

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT 2020

Number	Provision
Objective	The objective of this National Policy Statement is to ensure that natural and physical resources are managed in a way that prioritises: (a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems (a) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water) (b) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.
Policy 1	Freshwater is managed in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai.
Policy 2	Tangata whenua are actively involved in freshwater management (including decision-making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provided for.
Policy 3	Freshwater is managed in an integrated way that considers the effects of the use and development of land on a whole-of-catchment basis, including the effects on receiving environments.
Policy 5	Freshwater is managed (including through a National Objectives Framework) to ensure that the health and well-being of degraded water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is improved, and the health and well-being of all other water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is maintained and (if communities choose) improved.
Policy 6	There is no further loss of extent of natural inland wetlands, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted.
Policy 7	The loss of river extent and values is avoided to the extent practicable.
Policy 8	The significant values of outstanding water bodies are protected.
Policy 9	The habitats of indigenous freshwater species are protected.
Policy 10	The habitat of trout and salmon is protected, insofar as this is consistent with Policy 9.
Policy 11	Freshwater is allocated and used efficiently, all existing over-allocation is phased out, and future over-allocation is avoided.
Policy 15	Communities are enabled to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being in a way that is consistent with this National Policy Statement.



NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY 2023

Number	Provision
Objective	The objective of this National Policy Statement is: (a) to maintain indigenous biodiversity across Aotearoa New Zealand so that there is at least no overall loss in indigenous biodiversity after the commencement date; and (b) to achieve this: (i) through recognising the mana of tangata whenua as kaitiaki of indigenous biodiversity; (ii) by recognising people and communities, including landowners, as stewards of indigenous biodiversity; (iii) by protecting and restoring indigenous biodiversity as necessary to achieve the overall maintenance of indigenous biodiversity; and (iv) while providing for the social, economic, and cultural wellbeing of people and communities now and in the future.
Policy 1	Indigenous biodiversity is managed in a way that gives effect to the decision-making principles and takes into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
Policy 2	Tangata whenua exercise kaitiakitanga for indigenous biodiversity in their rohe, including through: (a) managing indigenous biodiversity on their land; (b) identifying and protecting indigenous species, populations and ecosystems that are taonga; and (c) actively participating in other decision-making about indigenous biodiversity.
Policy 3	A precautionary approach is adopted when considering adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity.
Policy 6	Significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna are identified as SNAs using a consistent approach.
Policy 7	SNAs are protected by avoiding or managing adverse effects from new subdivision, use and development.
Policy 8	The importance of maintaining indigenous biodiversity outside SNAs is recognised and provided for.
Policy 10	Activities that contribute to New Zealand's social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing are recognised and provided for as set out in this National Policy Statement.
Policy 13	Restoration of indigenous biodiversity is promoted and provided for.

Number	Provision
Policy 14	Increased indigenous vegetation cover is promoted in both urban and non-urban environments.
Policy 15	Areas outside SNAs that support specified highly mobile fauna are identified and managed to maintain their populations across their natural range, and information and awareness of highly mobile fauna is improved.



**NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIAL
PROCESS HEAT 2023**

Number	Provision
Objective	The objective of this National Policy Statement is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by managing the discharges to air of greenhouse gases from the production of industrial process heat, in order to mitigate climate change and its current and future adverse effects on the environment and the wellbeing of people and communities.
Policy 1	Discharges to air of greenhouse gases from heat devices are reduced or eliminated by: (a) avoiding discharges from new heat devices that burn coal and deliver heat at or above 300 °C, unless there is no technically feasible and financially viable lower emissions alternative; (b) avoiding discharges from new heat devices that burn coal and deliver heat below 300 °C; (c) restricting discharges from existing heat devices that burn coal and deliver heat at or above 300 °C; (d) restricting and phasing out discharges from existing heat devices that burn coal and deliver heat below 300 °C; (e) avoiding discharges from new heat devices that burn any fossil fuel other than coal, unless there is no technically feasible and financially viable lower emissions alternative; and (f) restricting discharges from existing heat devices that burn any fossil fuel other than coal.
Policy 2	Regional councils consider the cumulative effects of discharges of greenhouse gases when considering resource consent applications for discharges from heat devices.

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE LAND 2022

Number	Provision
Objective	Highly productive land is protected for use in land-based primary production, both now and for future generations.
Policy 1	Highly productive land is recognised as a resource with finite characteristics and long-term values for land-based primary production.
Policy 2	The identification and management of highly productive land is undertaken in an integrated way that considers the interactions with freshwater management and urban development.
Policy 4	The use of highly productive land for land-based primary production is prioritised and supported.
Policy 8	Highly productive land is protected from inappropriate use and development.
Policy 9	Reverse sensitivity effects are managed so as not to constrain land-based primary production activities on highly productive land.



OPERATIVE OTAGO REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2019

Number	Provision
Chapter 1 – Resource management in Otago is integrated	
Objective 1.1	Otago’s resources are used sustainably to promote economic, social, and cultural wellbeing for its people and communities.
Policy 1.1.1 – Economic wellbeing	Provide for the economic wellbeing of Otago’s people and communities by enabling the resilient and sustainable use and development of natural and physical resources.
Policy 1.1.2 – Social and cultural wellbeing and health and safety	Provide for the social and cultural wellbeing and health and safety of Otago’s people and communities when undertaking the subdivision, use, development and protection of natural and physical resources by all of the following: (a) Recognising and providing for Kāi Tahu values; (b) Taking into account the values of other cultures; (c) Taking into account the diverse needs of Otago’s people and communities; (d) Avoiding significant adverse effects of activities on human health; (e) Promoting community resilience and the need to secure resources for the reasonable needs for human wellbeing; and (f) Promoting good quality and accessible infrastructure and public services.
Objective 1.2	Recognise and provide for the integrated management of natural and physical resources to support the wellbeing of people and communities in Otago.
Policy 1.2.1 – Integrated resource management	Achieve integrated management of Otago’s natural and physical resources, by all of the following: (a) Coordinating the management of interconnected natural and physical resources; (b) Taking into account the impacts of management of one natural or physical resource on the values of another, or on the environment; (c) Recognising that the value and function of a natural or physical resource may extend beyond the immediate, or directly adjacent, area of interest; (d) Ensuring that resource management approaches across administrative boundaries are consistent and complementary; (e) Ensuring that effects of activities on the whole of a natural or physical resource are considered when that resource is managed as subunits;

Number	Provision
	(f) Managing adverse effects of activities to give effect to the objectives and policies of the Regional Policy Statement; (g) Promoting healthy ecosystems and ecosystem services; and (h) Promoting methods that reduce or negate the risk of exceeding sustainable resource limits.
Chapter 2 - Kāi Tahu values and interests are recognised and kaitiakitaka is expressed	
Objective 2.1	The principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi are taken into account in resource management processes and decisions.
Policy 2.1.1 – Treaty obligations	Promote awareness and understanding of the obligations of local authorities in regard to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, tikaka Māori and kaupapa Māori.
Policy 2.1.2 – Treaty principles	Ensure that local authorities exercise their functions and powers, by: (a) Recognising Kāi Tahu’s status as a Treaty partner; and (b) Involving Kāi Tahu in resource management processes implementation; (c) Taking into account Kāi Tahu values in resource management decision-making processes and implementation; (d) Recognising and providing for the relationship of Kāi Tahu’s culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taoka; (e) Ensuring Kāi Tahu have the ability to: (i) Identify their relationship with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taoka; (ii) Determine how best to express that relationship; (f) Having particular regard to the exercise of kaitiakitaka; (g) Ensuring that district and regional plans: (i) Give effect to the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998; (ii) Recognise and provide for statutory acknowledgement areas in Schedule 2; (iii) Provide for other areas in Otago that are recognised as significant to Kāi Tahu; (h) Taking into account iwi management plans.
Objective 2.2	Kāi Tahu values, interests and customary resources are recognised and provided for.
Policy 2.2.1 - Kāi Tahu wellbeing	Manage the natural environment to support Kāi Tahu wellbeing by all of the following:



Number	Provision
	(a) Recognising and providing for their customary uses and cultural values in Schedules 1A and B; and (b) Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of natural resources.
Policy 2.2.2 - Recognising sites of cultural significance	Recognise and provide for the protection of wāhi tūpuna, by all of the following: (a) Avoiding significant adverse effects on those values that contribute to the identified wāhi tūpuna being significant; (b) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating other adverse effects on the identified wāhi tūpuna; (c) Managing the identified wāhi tūpuna sites in a culturally appropriate manner.
Chapter 3 - Otago has high quality natural resources and ecosystems	
Objective 3.1	The values (including intrinsic values) of ecosystems and natural resources are recognised and maintained, or enhanced where degraded.
Policy 3.1.1 - Fresh water	Safeguard the life-supporting capacity of fresh water and manage fresh water to: (a) Maintain good quality water and enhance water quality where it is degraded, including for: (i) Important recreation values, including contact recreation; and, (ii) Existing drinking and stock water supplies; (b) Maintain or enhance aquatic: (i) Ecosystem health; (ii) indigenous habitats; and, (iii) Indigenous species and their migratory patterns. (c) Avoid aquifer compaction and seawater intrusion; (d) Maintain or enhance, as far as practicable: (i) Natural functioning of rivers, lakes, and wetlands, their riparian margins, and aquifers; (ii) Coastal values supported by fresh water; (iii) The habitat of trout and salmon unless detrimental to indigenous biological diversity; and (iv) Amenity and landscape values of rivers, lakes, and wetlands; (e) Control the adverse effects of pest species, prevent their introduction and reduce their spread;



Number	Provision
	(f) Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards, including flooding and erosion; and (g) Avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on existing infrastructure that is reliant on fresh water.
Policy 3.1.2 - Beds of rivers, lakes, wetlands, and their margins	Manage the beds of rivers, lakes, wetlands, their margins, and riparian vegetation to: (a) Safeguard the life supporting capacity of fresh water; (b) Maintain good quality water, or enhance it where it has been degraded; (c) Maintain or enhance bank stability; (d) Maintain or enhance ecosystem health and indigenous biological diversity; (e) Maintain or enhance, as far as practicable: (i) Their natural functioning and character; and (ii) Amenity values; (f) Control the adverse effects of pest species, prevent their introduction and reduce their spread; and (g) Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards, including flooding and erosion.
Policy 3.1.3 - Water allocation and use	Manage the allocation and use of fresh water by undertaking all of the following: (a) Recognising and providing for the social and economic benefits of sustainable water use; (b) Avoiding over-allocation, and phasing out existing over-allocation, resulting from takes and discharges; (c) Ensuring the efficient allocation and use of water by: (i) Requiring that the water allocated does not exceed what is necessary for its efficient use; (ii) Encouraging the development or upgrade of infrastructure that increases efficiency; (iii) Providing for temporary dewatering activities necessary for construction or maintenance.
Policy 3.1.4 – Water Shortage	Manage for water shortage by undertaking all of the following: (a) Encouraging land management that improves moisture capture, infiltration, and soil moisture holding capacity; (b) Encouraging collective coordination and rationing of the take and use of water when river flows or aquifer levels are lowering, to avoid



Number	Provision
	breaching any minimum flow or aquifer level restriction to optimise use of water available for taking;
	(c) <u>Providing for water harvesting and storage, subject to allocation limits and flow management, to reduce demand on water bodies during periods of low flows.</u>
Policy 3.1.6 - Air quality	Manage air quality to achieve the following: (a) Maintain good ambient air quality that supports human health, or enhance air quality where it has been degraded; (b) Maintain or enhance amenity values.
Policy 3.1.7 - Soil values	Safeguard the life-supporting capacity of soil and manage soil to: (a) Maintain or enhance as far as practicable (i) Soil biological diversity; (ii) Biological activity in soils; (iii) Soil function in the storage and cycling of water, nutrients, and other elements through the biosphere; (iv) Soil function as a buffer or filter for contaminants resulting from human activities, including aquifers at risk of leachate contamination; (v) Soil fertility where soil is used for primary production; (b) Where a) is not practicable, minimise adverse effects; (c) Recognise that urban and infrastructure development may result in loss of soil values. (d) Control the adverse effects of pest species, prevent their introduction and reduce their spread; (e) Retain the soil mantle where it acts as a repository of historic heritage objects unless an archaeological authority has been obtained.
Policy 3.1.8 - Soil erosion	Minimise soil erosion resulting from activities, by undertaking all of the following: (a) Using appropriate erosion controls and soil conservation methods; (b) Maintaining vegetative cover on erosion prone land; (c) Remediating land where significant soil erosion has occurred; (d) Encouraging activities that enhance soil retention.
Policy 3.1.9 - Ecosystems and indigenous biological diversity	Manage ecosystems and indigenous biological diversity in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments to: (a) Maintain or enhance:



Number	Provision
	(i) Ecosystem health and indigenous biological diversity including habitats of indigenous fauna; (ii) Biological diversity where the presence of exotic flora and fauna supports indigenous biological diversity; (b) Maintain or enhance as far as practicable: (i) Areas of predominantly indigenous vegetation; (ii) Habitats of trout and salmon unless detrimental to indigenous biological diversity; (iii) Areas buffering or linking ecosystems; (c) Recognise and provide for: (i) Hydrological services, including the services provided by tall tussock grassland; (ii) Natural resources and processes that support indigenous biological diversity; (d) Control the adverse effects of pest species, prevent their introduction and reduce their spread.
Policy 3.1.11 - Natural features, landscapes, and seascapes	Recognise the values of natural features, landscapes and seascapes are derived from the biophysical, sensory and associative attributes in Schedule 3.
Policy 3.1.13 - Environmental Enhancement	Encourage, facilitate and support activities that contribute to the resilience and enhancement of the natural environment, by where applicable: (a) Improving water quality and quantity; (b) Protecting or restoring habitat for indigenous species; (c) Regenerating indigenous species; (d) Mitigating natural hazards; (e) Protecting or restoring wetlands; (f) Improving the health and resilience of: (i) Ecosystems supporting indigenous biological diversity; (ii) Important ecosystem services, including pollination; (g) Improving access to rivers, lakes, wetlands and their margins, and the coast; (h) Buffering or linking ecosystems, habitats and areas of significance that contribute to ecological corridors; (i) Controlling pest species.
Objective 3.2	Otago's significant and highly-valued natural resources are identified and protected, or enhanced where degraded.



