan Change 5 insofar as it provides within the BOPRC RPS an additional platform for a greater level of recognition of sites of cultural importance to iwi and hapu within the Kaituna River catchment area through the imposition of issues, objectives, policies and methods related to the Kaituna River as it implements the Kaituna River Document. The recognition of cultural sites within this catchment is already recognised as a project within the existing related document the Kaituna River Action Plan, Project 13 - Kaituna cultural and historical heritage project.

6. The reasons for HNZPT's position are as follows:

HNZPT is an autonomous Crown Entity with statutory responsibility under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 for the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of New Zealand's historical and cultural heritage. HNZPT is New Zealand's lead historic heritage agency. The Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 protects both recorded and unrecorded archaeology.

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) requires that *"the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga,"* should be *recognised and provided for* as a Matter of National Importance (Section 6 (e)).

Heritage New Zealand has reviewed proposed Plan Change 5, including the s32 document.

Discussion

HNZPT considers that proposed plan change 5 will result in the BOPRC RPS providing additional support for the recognition of sites of importance to iwi and hapu, which are a matter of national importance. While the BOPRC RPS already provides assessment criteria that could potentially be used to recognise such sites, the targeted approach of additional objectives, policies and methods will provide for enhanced recognition of such sites within the Kaituna catchment.

With regard the proposed objectives policies and methods, HNZPT is particularly supportive of those objectives, policies and methods that will enable the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of New Zealand's historical and cultural heritage. HNZPT considers that the following objectives, policies and methods will enable this to occur:

"Objective 40

The traditional and contemporary relationships that iwi and hapu have with the Kaituna River are recognised, strengthened, enhanced and provided for.

Policy KR 1B: Recognise, strengthen, enhance and provide for traditional and contemporary iwi and hapu relationships with Kaituna River.

Methods to Implement Policies

Method KR1: Te Tini a Tuna-Kaituna Action Plan

Implement Policies KR 1B (etc) through Te Tini a Tuna-Kaituna Action Plan

Implementation responsibility: Regional Council, city and district councils, Te Maru o Kaituna and iwi authorities

Method KP4: Identify and map sites of cultural significance in the Kaituna River

Identify, record and map sites of cultural and historical significance to iwi and hapu including traditional place names, travel routes, waahi tapu, urupa and waipuna (spings) in the Kaituna River Catchment.

Implementation responsibility: Iwi authorities"

HNZPT considers that it is important that sites of cultural significance are identified, recorded and mapped as this allows them to be more readily considered in consenting processes (including pre application consultation) and district/unitary plans (or similar) development processes in the future.

The provision of this information to regional, city and district councils would enable a particularly useful longer-term outcome, which would be the inclusion of these sites into district /unitary plans schedules as appropriate as Sites and Areas of Significance to Maori in the instances where they have not already been identified in these types of schedules.

This outcome is potentially achieved under proposed method KR 5 of proposed plan change 5:

Method KR 5: Provide information on integrating kaitiakitanga and rangatiratanga into land use management in the Kaituna River.

Provide information to regional, city and district councils, land developers and consultants about how kaitiakitanga and rangatiratanga can be recognised and provided for in land use management, river access and cultural protection.

Therefore, HNZPT is supportive of Plan Change 5 insofar as it provides for the matters of national importance, in particular s6 (e) "the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga,"

7. Heritage New Zealand seeks the following decision from the local authority:

That proposed Plan Change 5 is approved as proposed.

8. Heritage New Zealand does not wish to be heard in support of our submission.

Yours sincerely

Sherry Reynolds
Director-Northern

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