Number	Provision
Policy 3.2.1 – Identifying significant indigenous vegetation and habitats	Identify areas and values of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, using the attributes detailed in Schedule 4.
Policy 3.2.2 – Managing significant indigenous vegetation and habitats	Protect and enhance areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, by all of the following: (a) In the coastal environment, avoiding adverse effects on: (i) The values that contribute to the area or habitat being significant; (ii) Indigenous taxa that are listed as threatened or at risk in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists; (iii) Taxa that are listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources as threatened; (iv) Indigenous ecosystems and vegetation types that are threatened in the coastal environment, or are naturally rare; (v) Habitats of indigenous species where the species are at the limit of their natural range, or are naturally rare; (vi) Areas containing nationally significant examples of indigenous community types; and (vii) Areas set aside for full or partial protection of indigenous biological diversity under other legislation; (b) Beyond the coastal environment, and in the coastal environment in significant areas not captured by a) above, maintaining those values that contribute to the area or habitat being significant; (c) Avoiding significant adverse effects on other values of the area or habitat; (d) Remedying when other adverse effects cannot be avoided; (e) Mitigating when other adverse effects cannot be avoided or remedied; (f) Encouraging enhancement of those areas and values that contribute to the area or habitat being significant; (g) Controlling the adverse effects of pest species, preventing their introduction and reducing their spread.
Policy 3.2.3 - Identifying outstanding natural features, landscapes and seascapes	Identify areas and values of outstanding natural features, landscapes and seascapes, using the attributes in Schedule 3.
Policy 3.2.4 - Managing outstanding natural features, landscapes and seascapes	Protect, enhance or restore outstanding natural features, landscapes and seascapes, by all of the following: (a) In the coastal environment, avoiding adverse effects on the values (even if those values are not themselves outstanding) that



Number	Provision
	contribute to the natural feature, landscape or seascape being outstanding; (b) Beyond the coastal environment, maintaining the values (even if those values are not themselves outstanding) that contribute to the natural feature, landscape or seascape being outstanding; (c) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects; (d) Encouraging enhancement of those areas and values that contribute to the significance of the natural feature, landscape or seascape.
Policy 3.2.5 - Identifying highly valued natural features, landscapes and seascapes	Identify natural features, landscapes and seascapes, which are highly valued for their contribution to the amenity or quality of the environment, but which are not outstanding, using the attributes in Schedule 3.
Policy 3.2.6 - Managing highly valued natural features, landscapes and seascapes	Maintain or enhance highly valued natural features, landscapes and seascapes by all of the following: (a) Avoiding significant adverse effects on those values that contribute to the high value of the natural feature, landscape or seascape; (b) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects; (c) Encouraging enhancement of those values that contribute to the high value of the natural feature, landscape or seascape.
Policy 3.2.13 - Identifying outstanding freshwater bodies	Identify freshwater bodies where one or more of the following significant values are outstanding: (a) Naturalness; (b) Amenity or landscape values; (c) Kāi Tahu cultural values; (d) Recreational values; (e) Ecological values; (f) Hydrological values.
Policy 3.2.14 - Managing outstanding freshwater bodies	Protect outstanding freshwater bodies by all of the following: (a) Maintaining the values that contribute to the water body being outstanding; (b) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects on the water body; (c) Controlling the adverse effects of pest species, preventing their introduction and reducing their spread; (d) Encouraging enhancement of those values that contribute to the water body being outstanding.

Number	Provision
Policy 3.2.15 - Identifying the significant values of wetlands	Identify the significant values of wetlands, having regard to all of the following: (a) Degree of naturalness; (b) Amenity or landscape values; (c) Kāi Tahu cultural values; (d) Recreational values; (e) Ecological function and values; (f) Hydrological function and values; (g) Geomorphological features and values.
Policy 3.2.16 - Managing the values of wetlands	Protect the function and values of wetlands by all of the following: (a) Maintaining the significant values of wetlands; (b) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects; (c) Controlling the adverse effects of pest species, preventing their introduction and reducing their spread; (d) Encouraging enhancement that contributes to the values of the wetland; (e) Encouraging the rehabilitation of degraded wetlands.
Policy 3.2.17 – Identifying significant soil	Identify areas of soil that are significant using the following criteria: (a) Land classified as land use capability I, II and IIIe in accordance with the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory; (b) Degree of significance for primary production; (c) Significance for providing contaminant buffering or filtering services; (d) Significance for providing water storage or flow retention services; (e) Degree of rarity.
Policy 3.2.18 - Managing significant soil	Manage areas of significant soil, by all of the following: (a) Maintaining those values that make the soil significant; (b) Recognising that loss of significant soil to urban development may occur in accordance with any future development strategy; (c) Controlling the adverse effects of pest species, preventing their introduction and reducing their spread.
Chapter 4 - Communities in Otago are resilient, safe and healthy	
Objective 4.6	Hazardous substances, contaminated land and waste materials do not harm human health or the quality of the environment in Otago.



Number	Provision
Policy 4.6.2 – Use, storage and disposal of hazardous substances	Manage the use, storage and disposal of hazardous substances, by all of the following: (a) Providing secure containment for the storage of hazardous substances; (b) Minimising risk associated with natural hazard events; (c) Ensuring the health and safety of people; (d) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the environment; (e) Providing for the development of facilities to safely store, transfer, process, handle and dispose of hazardous substances; (f) Ensuring hazardous substances are treated or disposed of in accordance with the relevant regulatory requirements; (g) Restricting the location and intensification of activities that may result in reverse sensitivity effects near authorised facilities for hazardous substance bulk storage, treatment or disposal; (h) Encouraging the use of best management practices.
Policy 4.6.8 - Waste storage, recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal	Manage the storage, recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal of waste materials by undertaking all of the following: (a) Providing for the development of facilities and services for the storage, recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal of waste materials; (b) Ensuring the health and safety of people; (c) Minimising adverse effects on the environment; (d) Minimising risk associated with natural hazard events; (e) Restricting the location of activities that may result in reverse sensitivity effects near waste management facilities and services.
Policy 4.6.9 - New Contaminated land	Avoid the creation of new contaminated land or, where this is not practicable, minimise adverse effects on the environment.
Chapter 5 – People are able to use and enjoy Otago’s natural and built environment	
Objective 5.1	Public access to areas of value to the community is maintained or enhanced.
Policy 5.1.1 – Public access	Maintain or enhance public access to the natural environment, including to the coast, lakes, rivers and their margins and where possible areas of cultural or historic significance, unless restricting access is necessary for one or more of the following: (a) Protecting public health and safety;



Number	Provision
	(b) Protecting the natural heritage and ecosystem values of sensitive natural areas or habitats; (c) Protecting identified sites and values associated with historic heritage or cultural significance to Kāi Tahu; (d) Ensuring a level of security consistent with the operational requirements of a lawfully established activity.
Objective 5.2	Historic heritage resources are recognised and contribute to the region's character and sense of identity.
Policy 5.2.1 - Recognising historic heritage	Recognise all the following elements as characteristic or important to Otago's historic heritage: (a) Residential and commercial buildings; (b) Māori cultural and historic heritage values; (c) 19th and early 20th century pastoral sites; (d) Early surveying, communications and transport, including roads, bridges and routes; (e) Early industrial historic heritage, including mills and brickworks; (f) Gold and other mining systems and settlements; (g) Dredge and ship wrecks; (h) Coastal historic heritage, particularly Kāi Tahu occupation sites and those associated with early European activity such as whaling; (i) Memorials; (j) Trees and vegetation.
Policy 5.2.2 - Identifying historic heritage	Identify historic heritage places and areas of regional or national significance, using the attributes in Schedule 5.
Policy 5.2.3 - Managing historic heritage	Protect and enhance places and areas of historic heritage, by all of the following: (a) Recognising that some places or areas are known or may contain archaeological sites, wāhi tapu or wāhi taoka which could be of significant historic or cultural value; (b) Applying these provisions immediately upon discovery of such previously unidentified archaeological sites or areas, wāhi tapu or wāhi taoka; (c) Avoiding adverse effects on those values that contribute to the area or place being of regional or national significance; (d) Minimising significant adverse effects on other values of areas and places of historic heritage;



Number	Provision
	(e) Remedying when adverse effects on other values cannot be avoided; (f) Mitigating when adverse effects on other values cannot be avoided or remedied; (g) Encouraging the integration of historic heritage values into new activities; (h) Enabling adaptive reuse or upgrade of historic heritage places and areas where historic heritage values can be maintained.
Objective 5.3	Sufficient land is managed and protected for economic production.
Policy 5.3.1 – Rural activities	(a) Enabling primary production and other rural activities that support that production; (b) Providing for mineral exploration, extraction and processing; (c) Minimising the loss of significant soils; (d) Restricting the establishment of incompatible activities in rural areas that are likely to lead to reverse sensitivity effects; (e) Minimising the subdivision of productive rural land into smaller lots that may result in a loss of its productive capacity or productive efficiency; (f) Providing for other activities that have a functional need to locate in rural areas.
Policy 5.3.5 - Tourism and outdoor recreation	Recognise the social and economic value of some forms of outdoor recreation and tourism having access to, and being located within, outstanding natural features and landscapes.
Objective 5.4	Adverse effects of using and enjoying Otago’s natural and physical resources are minimised.
Policy 5.4.3 - Precautionary approach to adverse effects	Apply a precautionary approach to activities where adverse effects may be uncertain, not able to be determined, or poorly understood but are potentially significant or irreversible.
Policy 5.4.5 - Pest plants and animals	Control the adverse effects of pest species, prevent their introduction, reduce their spread and enable the removal and destruction of material for biosecurity purposes, to safeguard all of the following: (a) The viability of indigenous species and habitats for indigenous species; (b) Ecosystem services that support economic activities; (c) Water quality and water quantity; (d) Soil quality;

Number	Provision
	(e) Human and animal health; (f) Recreation values; (g) Landscapes, seascapes and natural character; (h) Primary production.
Policy 5.4.6 - Offsetting for indigenous biological diversity	Consider indigenous biological diversity offsetting, when: (a) Residual adverse effects of activities cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated; (b) The offset achieves no net loss and preferably a net gain in indigenous biological diversity; (c) The offset ensures there is no loss of individuals of Threatened taxa other than kanuka (<i>Kunzea robusta</i> and <i>Kunzea serotina</i>), and no reasonably measurable loss within the ecological district to an At Risk-Declining taxon, other than mānuka (<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>), under the New Zealand Threat Classification System ("NZTCS"); (d) The offset is undertaken where it will result in the best ecological outcome, preferably; (i) Close to the location of development; or (ii) Within the same ecological district or coastal marine biogeographic region; (e) The offset is applied so that the ecological values being achieved are the same or similar to those being lost; (f) The positive ecological outcomes of the offset last at least as long as the impact of the activity, preferably in perpetuity; (g) The offset will achieve biological diversity outcomes beyond results that would have occurred if the offset was not proposed; (h) The delay between the loss of biological diversity through the proposal and the gain or maturation of the offset's biological diversity outcomes is minimised.
Policy 5.4.8 - Adverse effects from mineral and petroleum exploration, extraction and processing	Manage adverse effects from the exploration, extraction and processing of minerals and petroleum, by: (a) Giving preference to avoiding their location in all of the following: (i) Areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna in the coastal environment; (ii) Outstanding natural character in the coastal environment; (iii) Outstanding natural features and natural landscapes, including seascapes, in the coastal environment; (iv) Areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna beyond the coastal environment;



Number	Provision
	(v) Outstanding natural character in areas beyond the coastal environment; (vi) Outstanding natural features and landscapes beyond the coastal environment; (vii) Outstanding water bodies or wetlands; (viii) Places or areas containing historic heritage of regional or national significance; (ix) Areas subject to significant natural hazard risk;
	(b) Where it is not practicable to avoid locating in the areas listed in a) above because of the functional needs of that activity: (i) Avoid adverse effects on the values that contribute to the significant or outstanding nature of a) i-iii; (ii) Avoid, remedy or mitigate, as necessary, adverse effects on values in order to maintain the outstanding or significant nature of a) iv-viii; (iii) Consider first biological diversity offsetting, and then biological diversity compensation, if adverse effects described in b) ii. on indigenous biological diversity cannot be practicably remedied or mitigated; (iv) Minimise any increase in natural hazard risk through mitigation measures; (v) Consider environmental compensation if adverse effects described in b) ii, other than on indigenous biological diversity, cannot practically be avoided, remedied or mitigated;
	(b) Avoid significant adverse effects on natural character in all other areas of the coastal environment;
	(c) Avoiding adverse effects on the health and safety of the community;
	(d) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating adverse effects on other values including highly valued natural features, landscapes and seascapes in order to maintain their high values;
	(e) Considering biological diversity offsetting or compensating for residual adverse effects on other values;
	(f) Reducing unavoidable adverse effects by: (i) Staging development for longer term activities; and (ii) Progressively rehabilitating the site, where possible;
	(g) Applying a precautionary approach (including adaptive management where appropriate) to assessing the effects of the activity, where there is scientific uncertainty, and potentially significant or irreversible adverse effects.

PROPOSED OTAGO REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2021

The provisions that are highlighted orange within the table below are under appeal.

FYI – the provisions in this table have been updated based off the tracked appeals version last updated June 2025.



Number	Provision
Part 1 – Introduction and General Provisions	
Mana Whenua	
Objective MW-O1 – Principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi	The principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi are given effect in resource management processes and decisions, utilising a partnership approach between councils and papatipu rūnaka to ensure that what is valued by mana whenua is actively protected in the region.
Policy MW-P3 – Supporting Kāi Tahu Hauora	The natural environment is managed to support Kāi Tahu hauora by: 1. recognising that Kāi Tahu hold an ancestral and enduring relationship with all whenua, wai māori and coastal waters within their takiwā, 2. protecting customary uses, Kāi Tahu values and relationships as identified by Kāi Tahu to resources and areas of significance, and restoring these uses and values where they have been degraded by human activities, 3. safeguarding the mauri and life-supporting capacity of natural resources, recognising the whakapapa connections of Kāi Tahu with these resources as taoka, and the connections to practices such as mahika kai, and 4. working with Kāi Tahu to incorporate mātauraka into resource management processes and decision-making.
Part 2 – Resource Management Overview	
Integrated Management	
Objective IM-O1 – Long-term vision	The management of natural and physical resources, by and for the people of Otago, in partnership with Kāi Tahu, achieves a healthy and resilient natural environment, including the ecosystem services it provides and supports the well-being of present and future generations.
Objective IM-O2 - Ki uta ki tai	The management of natural and physical resources embraces ki uta ki tai, recognising that the environment is an interconnected system which depends on its connections to flourish and must be managed as an interdependent whole.
Objective IM-O3 – Sustainable impact	Otago’s communities provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being in ways that support or restore environmental integrity, form, functioning, and resilience, so that the life-supporting capacities of air, water, soil, and ecosystems are sustainably managed, for future generations.



Number	Provision
Objective IM-O4 – Climate Change	Otago’s communities, including Kāi Tahu, understand what climate change means for their future, and responses to climate change in the region (including climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation): (1) are aligned with national level climate change responses, (2) assist with achieving the national target for emissions reduction, including by having a highly renewable energy system, and (3) are recognised as integral to achieving the outcomes sought by this RPS.
Policy IM-P3 - Providing for mana whenua cultural values in achieving integrated management	Recognise and provide for the relationship of Kāi Tahu with natural resources by: (1) enabling mana whenua to exercise rakatirataka and kaitiakitaka, (2) facilitating active participation of mana whenua in resource management processes and decision making, (3) incorporating mātauraka Māori in processes and decision-making, and (4) ensuring resource management provides for the connections of Kāi Tahu to wāhi tūpuna, wai māori (including awa [rivers] and roto [lakes] and wai tai (including te takutai moana [coastal marine area]) and mahika kai and habitats of taoka species.
Policy IM-P5 - Managing environmental interconnections	Manage the use and development of interconnected natural and physical resources by recognising: (1) situations where the value and function of a natural or physical resource extends beyond the immediate, or directly adjacent, area of interest, (2) situations where effects of an activity extend to a different part of the environment, and (3) the impacts of management of one natural or physical resource on the values of another, or on the environment.
Policy IM-P8 - Effects of climate change	Recognise and provide for the effects of climate change by: (1) identifying the effects of climate change in Otago, including from the perspectives of Kāi Tahu as mana whenua, (2) assessing how the effects are likely to change over time, and (3) taking into account those changes in resource management processes and decisions.
Policy IM-P10 – Climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation	Identify and implement climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation methods for Otago that: (1) minimise the effects of climate change to existing activities and the wider environment,



Number	Provision
	(3) provide Otago's communities, including Kāi Tahu, with the best chance to thrive, and (4) enhance environment, social, economic, and cultural resilience to the adverse effects of climate change, including by facilitation activities that reduce those effects, and (5) protects Otago's existing renewable electricity facilities and provides for the development of new renewable electricity generation and infrastructure.
Policy IM-P13 - Managing cumulative effects	In resource management decision-making, recognise and manage the impact of cumulative effects on the form, functioning and resilience of Otago's environment (including resilience to climate change) and the opportunities available for future generations.
Part 3 – Domains and Topics	
Air	
Objective AIR-O2 – Discharges to air	The localised adverse effects of discharges to air do not compromise human health, amenity values, mana whenua values and the life-supporting capacity of ecosystems.
Policy AIR-P1 – Maintain ambient air quality	Ambient air quality is, at a minimum, maintained across Otago by: (1) ensuring discharges to air comply with ambient air quality limits, including ambient air quality standards and guidelines, where those have been set as limits, and (2) where limits, including ambient air quality standards and guidelines, have not been set, only allowing discharges to air if the adverse effects on ambient air quality are avoided, remedied or mitigated
Policy AIR-P3 – Providing for discharges to air	Provide for discharges to air that do not adversely affect human health, amenity values, mana whenua values and the life supporting capacity of ecosystems.
Policy AIR-P4 – Managing certain discharges	Manage the adverse effects of discharges to air by: (1) avoiding noxious or dangerous effects, (2) ensuring discharges to air do not cause offensive or objectionable effects, (3) avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects from discharges to air, including but not limited to discharges arising from: (a) outdoor burning of organic material, (b) agrichemical and fertiliser applications,



Number	Provision
	(c) primary production activities, (d) activities that produce dust, and (e) industrial and trade activities. (4) locating new sensitive activities to avoid potential reverse sensitivity effects from existing consented or permitted discharges to air, unless these can be appropriately managed.
Policy AIR-P6 – Impacts on mana whenua values	Ensure that discharges to air do not adversely affect mana whenua values by having particular regard to values and areas of significance to mana whenua, including wāhi tūpuna, wāhi tapu and wāhi taoka.
Land and Freshwater	
Objective LF-WAI-O1 – Te Mana o te Wai	Otago’s water bodies and their health and well-being are protected, and restored where they are degraded, so that the mauri of those water bodies is protected, and the management of land and water recognises and reflects that: (1) water is the foundation and source of all life – na te wai ko te hauora o ngā mea katoa, (2) there is an integral kinship relationship between water and Kāi Tahu whānui, and this relationship endures through time, connecting past, present and future, (3) each water body has a unique whakapapa and characteristics, (4) fresh water, land, and coastal water have a connectedness that supports and perpetuates life, (4) (A) protecting the health and well-being of water protects the wider environment, (5) Kāi Tahu exercise rakatirataka, manaakitaka and their kaitiakitaka duty of care and attention over wai and all the life it supports, and (6) all people and communities have a responsibility to exercise stewardship, care, and respect in the management of fresh water.
Policy LF-WAI-P1 – Prioritisation	In all decision-making affecting fresh water in Otago, prioritise: (1) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems (te hauora o te wai) and the exercise of mana whenua to uphold this, (2) second, the health needs of people, (te hauora o te tangata) interacting with water through: (a) ingestion (such as drinking of water and consuming resources harvested from the water body), (b) immersive activities (such as harvesting resources and primary contact), and

Number	Provision
	(c) personal hygiene activities (such as food preparation, utensil washing, oral hygiene, showering and flushing the toilet), and (3) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.
Policy LF-WAI-P2 – Mana whakahaere	Recognise and give practical effect to Kāi Tahu rakatirataka in respect of fresh water by: (1) facilitating partnership with, and the active involvement of, mana whenua in freshwater management and decision-making processes, (2) sustaining the environmental, social, cultural and economic relationships of Kāi Tahu with water bodies, (3) providing for a range of customary uses, including mahika kai, specific to each water body, (4) incorporating mātauraka into decision making, management and monitoring processes, and (5) managing wai and its connections with whenua in a holistic and interconnected way – ki uta ki tai.
Policy LF-WAI-P3 – Integrated management / ki uta ki tai	Manage the use of fresh water and land, using an integrated approach that is consistent with tikaka and kawa, that: (1) sustains and, to the greatest extent practicable, restores or improves: (a) the natural connections and interactions between water bodies (large and small, surface and ground, fresh and coastal, permanently flowing, intermittent and ephemeral), (b) the natural connections and interactions between land and water, from the mountains to the sea, (c) the habitats of mahika kai and indigenous species, including taoka species associated with the water bodies, (2) manages the effects of the use and development of land to maintain or enhance the health and well-being of freshwater, coastal water and associated ecosystems, (3) encourages the coordination and sequencing of regional or urban growth to ensure it is sustainable, (4) has regard to foreseeable climate change risks, and the potential effects of climate change on water bodies, including on their natural functioning, (5) has regard to cumulative effects, and (6) applies a precautionary approach where there is limited available information or uncertainty about potential adverse <i>effects</i>, in accordance with IM-P6.



Number	Provision
Policy LF-WAI-P4 – Giving effect to Te Mana o te Wai	All persons exercising functions and powers under this RPS and all persons who use, develop or protect resources to which this RPS applies must recognise that LF-WAI-O1, LF-WAI-P1, LF-WAI-P2 and LF-WAI-P3 are fundamental to upholding Te Mana o te Wai, and must be given effect to when making decisions affecting fresh water, including when interpreting and applying the provisions of the LF chapter.
Objective LF-FW-O1A – Visions set for each FMU and rohe	In each FMU and rohe in Otago and within the timeframes specified in the freshwater visions in LF-VM-O2 to LF-VM-O6: 1. healthy freshwater and estuarine ecosystems support healthy populations of indigenous species (including non-diadromous galaxiids and Canterbury mudfish) and mahika kai that are safe for consumption, 2. the interconnection of land, freshwater (including springs, groundwater, ephemeral water bodies, wetlands, rivers, and lakes) and coastal water is recognised, 3. fish passage within and between catchments is provided for except where it is desirable to prevent the passage of some fish species in order to protect desired fish species, their life stages, or their habitats, 4. the form, function and character of water bodies reflects their natural characteristics and natural behaviours to the extent reasonably practicable, 5. the ongoing relationship of Kāi Tahu with wāhi tūpuna, including access to and use of water bodies, is sustained, 6. the health of the water supports the health of people and their connections with water bodies, 7. sustainable land and water management practices: (a) support food and fibre production and the continued social, economic, and cultural well-being of Otago's people and communities, and (b) improve the resilience of communities to the effects of climate change, and (c) ensure communities are appropriately serviced by community water supplies, and other three waters infrastructure, 8. direct discharges of wastewater to water bodies are phased out to the extent reasonably practicable, and 9. freshwater is managed as part of New Zealand's integrated response to climate change and renewable electricity generation activities are provided for.
Objective LF-VM-O2 – Clutha Mata-au FMU vision	In the Clutha Mata-au FMU, and in addition to the matters in LF-FW-O1A: (1) management of the FMU recognises that:



Number	Provision
	(a) the Clutha Mata-au is a single connected system ki uta ki tai, and (b) the source of the wai is pure, coming directly from Tāwhirimātea to the top of the mauka and into the awa,
	(1) (1A) sustainable abstraction occurs from lakes, river main stems or groundwater in preference to tributaries, to the extent reasonably practicable, (6) the national significance of the ongoing operation, maintenance and upgrading of the Clutha hydro-electricity generation scheme, including its generation capacity, storage and operational flexibility and its contribution to climate change mitigation¹⁸³, is recognised, provided for¹⁸⁴ and protected, and potential further development of the scheme in Lake Hāwea, on the Hāwea River, and on the Clutha River/Mata-au mainstem, upstream of Roxburgh (within existing consented upper operating levels as at the date this Regional Policy Statement is made operative) is provided for; (6) (6A) water bodies support a range of outdoor recreation opportunities, (7) in the Upper Lakes rohe, the high quality waters of the lakes and their tributaries are protected, and if degraded are improved recognising the significance of the purity of these waters to Kāi Tahu and to the wider community, (7) (7A) in the Lower Clutha rohe, opportunities to restore the natural form and function of water bodies are promoted wherever practicable, and (8) the outcomes sought are to be achieved within the following timeframes: (c) by 2030 in the Upper Lakes rohe, (d) by 2045 in the Dunstan and Roxburgh rohe, and (e) by 2050 in the Manuharekia and Lower Clutha rohe.
Objective LF-FW-O8 - Fresh water	In Otago's water bodies and their catchments: (5) The significant and outstanding values of Otago's outstanding water bodies are identified and protected.
Objective LF-FW-O9 – Wetlands	Otago's wetlands are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development and, where degraded, restoration is promoted so that: (1) mahika kai and other mana whenua values are sustained and enhanced now and for future generations, (2) in relation to the extent and diversity of indigenous ecosystem types and habitats: (a) for wetlands outside the coastal marine area, there is no net decrease, and preferably an increase, and



Number	Provision
	(b) for natural inland wetlands, there is no decrease, and preferably an increase, other than as provided by the NPSFM, and (3) there is no reduction and, where degraded, there is an improvement in wetland ecosystem health, hydrological functioning, amenity values, extent or water quality, and (4) their flood attenuation and water storage capacity is maintained or improved.
Objective LF-FW-O10 - Natural character	The natural character of wetlands, lakes and rivers and their margins is preserved and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Policy LF-FW-P10A – Managing wetlands	Otago’s wetlands are managed: (1) in the coastal environment, in accordance with CE – Coastal Environment, and (2) by applying clause 3.22(1) to (3) of the NPSFM to natural inland wetlands, and (3) to improve the ecosystem health, hydrological functioning and extent of wetlands that have been degraded or lost by promoting: (a) an increase in the extent and condition of habitat for indigenous species, (b) the restoration of hydrological processes, (c) control of pest species and vegetation clearance, and (d) the exclusion of stock, except where stock grazing is used to enhance wetland values, and (4) to sustain and enhance Māori freshwater values.
Policy LF-FW-P12 – Identifying and managing outstanding water bodies	Identify outstanding water bodies and their significant and outstanding values in the relevant regional plans and district plans and protect those values.
Policy LF-FW-P13 – Preserving natural character and instream values	Preserve the natural character and instream values of lakes and rivers and the natural character of their beds and margins by: (1) avoiding the loss of values or extent of a river, unless: (a) there is a functional need for the activity in that location, and (b) the effects of the activity are managed by applying the effects management hierarchy (in relation to natural inland wetlands and rivers), (2) not granting resource consent for activities in (1) unless the consent authority is satisfied that: (a) the application demonstrates how each step of the effects management hierarchy (in relation to natural inland wetlands



Number	Provision
	and rivers) will be applied to the loss of values or extent of the river, and (b) any consent is granted subject to conditions that apply the effects management hierarchy (in relation to natural inland wetlands and rivers) in respect of any loss of values or extent of the river, (c) if aquatic offsetting or aquatic compensation is applied, the applicant has complied with principles 1 to 6 in Appendix 6 and 7 of the NPSFM, and has had to regard to the remaining principles in Appendix 6 and 7 of the NPSFM, as appropriate, and (d) if aquatic offsetting or aquatic compensation is applied, any consent granted is subject to conditions that will ensure that the offspring or compensation will be maintained and managed over time to achieve the conservation outcomes, (3) establishing environmental flow and level regimes and water quality standards that support the health and well-being of the water body, (4) to the extent practicable, sustaining the form and function of a water body that reflects its natural behaviours, (5) recognising and implementing the restrictions in Water Conservation Orders, (6) preventing the impounding or control of the level of Lake Wanaka, (7) preventing modification that would permanently reduce the braided character of a river, (8) controlling the use of water and land that would adversely affect the natural character of the water body, and (9) maintaining or enhancing the values of riparian margins to support habitat and biodiversity, reduce contaminant loss to water bodies and support natural flow behaviour.
Policy LF-FW-P14 – Restoring natural character and instream values	Where the natural character or instream values of lakes and rivers or the natural character of their margins has been reduced or lost, promote actions that, where practicable: (1) restore a form and function that reflect the natural behaviours of the water body, (2) improve water quality or quantity where it is degraded, (3) increase the presence, resilience and abundance of indigenous flora and fauna, including by providing for fish passage within river systems, and where necessary and appropriate, creating fish barriers to prevent incursions from undesirable species, (4) improve water body margins by naturalising bank contours and establishing indigenous vegetation and habitat, and



Number	Provision
	(5) restore natural connectivity between and within water systems.
Objective LF-LS-O11 – Land and soil	The availability and productive capacity of highly productive land for primary production is protected now and for future generations.
Objective LF-LS-O12 – Use, development, and protection	The use, development, and protection of land and soil: (1) safeguards the life-supporting capacity of soil, (2) contributes to achieving environmental outcomes for fresh water, and (3) recognises the role of these resources in providing for the social, economic, and cultural well-being of Otago’s people and communities.
Objective UFD-O4 – Development in rural areas	Development in Otago’s rural areas occurs in a way that: (4) provides for the ongoing use of rural areas for primary production and rural industry, and (4) (A) does not compromise the long term viability of primary production and rural communities.
Policy LF-LS-P16 – Maintaining soil quality	Maintain soil quality by managing both land and freshwater resources, including the interconnections between soil health, vegetative cover and water quality and quantity.
Policy LF-LS-P17 – Soil values	Maintain the health and productive potential of soils, to the extent reasonably practicable by managing the use and development of land in a way that is suited to the soil characteristics and that sustains mauri through healthy: (1) soil biological activity and biodiversity, (2) soil structure, and (3) soil fertility.
Policy LF-LS-P18 – Soil erosion	Minimise soil erosion, and the associated risk of sedimentation in water bodies, resulting from land use activities by: (2) maintaining vegetative cover on erosion-prone land, to the extent practicable, (1) implementing management practices to minimise the potential for soil to be discharged to water bodies, including by controlling the timing, duration, scale and location of soil exposure, and (3) promoting activities that enhance soil retention.
Policy LF-LS-P21 – Land use and fresh water	The health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems is maintained to meet environmental outcomes set for Freshwater Management Units and / or rohe by:



Number	Provision
	(1) reducing or otherwise managing the adverse effects of direct and indirect discharges of contaminants to water from the use and development of land, (2) managing land uses that may have adverse effects on the flow of water in surface water bodies or the recharge of groundwater, (3) recognising the drylands nature of some of Otago and the resulting low water availability, and (4) maintaining or, where degraded, enhancing the values of riparian margins.
Policy LF-LS-P19 – Highly productive land	Maintain the availability and productive capacity of highly productive land by: (1) identifying highly productive land based on the following criteria: (d) land must be identified as highly productive land if: (i) it is in a general rural zone or rural production zone, and (ii) it is predominantly LUC 1, 2, or 3 land, and (iii) it forms a large and geographically cohesive area, (e) land may be identified as highly productive land if; (i) it is in a general rural zone or rural production zone, and (ii) it is not LUC 1, 2, or 3 land, and (iii) it is or has potential to be highly productive for land-based primary production in Otago, having regard to the soil type, the physical characteristics of the land and soil, and the climate, and (f) land must not be identified as highly productive land if it was identified for future urban development on or before 17 October 2022, and (2) prioritising the use of highly productive land for land-based primary production in accordance with the NPSHPL.
Policy UFD-P7 – Rural Areas	The management of development in rural areas: (2) maintains rural areas as places where people live, work and recreate and where a range of activities and services are required to support these rural functions, and provide for social and economic wellbeing within rural communities and the wider region, (3) prioritises land-based primary production on highly productive land in accordance with the NPS-HPL, except as provided for in (5) below, (5) enables the use by Kāi Tahu of Native Reserves and Māori Land, for papakāika, kāika, nohoaka, marae and marae related activities in accordance with MW-P4,

Number	Provision
	(6) restricts the establishment of non-rural activities which could adversely affect, including by way of reverse sensitivity or fragmentation, the productive capacity of highly productive land, or existing or anticipated primary production and rural industry activities, except as provided for in (5) or the NPS-HPL.
Policy LF-LS-P22 - Public access	Provide for public access to and along lakes and rivers by: (1) maintaining existing public access, (2) seeking opportunities to enhance public access, including access by mana whenua in their role as kaitiaki and for gathering of mahika kai, and (3) encouraging landowners to avoid restricting access unless it is necessary to protect: (a) health and safety, (b) significant natural areas, (c) areas of outstanding natural character, (d) outstanding natural features and landscapes, (e) places or areas with special or outstanding historic heritage values, or (f) places or areas of significance to Kāi Tahu, including wāhi taoka, wāhi tapu and wāhi tūpuna, (g) establishing vegetation, or (h) a level of security consistent with the operational requirements of a lawfully established activity.
Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity	
Objective ECO-O1 – Indigenous biodiversity	Otago’s indigenous biodiversity is healthy and thriving and any overall decline in condition, quantity and diversity is halted.
Objective ECO-O2 – Restoring and enhancing	Restoration and enhancement activities result in an overall increase in the extent and occupancy of Otago’s indigenous biodiversity.
Objective ECO-O3 – Kaitiakitaka and stewardship	Mana whenua exercise their role as kaitiaki of Otago’s indigenous biodiversity, and Otago’s communities are recognised as stewards, who are responsible for: (1) te hauora o te koiora (the health of indigenous biodiversity), te hauora o te taoka (the health of species and ecosystems that are taoka), and te hauora o te taiao (the health of the wider environment), while (2) providing for te hauora o te takata (the health of the people).

Number	Provision
Policy ECO-P1 - Kaitiakitaka	Enable Kāi Tahu to exercise their role as kaitiaki of Otago's indigenous biodiversity by: (1) partnering with Kāi Tahu in the management of indigenous biodiversity to the extent desired by mana whenua, (1) (A) working with Kāi Tahu to identify indigenous species and ecosystems that are taoka, (2) incorporating the use of mātauraka Māori in the management and monitoring of indigenous biodiversity, and (3) facilitating access to and use of indigenous biodiversity by Kāi Tahu, including mahika kai, according to tikaka.
Policy ECO-P2 – Identifying significant natural areas and taoka	Identify and map: (1) the areas of significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitat of indigenous fauna that qualify as significant natural areas using the assessment criteria in APP2 and in accordance with ECO-M2, and (2) where appropriate, indigenous species and ecosystems that are taoka, including those identified by mana whenua as requiring protection, in accordance with ECO-M3.
Policy ECO-P4 - Provision for new activities	Outside of the coastal environment, maintain Otago's indigenous biodiversity by following the sequential steps in the effects management hierarchy (in relation to indigenous biodiversity) when making decisions on plans, applications for resource consent or notices of requirement for the following activities in significant natural areas, or where they may adversely affect indigenous species and ecosystems that are taoka that have been identified by mana whenua as requiring protection: (1) the development, operation, maintenance or upgrade of specified infrastructure that provides significant national or regional public benefit that has a functional need or operational need to locate within the relevant significant natural area(s) or where they may adversely affect indigenous species or ecosystems that are taoka, and there are no practicable alternative locations, (1) (A) the development, operation and maintenance of mineral extraction activities that provide a significant national public benefit that could not otherwise be achieved within New Zealand and that have a functional need or operational need to locate within the relevant significant natural area(s) or where they may adversely affect indigenous species or ecosystems that are taoka, and there are no practicable alternative locations, (1) (B) the development, operation and maintenance of aggregate extraction activities that provide a significant national or regional benefit that could not otherwise be achieved within New Zealand and that have a functional need or operational need to locate



Number	Provision
	within the relevant significant natural area(s) or where they may adversely affect indigenous species or ecosystems that are taoka, (1) (C) the operation or expansion of any coal mine that was lawfully established before August 2023 that has a functional need or operational need to locate within the relevant significant natural area(s) or where they may adversely affect indigenous species or ecosystems that are taoka, and there are no practicable alternative locations; except that, after 31 December 2030, this exception applies only to such coal mines that extract coking coal, (2) the development of papakāika, marae and ancillary facilities associated with customary activities on Native reserves and Māori land, (2) (A) the sustainable use of mahika kai and kaimoana (seafood) by mana whenua, (3) the use of Native reserves and Māori land to enable mana whenua to maintain their connection to their whenua and enhance social, cultural or economic well-being, (4) activities that are for the purpose of protecting, maintaining, restoring or enhancing a significant natural area or indigenous species or ecosystems that are taoka, (5) activities that are for the purpose of addressing a severe or immediate risk to public health or safety, (6) activities that are for the purpose of a developing a single residential dwelling on an allotment that was created before 4 August 2023, and can demonstrate there is no practicable location within the allotment where a single residential dwelling and essential associated on-site infrastructure can be constructed, or (7) activities that are for the purpose of harvesting indigenous tree species from an significant natural area carried out in accordance with a forest management plan or permit under Part 3A of the Forests Act 1949.
Policy ECO-P6 – Maintaining indigenous biodiversity	Outside the coastal environment and excluding areas protected under ECO-P3, manage Otago’s indigenous biodiversity by: (1) applying the effects management hierarchy (in relation to indigenous biodiversity) to manage significant adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity), and (2) requiring the maintenance of indigenous biodiversity for all other adverse effects of any activity, and (3) notwithstanding (1) and (2) above, for regionally significant infrastructure and nationally significant infrastructure that is either renewable electricity generation or the National Grid avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects to the extent practicable.



Number	Provision
Policy ECO-P8 - Restoration and enhancement	The extent, occupancy and condition of Otago's indigenous biodiversity is increased by: (1) restoring and enhancing habitat for indigenous species, including taoka and mahika kai species, (2) improving the health and resilience of indigenous biodiversity, including ecosystems, species, ecosystem function, and intrinsic values, (3) buffering or linking ecosystems, habitats and ecological corridors, ki uta ki tai and (4) prioritising all the following for restoration: (a) significant natural areas whose ecological integrity is degraded, (b) threatened and rare ecosystems representative of naturally occurring and formerly present ecosystems, (c) areas that provide important connectivity or buffering functions, (d) areas of indigenous biodiversity on native reserves and Māori land where restoration is advanced by the Māori landowners, (e) any other priorities specified in regional biodiversity strategies or any national priorities for indigenous biodiversity restoration.
Energy, Infrastructure and Transport	
Objective EIT-TRAN-O7 – Effective, efficient and safe transport	Otago has an integrated air, land and water-based transport network that: (1) is effective, efficient and safe, (2) connects communities and their activities within Otago, with other regions, and internationally, and (3) is resilient to natural hazards and the effects of climate change, and the changing needs of communities.
Policy EIT-TRAN-P21 – Operation of the transport system	The efficient and effective operation of the transport system is maintained by: (1) avoiding or mitigating adverse effects of activities on the functioning of the transport system, (2) avoiding the impacts of incompatible activities, to the extent reasonably practicable, including those that may result in reverse sensitivity effects, (3) avoiding or minimising the effects of activities and development so that the opportunity to adapt, upgrade or develop the transport system to meet future transport demand, is not compromised,

Number	Provision
	(4) promoting the development and use of transport hubs that enable an efficient transfer of goods for transport and distribution across different freight and people transport modes, (5) promoting methods that provide more efficient use of, or reduce reliance on, private motor vehicles, including ridesharing, park and ride facilities, bus hubs, bicycle facilities, demand management and alternative transport modes, and (6) encouraging a shift to using renewable energy sources.
Hazards and Risks	
Objective HAZ-NH-O1 – Natural Hazards	Risks to people, communities and property from natural hazards within Otago are maintained where they are acceptable, and managed to ensure they do not exceed a tolerable level.
Objective HAZ-NH-O2 – Adaptation	Otago's people, communities, and property are prepared for and able to adapt to the effects of natural hazards, including natural hazard risks that are exacerbated by climate change.
Policy HAZ-NH-P1 – Identifying areas subject to natural hazards	For hazards not identified in accordance with HAZ-NH-P1A, using the best available information, identify areas where natural hazards may adversely affect Otago's people, communities and property, by assessing: (1) the hazard type and characteristics, (2) multiple and cascading hazards, where present, (3) any cumulative effects, (4) any effects of climate change, (5) the likelihood of different hazard scenarios occurring, and (6) any other exacerbating factors.
Policy HAZ-NH-P2 – Risk assessments	Within areas identified under HAZ-NH-P1 as being subject to natural hazards, assess natural hazard risk as significant, tolerable, or acceptable by determining a range of natural hazard event scenarios and their potential consequences in accordance with the criteria set out within APP6.
Policy HAZ-NH-P3 – New activities	Once the level of natural hazard risk associated with an activity has been determined in accordance with HAZ-NH-P2, manage new activities to achieve the following outcomes: (1) significant natural hazard risks are avoided, (2) when the natural hazard risk is tolerable, manage the level of risk so that it does not exceed tolerable and (3) when the natural hazard risk is acceptable, maintain the level of risk.



Number	Provision
Policy HAZ-NH-P5 – Precautionary approach to natural hazard risk	Where the natural hazard risk either individually or cumulatively, is uncertain or unknown, but potentially significant or irreversible, apply a precautionary approach to identifying, assessing and managing that risk by adopting an avoidance or adaptive management response.
Objective HAZ-CL-O3 - Contaminated land	Contaminated land and waste materials are managed to protect human health and do not harm Kāi Tahu, values and the environment in Otago.
Policy HAZ-CL-P13 – Identifying contaminated land	Identify sites of known or potentially contaminated land in Otago.
Policy HAZ-CL-P14 – Managing contaminated land	Manage contaminated or potentially contaminated land so that it does not pose an unacceptable risk to people and the environment, by: (1) assessing and, if required, monitoring contaminant levels and environmental risks, (2) protecting human health in accordance with regulatory requirements, (3) avoiding, as the first priority, and only where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, mitigating or remediating, adverse effects of the contaminants on the environment, (4) requiring closed landfills to be managed in accordance with a closure plan that sets out monitoring requirements and, where necessary, any remedial actions required to address ongoing risks, and (5) prioritising the identification and management of closed landfills and contaminated land at risk from the effects of climate change.
Policy HAZ-CL-P15 – New contaminated land	Avoid the creation of new contaminated land or, where this is not practicable, minimise to the extent reasonably practicable adverse effects on the environment and Kāi Tahu values.
Policy HAZ-CL-P16 - Waste minimisation responses	Apply the principles of the waste management hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, residual waste management) to the management of all waste streams.
Historical and Cultural Values	
Objective HCV-WT-O1 - Kāi Tahu wāhi tūpuna	Wāhi tūpuna and their associated cultural values are identified and protected.
Objective HCV-WT-O2 Rakatirataka	The rakatirataka of mana whenua over wāhi tūpuna is recognised, and mana whenua are able to exercise their role as kaitiaki within these areas.



Number	Provision
Policy HCV-WT-P1 – Recognise and identify wāhi tūpuna	Sustain the enduring Kāi Tahu relationship with wāhi tūpuna, including by: (1) enabling Kāi Tahu to identify as wāhi tūpuna any sites and areas of significance to mana whenua, along with the cultural values that contribute to each wāhi tūpuna being significant, (2) recognising the rakatirataka of mana whenua over wāhi tūpuna and providing for their ability to exercise their role as kaitiaki within these areas, (3) recognising and providing for connections and associations between different wāhi tūpuna, and (4) recognising and using traditional place names.
Policy HCV-WT-P2 – Management of effects on wāhi tūpuna	Wāhi tūpuna are protected by: (1) avoiding significant adverse effects on the cultural values of identified wāhi tūpuna, (1) (A) avoiding, as the first priority, other adverse effects on the cultural values of identified wāhi tūpuna, (2) where other adverse effects demonstrably cannot be completely avoided, then either remedying or mitigating adverse effects in a manner that maintains the values of the wāhi tūpuna,
Policy HCV-WT-P2A – Management of wāhi tūpuna	Wāhi tūpuna are protected by: (3) managing identified wāhi tūpuna in accordance with tikaka Māori, and (5) encouraging the enhancement of access to wāhi tūpuna to the extent compatible with the particular wāhi tūpuna.
Objective HCV-HH-O3 Historic heritage resources	Otago’s unique historic heritage contributes to the region’s character, sense of identity, and social, cultural and economic well-being, and people’s understanding and appreciation of it is enhanced, and it is protected for future generations against inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Policy HCV-HH-P3 – Recognising historic heritage	Recognise that Otago’s historic heritage includes: (1) Māori cultural and historic heritage values and sites, and places and areas, (2) archaeological sites, (3) residential and commercial buildings, (4) pastoral sites, (5) surveying equipment, communications and transport, including roads, bridges railway infrastructure and routes,



Number	Provision
	(6) industrial historic heritage, including mills, quarries, limekilns, grain stores, water supply infrastructure and brickworks, (7) gold, limestone and other mining systems and settlements, (8) dredge and ship wrecks, and coastal structures and buildings, including breakwaters, jetties and lighthouses, (9) ruins, (10) coastal historic heritage, particularly Kāi Tahu occupation sites and those associated with early European activities such as whaling, (11) memorials, (12) trees and, (13) military structures or remains, and (14) Historic places within the meaning under section 6 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.
Policy HCV-HH-P4 – Identifying historic heritage	Identify the places and areas of historic heritage in Otago in accordance with APP8.
Policy HCV-HH-P5 – Managing historic heritage	Except as provided for in EIT-INF-P13, protect historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development by: (1) requiring the use of accidental discovery protocols in accordance with APP11, (2) avoiding adverse effects on areas or places which have been identified as having special or outstanding historic heritage or qualities, except that in circumstances (a) to (f) below, they are remedied or mitigated to the extent practicable: (a) where HCV-HH-P6 applies, or (b) a project has significant public benefit that outweighs the loss of historic heritage; or (c) the activity has functional or locational constraints and has a significant public benefit (d) the area or place is already impacted by an existing, lawfully established activity; or (e) there is significant risk to safety or property; or (f) any adverse effects are minor and relate to work necessary to adapt a historic heritage building to modern use. (3) avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects on other areas or places with historic heritage values or qualities.
Natural Features and Landscapes	



Number	Provision
Objective NFL-O1 – Outstanding natural features and landscapes	The areas and values of Otago’s outstanding natural features and landscapes are identified, and the use and development of Otago’s natural and physical resources results in the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Policy NFL-P1 – Identification	Identify the areas and values of outstanding natural features and landscapes in accordance with Te Tangi a te Manu: Aotearoa New Zealand Landscape Assessment Guidelines', Tuia Pito Ora New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects, July 2022.
Policy NFL-P2 - Protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes	Protect outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development by: (1) (A) avoiding exceeding the landscape capacity of the natural feature or landscape, (1) maintaining the values that contribute to the natural feature or landscape being considered outstanding, even if those values are not themselves outstanding, (2) avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects; and (3) managing the adverse effects of infrastructure on the values of outstanding natural features and landscapes in accordance with EIT-INF-P13.



REGIONAL PLAN: WATER FOR OTAGO

Number	Provision
Chapter 5- Natural and Human Use Values of Lakes and Rivers	
Objective 5.3.1	To maintain or enhance the natural and human use values, identified in Schedules 1A, 1B and 1C, that are supported by Otago's lakes and rivers.
Objective 5.3.2	To maintain or enhance the spiritual and cultural beliefs, values and uses of significance to Kai Tahu, identified in Schedule 1D, as these relate to Otago's lakes and rivers.
Objective 5.3.3	To protect the natural character of Otago's lakes and rivers and their margins from inappropriate subdivision, use or development.
Objective 5.3.4	To maintain or enhance the amenity values associated with Otago's lakes and rivers and their margins.
Objective 5.3.5	To maintain or enhance public access to and along the margins of Otago's lakes and rivers.
Objective 5.3.6	To provide for the sustainable use and development of Otago's water bodies, and the beds and margins of Otago's lakes and rivers.
Objective 5.3.7	To maintain the heritage values associated with Otago's lakes and rivers, and their margins.
Objective 5.3.8	To avoid the exacerbation of any natural hazard or the creation of a hazard associated with Otago's lakes and rivers.
Policy 5.4.2	In the management of any activity involving surface water, groundwater or the bed or margin of any lake or river, to give priority to avoiding, in preference to remedying or mitigating: (1) Adverse effects on: (a) Natural values identified in Schedule 1A; (b) Water supply values identified in Schedule 1B; (c) Registered historic places identified in Schedule 1C, or archaeological sites in, on, under or over the bed or margin of a lake or river; (d) Spiritual and cultural beliefs, values and uses of significance to Kai Tahu identified in Schedule 1D; (e) The natural character of any lake or river, or its margins; (f) Amenity values supported by any water body; and



Number	Provision
	(2) Causing or exacerbating flooding, erosion, land instability, sedimentation or property damage.
Policy 5.4.2A	The loss of river extent and values is avoided, unless the council is satisfied: (a) That there is a functional need for the activity in that location; and (b) The effects of the activity are managed by applying the effects management hierarchy.
Policy 5.4.3	In the management of any activity involving surface water, groundwater or the bed or margin of any lake or river, to give priority to avoiding adverse effects on: (a) Existing lawful uses; and (b) Existing lawful priorities for the use, of lakes and rivers and their margins.
Policy 5.4.6	Legal public access to and along the margins of lakes and rivers will only be restricted where necessary: (a) To protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitats of indigenous fauna; (b) To protect Kai Tahu spiritual and cultural beliefs, values and uses; (c) To protect the health or safety of people and communities; (d) To ensure a level of security consistent with the purposes of a resource consent; or (e) In other exceptional circumstances sufficient to justify the restriction notwithstanding the national importance of maintaining that access.
Policy 5.4.7	Where existing public access to or along the margins of Otago's lakes or rivers is restricted by activities in, on, under or over the bed or margin, the provision or enhancement of alternative access: (a) May be required with respect to the restriction of existing legal public access; and (b) Will be promoted with respect to the restriction of informal access arrangements.
Policy 5.4.8	To have particular regard to the following features of lakes and rivers, and their margins, when considering adverse effects on their natural character: (a) The topography, including the setting and bed form of the lake or river; (b) The natural flow characteristics of the river;

Number	Provision
	(c) The natural water level of the lake and its fluctuation; (d) The natural water colour and clarity in the lake or river; (e) The ecology of the lake or river and its margins; and (f) The extent of use or development within the catchment, including the extent to which that use and development has influenced matters (a) to (e) above.
Policy 5.4.9	To have particular regard to the following qualities or characteristics of lakes and rivers, and their margins, when considering adverse effects on amenity values: (a) Aesthetic values associated with the lake or river; and (b) Recreational opportunities provided by the lake or river, or its margins.
Policy 5.4.10	In the management of any activity involving surface water or the bed or margin of any lake or river, particular regard will be given to the heritage value of any site, building, place or area.
Policy 5.4.11	To provide for activities that have no more than minor adverse effects on water resources, lakes and rivers without the need for a resource consent.
Chapter 6 - Water Quantity	
Objective 6.3.1	To retain flows in rivers sufficient to maintain their life-supporting capacity for aquatic ecosystems, and their natural character.
Objective 6.3.2	To provide for the water needs of Otago's primary and secondary industries, and community domestic water supplies.
Objective 6.3.2A	To maintain long term groundwater levels and water storage in Otago's aquifers.
Objective 6.3.3	To minimise conflict among those taking water.
Objective 6.3.4	To maximise the opportunity for diverse consumptive uses of water which is available for taking.
Objective 6.3.6	To minimise any adverse downstream effect of managed flows.
Policy 6.4.0	To recognise the hydrological characteristics of Otago's water resources, including behaviour and trends in: (a) The levels and flows of surface water bodies; and (b) The levels and volumes of groundwater; and

Number	Provision
	(c) Any interrelationships between adjoining bodies of water, when managing the taking of water, When managing the taking of water
Policy 6.4.0A	To ensure that the quantity of water granted to take is no more than that required for the purpose of use taking into account: (a) How local climate, soil, crop or pasture type and water availability affect the quantity of water required; and (b) The efficiency of the proposed water transport, storage and application system.
Policy 6.4.0C	To promote and give preference, as between alternative sources, to the take and use of water from the nearest practicable source.
Policy 6.4.1	To enable the taking of surface water, by: (a) Defined allocation quantities; and (b) Provision for water body levels and flows, except when: (i) The taking is from Lakes Dunstan, Hawea, Roxburgh, Wanaka or Wakatipu, or the main stem of the Clutha River/Mata-Au or Kawarau Rivers. (ii) All of the surface water or connected groundwater taken is immediately returned to the source water body. (iii) Water is being taken which has been delivered to the source water body for the purpose of that subsequent take.
Policy 6.4.1A	A groundwater take is allocated as: (a) Surface water, subject to a minimum flow, if the take is from any aquifer in Schedule 2C; or (b) Surface water, subject to a minimum flow, if the take is within 100 metres of any connected perennial surface water body; or (c) Groundwater and part surface water if the take is 100 metres or more from any connected perennial surface water body, and depletes that water body most affected by at least 5 litres per second as determined by Schedule 5A; or (d) Groundwater if (a), (b) and (c) do not apply.
Policy 6.4.2	To define the primary allocation limit for each catchment, from which surface water takes and connected groundwater takes may be granted, as the greater of: (a) That specified in Schedule 2A, but where no limit is specified in Schedule 2A, 50% of the 7-day mean annual low flow; or



Number	Provision
	(b) The sum of consented maximum instantaneous, or consented 7-day, takes of: (i) Surface water as at: 19 February 2005 in the Welcome Creek catchment; or 7 July 2000 in the Waianakarua catchment; or 28 February 1998 in any other catchment; and (ii) Connected groundwater as at 10 April 2010, less any quantity in a consent where: - In a catchment in Schedule 2A, the consent has a minimum flow that was set higher than that required by Schedule 2A. - All of the water taken is immediately returned to the source water body. - All of the water being taken had been delivered to the source water body for the purpose of that subsequent take. - The consent has been surrendered or has expired (except for the quantity granted to the existing consent holder in a new consent). - The consent has been cancelled (except where the quantity has been transferred to a new consent under Section 136(5)). - The consent has lapsed.
Policy 6.4.3	For catchments identified in Schedule 2A, except as provided for by Policy 6.4.8, minimum flows are set for the purpose of restricting primary allocation takes of water.
Policy 6.4.4	For existing takes outside Schedule 2A catchments, minimum flows, for the purpose of restricting primary allocation takes of water, will be determined after investigations have established the appropriate minimum flows in accordance with Method 15.9.1.3. The new minimum flows will be added to Schedule 2A by a plan change and subsequently will be applied to existing takes in accordance with Policy 6.4.5(d). For new takes in a catchment outside Schedule 2A, until the minimum flow has been set by a plan change, the minimum flow conditions of any primary allocation consents will provide for the maintenance of aquatic ecosystems and the natural character of the source water body.
Policy 6.4.5	The minimum flows established by Policies 6.4.3, 6.4.4, 6.4.6, 6.4.9 and 6.4.10 will apply to resource consents for the taking of water, as follows: (a) In the case of new takes applied for after 28 February 1998, upon granting of the consent; and



Number	Provision
	(b) In the case of any resource consent to take water from within the Taieri above Paerau and between Sutton and Outram, Welcome Creek, Shag, Kakanui, Water of Leith, Lake Hayes, Waitahuna, Trotters, Waianakarua, Pomahaka, Waiwera and Lake Tuakitoto catchment areas as defined in Schedule 2A, subject to the review of consent conditions under Sections 128 to 132 of the Resource Management Act; and (c) In the case of any existing resource consent to take water from the Luggate catchment area, Manuherikia catchment area (upstream of Ophir) and the Taieri catchment areas Paerau to Waipiata, Waipiata to Tiroiti and Tiroiti to Sutton, as defined in Schedule 2A, upon collective review of consent conditions within those catchments under Sections 128 to 132 of the Resource Management Act; and (d) In the case of any existing resource consent to take water from the Lindis catchment area, as defined in Schedule 2A: (i) For any resource consent granted under applications RM17.301.07 and RM17.301.09A, in accordance with the conditions of these resource consents; and (ii) For any other resource consents, at the earlier of the dates specified: 1. Upon a review of consent conditions under Sections 128 to 132 of the Resource Management Act undertaken following a 5-year transition period from the commencement of any consent granted under applications RM17.301.07 and RM17.301.09A; or 2. In accordance with the conditions of a new resource consent. (e) In the case of any existing resource consent to take water within a catchment area not specified in Schedule 2A, upon the establishment of a minimum flow set for the water body by a plan change, subject to the review of consent conditions under Sections 128 to 132 of the Resource Management Act.
Policy 6.4.10A1	Enable the taking of water allocated as groundwater by Policy 6.4.1A, by: (a) Determining the volume available for taking as the maximum allocation limit less the assessed maximum annual take for an aquifer calculated using Method 15.8.3.1; and (b) Applying aquifer restrictions where specified in Schedule 4B.
Policy 6.4.10A3	For any aquifer, avoid allocating beyond the maximum allocation limit, unless the water: (a) Is for a non-consumptive take; or (b) Has been previously taken under a resource consent; or

Number	Provision
	(c) Is for a new, consumptive take of a temporary nature that is necessary for construction or repair of a structure; or (d) Is in a rock formation having an average hydraulic conductivity of less than 1×10^{-5} metres per second, which is not an aquifer mapped in the C-series of this Plan, and is taken in connection with mineral extraction activities.
Policy 6.4.10A5	In managing the taking of groundwater, avoid in any aquifer: (a) Contamination of groundwater or surface water; and (b) Permanent aquifer compaction.
Policy 6.4.11	To provide for the suspension of the taking of water at the minimum flows and aquifer restriction levels set under this Plan.
Policy 6.4.14	Other than as may be provided for by Policies 6.5.5, 8.4.2 and 10.4.2A, those taking water will not be restricted by the minimum flows set by this Plan, where the quantity taken is within any net flow augmentation specifically provided for that taking.
Policy 6.4.19	When setting the duration of a resource consent to take and use water, to consider: (a) The duration of the purpose of use; (b) The presence of a catchment minimum flow or aquifer restriction level; (c) Climatic variability and consequent changes in local demand for water; (d) The extent to which the risk of potentially significant, adverse effects arising from the activity may be adequately managed through review conditions; (e) Conditions that allow for adaptive management of the take and use of water; (f) The value of the investment in infrastructure; and (g) Use of industry best practice.
Chapter 7 - Water Quality	
Objective 7.A.1	To maintain water quality in Otago lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater, but enhance water quality where it is degraded.
Objective 7.A.2	To enable the discharge of water or contaminants to water or land, in a way that maintains water quality and supports natural and human use values, including Kāi Tahu values.



Number	Provision
Objective 7.A.3	To have individuals and communities manage their discharges to reduce adverse effects, including cumulative effects, on water quality.
Objective 7.B.2	Avoid objectionable discharges of water or contaminants to maintain the natural and human use values, including Kāi Tahu values, of Otago lakes, rivers, wetlands, groundwater and open drains and water races that join them.
Objective 7.B.3	Allow discharges of water or contaminants to Otago lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater that have minor effects or that are short-term discharges with short-term adverse effects.
Objective 7.B.4	When considering any discharge of water or contaminants to land, have regard to: (a) The ability of the land to assimilate the water or contaminants; and (b) Any potential soil contamination; and (c) Any potential land instability; and (d) Any potential adverse effects on water quality; and (e) Any potential adverse effects on use of any proximate coastal marine area for contact recreation and seafood gathering.
Objective 7.B.6	When assessing any consent to discharge contaminants to water, consider the need for and the extent of any zone for physical mixing, within which water will not meet the characteristics and limits described in Schedule 15, by taking account of: (a) The sensitivity of the receiving environment; and (b) The natural and human use values, including Kāi Tahu values; and (c) The natural character of the water body; and (d) The amenity values supported by the water body; and (e) The physical processes acting on the area of discharge; and (f) The particular discharge, including contaminant type, concentration and volume; and (g) The provision of cost-effective community infrastructure; and (h) Good Quality Water as described in Schedule 15.
Policy 7.C.1	When considering applications for resource consents to discharge contaminants to water, to have regard to opportunities to enhance the existing water quality of the receiving water body at any location for which the existing water quality can be considered degraded in terms of its capacity to support its natural and human use values.



Number	Provision
Policy 7.C.2	When considering applications for resource consents to discharge contaminants to water, or onto or into land in circumstances which may result in any contaminant entering water, to have regard to: (a) The nature of the discharge and the sensitivity of the receiving environment to adverse effects; (b) The financial implications, and the effects on the environment of the proposed method of discharge when compared with alternative means; and (c) The current state of technical knowledge and the likelihood that the proposed method of discharge can be successfully applied.
Policy 7.C.4	The duration of any new resource consent for an existing discharge of contaminants will take account of the anticipated adverse effects of the discharge on any natural and human use value supported by an affected water body, and: (a) Will be up to 35 years where the discharge will meet the water quality standard required to support that value for the duration of the resource consent; (b) Will be no more than 15 years where the discharge does not meet the water quality standard required to support that value but will progressively meet that standard within the duration of the resource consent; (c) Will be no more than 5 years where the discharge does not meet the water quality standard required to support that value; and (d) No resource consent, subsequent to one issued under (c), will be issued if the discharge still does not meet the water quality standard required to support that value.
Policy 7.C.7	To require that all practical alternative locations for the storage of hazardous substances have been considered before such storage occurs in close proximity to any lake or river or to mean high water springs; and, if it is not practical to locate elsewhere, to require that appropriate risk management contingencies are put in place.
Policy 7.C.8	To promote the use of contingency plans for the prevention, containment and recovery of the accidental spill of any hazardous substance which may adversely affect water quality.
Policy 7.C.11	To require the holder of any consent for a dam constructed for the storage of contaminants to completely remedy any adverse effect of the failure or overtopping of the dam structure, either during or after its construction.
Policy 7.D.3	Prohibit objectionable discharges of water or contaminants that degrade the natural and human use values, including Kāi Tahu values, of Otago lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater.



Number	Provision
Policy 7.D.5	When considering any discharge under section 12.C, have regard to: (a) The effects, including cumulative effects, of the discharge on water quality, ecosystem health and natural and human use values, including Kāi Tahu cultural and spiritual beliefs, values and uses; and (b) The physical characteristics of the land and the sensitivity of the receiving water; and (c) The quality and performance of the discharge management system to be used, and in particular: (i) Options to be employed to reduce any adverse environmental effects of the discharge; and (ii) Monitoring of the performance of the discharge management system; and (d) Any staged timeframe and any environmental management plan to achieve: (i) Compliance with the permitted activity rules and Schedule 16 discharge thresholds for the duration of the consent; or (ii) The demonstrable reduction of adverse environmental effects of the discharge over the duration of the consent; and (e) Trends in the quality of the receiving water relative to the Schedule 15 freshwater characteristics, limits, and targets and relative to any national bottom lines specified in Appendices 2A and 2B of the NPS-FM 2020; and (f) The extent to which potentially significant, adverse effects arising from the discharge are avoided; and (g) The value of the existing investment in infrastructure; and (h) The current state of technical knowledge and the use of industry best practice for managing environmental effects; and (i) The extent to which co-ordinating the discharges across multiple landholdings enables water quality objectives to be more effectively met; and (j) The social, cultural and economic value of the use of land and water that gives rise to the discharge.
Policy 7.D.10	The loss or discharge of sediment from earthworks is avoided or, where avoidance is not achievable, best practice guidelines for minimising sediment loss are implemented to maintain water quality.
Chapter 8 - The Beds and Margins of Rivers and Lakes	
Objective 8.3.1	To maintain: (a) The stability and function of existing structures located in, on, under or over the bed or margin of any lake or river;



Number	Provision
	(b) The stability of the bed and bank of any lake or river; and (c) The flood and sediment carrying capacity of any lake or river.
Objective 8.3.2	To minimise reduction in water quality caused by bed disturbance.
Objective 8.3.5	To maintain the passage of fish, or improve the passage of fish, by instream structures, except where it is desirable to prevent the passage of some fish species in order to protect desired fish species, their life stages, or their habitats.
Policy 8.4.1	When managing activities in, on, under or over the bed or margin of any lake or river, to give priority to avoiding changes in the nature of flow and sediment processes in those water bodies, where those changes will cause adverse effects: (a) On the stability and function of existing structures located in, on, under or over the bed or margin of any lake or river; (b) Arising from associated erosion or sedimentation of the bed or margin of any lake or river, or land instability; or (c) Arising from any reduction in the flood carrying capacity of any lake or river.
Policy 8.4.2	Financial contributions, or works or services may be required to offset, remedy or mitigate any unavoidable adverse effect of damming or reclamation on: (a) Any natural or human use value identified in Schedule 1; (b) The natural character of the water body; (c) Any amenity value supported by the water body; or (d) Any heritage value associated with any affected water body.
Policy 8.5.1	To require, where necessary, desirable and practicable, any structure in or on the bed of any lake or river to provide for fish migration through or past it, or alternative remedial measures where fish migration is not practicable.
Policy 8.6.1	In managing the disturbance of the bed or margin of any lake or river, to have regard to any adverse effect on: (a) The spawning requirements of indigenous fauna, and trout or salmon; (b) Bed and bank stability; (c) Water quality; (d) Amenity values caused by any reduction in water clarity; and (e) Downstream users.



Number	Provision
Policy 8.6.2	To promote best management practices for activities that occur within or adjacent to the bed of lakes and rivers in order to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effect.
Policy 8.7.1	To promote the creation, retention and enhancement of appropriate riparian vegetation where it will: (a) Maintain or enhance water quality, through the interception of non-point source contamination from adjacent land; (b) Enhance the aquatic ecosystems within a water body, and the habitat for flora and fauna on the margins; (c) Maintain or enhance the natural character of lakes and rivers and their margins; (d) Maintain or enhance amenity values; (e) Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects arising from flooding or erosion; (f) Be unlikely to have a significant adverse effect on desirable species already present, or adjacent to, and downstream from, that riparian vegetation; (g) Be unlikely to restrict existing public access along the beds and margins of Otago's lakes and rivers; (h) Be unlikely to have a significant adverse effect on the heritage value of any site, building, place or area; (i) Be unlikely to impose any significant operational constraints on existing network utilities; or (j) Enhance mahika kai values.
Policy 8.8.1	To consider practical alternatives to: (a) The reclamation of the bed of any lake or river; and (b) The deposition of any substance in, on or under, the bed or margin of any lake or river.
Policy 8.8.2	To require only cleanfill be used to create any reclamation of the bed of a lake or river.
Chapter 9 - Groundwater	
Objective 9.3.3	To maintain the quality of Otago's groundwater.
Policy 9.4.14	To require appropriate siting, construction and operation of new groundwater bores, to prevent: (a) Contaminants from entering an aquifer; and

Number	Provision
	(b) The contamination of groundwater in any aquifer from the groundwater in another aquifer; and to promote such management for existing bores.
Policy 9.4.17	To require new drill holes to be appropriately sealed to prevent contaminants entering any aquifer.
Chapter 10 - Wetlands	
Objective 10.3.1	Otago's wetlands and their individual and collective values and uses will be maintained or enhanced for present and future generations.
Objective 10.4.8	The loss of natural inland wetlands is avoided, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted, except where: (a) The loss of extent or values arises from any of the following: (i) The customary harvest of food or resources undertaken in accordance with tikanga Maori (ii) Restoration activities (iii) Scientific research (iv) The sustainable harvest of sphagnum moss (v) The construction or maintenance of wetland utility structures (as defined in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 (vi) The maintenance or operation of specified infrastructure, or other infrastructure (as defined in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 (vii) Natural hazard works (as defined in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020; or (b) The regional council is satisfied that: (i) The activity is necessary for the construction or upgrade of specified infrastructure; and (ii) The specified infrastructure will provide significant national or regional benefits; and (iii) There is a functional need for the specified infrastructure in that location; and (iv) The effects of the activity are managed through applying the effects management hierarchy.
Chapter 10A - Objective, Policies & Rules for Replacement Water Take & Use Permits	



Number	Provision
Objective 10A.1.1	Facilitate an efficient and effective transition from the operative freshwater planning framework toward a new integrated regional planning framework, by managing: (a) The take and use of freshwater; and (b) The replacement of Deemed Permits, and (c) The replacement of water permits for takes and uses of freshwater where those water permits expire prior to 31 December 2025.
Policy 10A.2.2 - Duration	Irrespective of any other policies in this Plan concerning consent duration, only grant resource consents for takes and uses of freshwater, where this activity was not previously authorised by a Deemed Permit or by a water permit expiring prior to 31 December 2025, for a duration of no more than six years.



REGIONAL PLAN: AIR FOR OTAGO

Number	Provision
Part 3 – Air Quality Management: Objectives and Policies	
Objective 6.1.1	To maintain ambient air quality in parts of Otago that have high air quality and enhance ambient air quality in places where it has been degraded.
Objective 6.1.2	To avoid adverse localised effects of contaminant discharges into air on: (a) Human health; (b) Cultural, heritage and amenity values; (c) Ecosystems and the plants and animals within them; and (d) The life-supporting capacity of air.
Objective 6.1.3	To allow for the sustainable use of Otago’s air resource.
Policy 8.2.1	To allow discharges of contaminants into air from industrial or trade premises that have minor or no adverse effects without the need for a resource consent.
Policy 8.2.2	Priority will be given to avoiding adverse effects from hazardous air contaminants identified in Schedule 3 when considering the effects of any discharge of contaminants into air.
Policy 8.2.3	In the consideration of any application to discharge contaminants into air, Council will have: (a) Particular regard to avoiding adverse effects including cumulative effects on: (i) Values of significance to Kai Tahu; (ii) The health and functioning of ecosystems, plants and animals; (iii) Cultural, heritage and amenity values; (iv) Human health; and (v) Ambient air quality of any airshed; and (b) Regard to any existing discharge from the site, into air, and its effects.
Policy 8.2.4	The duration of any permit issued to discharge contaminants into air will be determined having regard to: (a) The mass and nature of the discharge; (b) The nature and sensitivity of the receiving environment; and (c) Any existing discharge from the site, into air, and its effects.



Number	Provision
Policy 8.2.8	To avoid discharges to air being noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable on the surrounding local environment.
Policy 10.1.1	The Otago Regional Council will encourage: (a) People undertaking land use activities to adopt management practices to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects of dust beyond the boundary of the property; and (b) City and district councils to use land use planning mechanisms and other land management techniques to manage land use activities which have the potential to result in dust beyond the boundary of the property.
Policy 15A.1.1	Before granting a resource consent for the discharge of greenhouse gases to air from heat devices on a site the regional council will: (a) consider the total discharges of greenhouse gases from all heat devices on the site that the application relates to; and (b) recognise that, cumulatively, all discharges of greenhouse gases resulting from the production of industrial process heat, regardless of volume, contribute to climate change, and any reduction in greenhouse gas emissions contributes to mitigating climate change.
Policy 15.A.1.2	When considering an emissions plan as part of an application for a resource consent for a restricted discretionary activity relating to discharges to air of greenhouse gases from heat devices, the consent authority will consider: (a) the timing and content of updates of the emissions plan to be made by the holder of the consent; and (b) how those updates will reflect changes in technology and best practices.



REGIONAL PLAN: WASTE FOR OTAGO

Number	Provision
Section 3 – Mana Whenua Issues	
Objective 3.3.1	To ensure that the quality of Otago’s natural and physical resources is not degraded by wastes.
Objective 3.3.2	To protect the mauri of Otago’s natural and physical resources and restore the mauri of waste-affected resources.
Objective 3.3.3	To ensure waste management practices are compatible with Kai Tahu values.
Objective 3.3.4	To adopt a holistic approach to waste management which integrates Kai Tahu cultural concepts.
Section 5 – Contaminated Sites	
Objective 5.3.1	To avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects of contaminated sites.
Objective 5.3.2	To avoid further site contamination.
Policy 5.4.1	To recognise and provide for the relationship Kai Tahu have with Otago’s natural and physical resources through: (a) Carrying out investigations of, and works to remedy and mitigate, contaminated sites in a manner which takes into account Kai Tahu cultural values; (b) Protecting waahi tapu and waahi taoka, and access to them by Kai Tahu, from the effects of contamination; (c) Acknowledging that future generations will inherit the results of work carried out to remedy or mitigate contaminated sites; and (d) Maintaining consultation with Kai Tahu on issues relating to site contamination.
Policy 5.4.3	To contain contaminated sites and rehabilitate them to the extent that is practicable having regard to the use to which the land is to be put.
Section 6 – Hazardous Substances and Hazardous Wastes	
Objective 6.3.1	To avoid, remedy and mitigate the risk to the environment and human health from hazardous substances and hazardous wastes.
Objective 6.3.2	To avoid, remedy and mitigate the harmful effects of hazardous substances and hazardous wastes on traditional water, land and mahika kai values of importance to Kai Tahu.



Number	Provision
Policy 6.4.1	To promote the safe transportation, and the use, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous substances and hazardous wastes in such a manner that avoids adverse environmental effects.
Policy 6.4.4	To encourage and facilitate the reuse, recycling and recovery of hazardous substances.
Policy 6.4.8	To promote the treatment of hazardous wastes prior to disposal.
Policy 6.4.12	To recognise and provide for the relationship Kai Tahu have with Otago's natural and physical resources through: (a) Providing for the management and disposal of Otago's hazardous substances and hazardous wastes in a manner which takes into account Kai Tahu cultural values; and (b) Supporting hazardous waste disposal methods which avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment and the mauri of its natural and physical resources; and (c) Protecting waahi tapu and waahi taoka from hazardous waste management practices; and (d) Ensuring that Kai Tahu access to waahi tapu and waahi taoka is not compromised by waste management practices; and (e) Acknowledging that future generations will inherit the results of good and bad waste management practices; and (f) Maintaining consultation with Kai Tahu on issues relating to hazardous substances and hazardous waste management.
Section 7 - Landfills	
Objective 7.3.1	To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse environmental effects arising from the discharge of contaminants at and from landfills.
Policy 7.4.1	To recognise and provide for the relationship Kai Tahu have with Otago's natural and physical resources through: (a) Providing for the management and disposal of Otago's wastes in a manner that takes into account Kai Tahu cultural values; and (b) Supporting waste disposal methods which avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment and the mauri of its natural and physical resources; and (c) Protecting waahi tapu and waahi taoka from waste management practices; and (d) Ensuring that Kai Tahu access to waahi tapu and waahi taoka is not compromised by waste management practices; and (e) Acknowledging that future generations will inherit the results of good and bad waste management practices; and



Number	Provision
	(f) Maintaining consultation with Kai Tahu on issues relating to landfill management.
Policy 7.4.4	To monitor discharges to land, water, and air from new, operating and closed landfills, and from silage production and composting.
Policy 7.4.6	To require that all new, operating, and closed landfills are managed in compliance with approved management and post closure procedures.
Policy 7.4.8	To promote alternatives to landfills as a means of waste disposal.
Policy 7.4.11	To avoid significant adverse effects of discharges and otherwise minimise the adverse effects of discharges from new and operating landfills on the environment outside a landfill footprint (as indicated in Figure 5-1 of the Waste Management Institute New Zealand's <i>Technical Guidelines for Disposal to Land</i> August 2018), by requiring that: (a) the siting, design, construction, operation and management of new landfills, and operating and closed landfills to the extent that the Guidelines are applicable, is in accordance with the Waste Management Institute New Zealand's <i>Technical Guidelines for Disposal to Land</i> (August 2018); and (b) a site-specific management plan is prepared and implemented in accordance with the Waste Management Institute New Zealand's <i>Technical Guidelines for Disposal to Land</i> (August 2018) that includes (but is not limited to): (i) methods for leachate management, collection, treatment and disposal; (ii) methods for stormwater capture and control from both off-site and on-site sources; and (iii) methods to minimise contamination of the receiving environment; and (iv) controls to manage hazardous waste and avoid any discharge of hazardous wastes or the leaching of contaminants from hazardous wastes.



CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT PLAN

Number	Position
Section 3 – Mana Whenua	
Objective 3.3.1 - Kaitiakitanga (Guardianship)	To have particular regard to Kai Tahu ki Otago's concept and spirit of Kaitiakitanga in relation to managing the effects of the use, development, and protection of Central Otago's natural and physical resources.
Objective 3.3.2 – Waahi Tapu (Sacred Places)	To recognise and provide for the importance of waahi tapu to Kai Tahu ki Otago and the protection of waahi tapu from physical disturbance, erosion, degradation, and inappropriate land use activities.
Objective 3.3.3 - Waahi Taoka (Treasured Resources)	To recognise and provide for the special significance that Waahi Taoka have in the culture of Kai Tahu ki Otago.
Objective 3.3.4 - Wai (Water)	To recognise the significance of wai to Kai Tahu ki Otago's spiritual beliefs, cultural traditions and practices, and to provide for these where appropriate.
Objective 3.3.5 - Mahika Kai (Places where Food is Produced or Procured)	To recognise and provide for the importance of mahika kai and access to mahika kai to Kai Tahu ki Otago.
Policy 3.4.1 – Kai Tahu Ki Otago – Natural Resource Management Plan (1995)	To recognise the <i>Kai Tahu Ki Otago - Natural Resource Management Plan (1995)</i> as the principal Kai Tahu ki Otago resource management reference planning document for the Central Otago District and to use this document as a basis for consultation on issues of importance to Kai Tahu ki Otago.
Policy 3.4.2 – Waahi Tapu and Waahi Taoka	To recognise and provide for the relationship of Kai Tahu ki Otago and their culture and traditions with their waahi tapu and waahi taoka through: (a) establishing processes that allow the existence of waahi tapu and waahi taoka to be taken into account when managing the effects of the use, development and protection of land and associated natural and physical resources; (b) establishing processes that ensure the appropriate runanga is notified of any disturbance to, or of activities involving, these sites and that the runanga is fully involved in the resource consent process in respect of these activities; (c) ensuring that significant adverse effects on such sites are avoided, remedied or mitigated through resource consent and plan change processes.



Number	Position
Policy 3.4.4 – Wai (Water)	To recognise and provide for the relationship Kai Tahu ki Otago have with the water resource through (a) consulting and working with Kai Tahu ki Otago and the Otago Regional Council on water quality issues that affect Kai Tahu ki Otago (b) promoting the avoidance, remedying or mitigation of significant adverse effects of activities undertaken within riparian margins and on the surface of water, and (c) ensuring the significance of water to Kai Tahu ki Otago spiritual beliefs, cultural traditions and practices are taken into account when considering resource consent applications that may have an effect on water quality.
Policy 3.4.5 – Mahika Kai	To recognise and provide for the importance of mahika kai to Kai Tahu ki Otago through; (a) consulting with Kai Tahu ki Otago on the location of mahika kai resources, (b) maintaining and enhancing mahika kai resources by ensuring that significant adverse effects of land use activities on this resource are avoided, remedied or mitigated, (c) maintaining and enhancing access to mahika kai resources where this is appropriate and practicable
Section 4 – Rural Resource Area	
Objective 4.3.1 – Needs of the District’s People and Communities	To recognise that communities need to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety at the same time as ensuring environmental quality is maintained and enhanced.
Objective 4.3.2 - Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features, and Land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area	To protect the Districts outstanding natural landscapes and outstanding natural features, and land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area (including landforms) from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Objective 4.3.3 - Landscape and Amenity Values	To maintain and where practicable enhance rural amenity values created by the open space, landscape, natural character and built environment values of the District’s rural environment, and to maintain the open natural character of the hills and ranges.
Objective 4.3.4 – Recreation Resources	To maintain and enhance the quality of the District’s recreation resources and public access to those resources.



Number	Position
Objective 4.3.5 – Water Resources	To maintain and enhance the quality of the District’s water resources by avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of land use activities adjacent to water bodies.
Objective 4.3.6 – Margins of Water bodies	To preserve the natural character of the District’s water bodies and their margins.
Objective 4.3.7 – Soil Resource	To maintain the life-supporting capacity of the District’s soil resource to ensure that the needs of present and future generations are met.
Objective 4.3.8 - Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Habitats of Indigenous Fauna	To recognise and provide for the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
Policy 4.4.1 - Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features and Land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area	To recognise the District’s outstanding natural landscapes and outstanding natural features and land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area which: (a) Are unique to the district, region or New Zealand; or (b) Are representative of a particular landform or land cover occurring in the Central Otago District or of the collective characteristics and features which give the District it’s particular character; or (c) Represent areas of cultural or historic significance in the district, region or New Zealand; or (d) Contain visually or scientifically outstanding geological features; or (e) Have characteristics of cultural, historical and spiritual value that are significant to Kai Tahu ki Otago; (f) Have high natural character values and high landscape quality that can be distinguished from the general landscapes of the Central Otago District and provide protection for them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Policy 4.4.2 – Landscape and Amenity Values	To manage the effects of land use activities and subdivision to ensure that adverse effects on the open space, landscape, natural character and amenity values of the rural environment are avoided, remedied or mitigated through: (a) The design and location of structures and works, particularly in respect of the open natural character of hills and ranges, skylines, prominent places and natural features, (b) Development which is compatible with the surrounding environment including the amenity values of adjoining properties,



Number	Position
	(c) The ability to adequately dispose of effluent on site, (d) Controlling the generation of noise in back country areas, (e) The location of tree planting, particularly in respect of landscape values, natural features and ecological values, (f) Controlling the spread of wilding trees. (g) Encouraging the location and design of buildings to maintain the open natural character of hills and ranges without compromising the landscape and amenity values of prominent hillsides and terraces. (h) Strongly discouraging buildings in the Rural Resource Area of the Wooing Tree Overlay Area to ensure a vineyard or treed park-like character with an absence of built form.
Policy 4.4.4 - Riparian Margins	To manage the effects of the use, development or protection of land within riparian margins of water bodies (including wetlands) to ensure that the natural character and amenity of water bodies and their margins are preserved, by, as far as practicable: (a) Maintaining bank stability, (b) Protecting, and where appropriate, enhancing riparian and instream habitat quality, (c) Maintaining and enhancing riparian vegetation, (d) Maintaining water quality, (e) Maintaining and enhancing public access to and along the lakes and rivers, (f) Reducing the incidence and severity of flooding where this is achievable, and (g) Maintaining and enhancing the safety and efficiency of navigation on the adjacent water body where this is relevant while recognising that some activities need to locate within riparian margins to operate efficiently.
Policy 4.4.6 – Adverse Effects on the Soil Resource	To ensure that the location, construction and / or operation of land use activities and subdivision make adequate provision for the protection of the soil resource by avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of practices which may cause: (a) Erosion, instability or loss of topsoil, (b) Loss of nutrient or incidence of soil contamination, (c) Loss of soils with special qualities, (d) A reduction in vegetation cover and moisture holding capacity, and (e) Soil compaction.



Number	Position
Policy 4.4.7 – Significant Indigenous Vegetation, Wetlands and Wildlife	To protect areas of: (a) Significant indigenous vegetation, (b) Significant habitats of indigenous fauna, (c) Significant wetlands, (d) Indigenous vegetation or habitats that support a significant indigenous freshwater fishery, and (e) Habitats of statutorily managed sports fish and game. From the adverse effects of land use activities and subdivision and to promote and encourage, where practicable, the retention, enhancement and reinstatement of indigenous ecosystems within the District.
Policy 4.4.8 – Adverse Effects on the Amenity Values of Neighbouring Properties	To ensure that the effects associated with some activities including (but not limited to): (a) Noise (including noise associated with traffic generation, night time operations), and vibration, (b) The generation of a high level of traffic, in particular heavy vehicles, (c) Glare, particularly from building finish, (d) A reduction in visual amenity due to excessive signage and the storage of goods or waste products on the site, (e) The generation of odour, dusts, wastes and hazardous substances, and (f) The use and / or storage of hazardous goods or substances do not significantly adversely affect the amenity values and privacy of neighbouring properties or the safe and efficient operation of the roading network.
Policy 4.4.12 – Weed and Pest Plant and Animal Infestation	To encourage land use practices that avoid, remedy or mitigate weed infestation, in particular wilding tree spread, and the spread of pest plants and animals throughout the district.
Policy 4.4.14 – Back Country Amenity Values	To ensure that activities avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the open space, landscape, historic, natural character, natural quiet and amenity values of the quality and range of recreational opportunities available in, the District’s back country and / or remote areas.
Section 12 – District Wide Rules and Performance Standards	
Objective 12.3.1 – Safe and Efficient Roding Network	To promote the safe and efficient operation of the District’s roading network.



Number	Position
Objective 12.3.2 – Protection from Noise	To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of noise on the District’s amenity values and the health and wellbeing of the District’s people.
Objective 12.3.3 – Reducing the Adverse Effects of Signs	To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of signs on traffic and the general amenity values of the District while recognising that signs are a necessary adjunct to many activities.
Objective 12.3.4 - Avoidance, Remedying or Mitigation of Nuisances	To ensure that activities avoid, remedy or mitigate nuisance to adjoining properties from odour, dust, lightspill, glare and electrical interference.
Policy 12.4.1 – Parking, Loading and Manoeuvring	To avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the safe and efficient operation of the roading network by requiring: (a) Safe and efficient access points to the roading network, and (b) Off-road loading and manoeuvring space and facilities, and (c) Off-street parking, where these are appropriate.
Policy 12.4.2 – Noise	To determine the suitability of noise generating activities in any given locality by having regard to: (a) The specific characteristics and amenity values of the locality from which the noise originates, and (b) The sound pressure level of the proposed activity, and (c) The frequency that the noisy activity takes place, and (d) The length of time that the noise continues, and (e) Any special characteristics of the noise, to ensure that the adverse effects of noise on other activities and the natural and physical resources of the locality (including cumulative effects) reflect standards acceptable to the community.
Policy 12.4.4 – Signs	To determine the suitability of signs in any given location by having regard to the sign’s effect on the following matters: (a) The safe and efficient operation of the roading network, and (b) The amenities of the locality, and (c) Landscape values, and (d) The character and scale of the building, site or area, and (e) Any heritage, historical or cultural values present.
Policy 12.4.5 – Temporary Signs	To enable the use of temporary signs in association with temporary activities while ensuring the dimension, location and the duration



Number	Position
	of display of such signs avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on amenity values and the safe and efficient operation of the roading network.
Policy 12.4.7 – Management of Nuisance Effects	To encourage resource users to adopt management practices that avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of: (a) odour, (b) lightspill and glare, (c) dust, and (d) electrical interference, on the use and enjoyment of neighbouring properties.
Policy 12.4.10 – Transmission Lines	The transmission network is of national significance and nearby activities are therefore to be managed to avoid adverse effects in terms of reverse sensitivity, in terms of compromising the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the transmission network and in terms of ensuring that activities that are particularly sensitive to the risks associated with transmission lines are not located in close proximity to those lines.
Section 13 – Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities	
Objective 13.3.1 – Transportation Network	To enable the safe and efficient operation and development of the transportation network while ensuring that amenity values and environmental quality is maintained or enhanced.
Objective 13.3.2 – Utilities	To enable the efficient operation and development of utilities including the transmission network while ensuring that effects on amenity, heritage, landscape values and public safety are avoided, remedied or mitigated.
Objective 13.3.4 - Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features, and Land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Plan	To protect the District’s outstanding natural landscapes and outstanding natural features, and land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area (including landforms) from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Objective 13.3.5 – Landscape and Amenity Values	To maintain and where practicable enhance rural amenity values created by the open space, landscape, natural character and built environment values of the District’s rural environment.



Number	Position
Policy 13.4.2 – Managing the Development of the Transportation Network	To ensure that the design, location and operation of the transportation network recognises and provides for the following matters: (a) The avoidance, remedying or mitigation of any significant adverse effects on the environment resulting from the generation of noise, vibration, glare, lightspill and dust emissions. (b) The avoidance, remedying or mitigation of adverse effects on the on-going operation of activities that are permitted on adjacent land in terms of the plans provisions. (c) The avoidance, remedying or mitigation of adverse effects on the landscape. (d) The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and statutorily managed sports fish and game, water bodies and their margins. (e) The protection of the integrity of significant heritage and cultural values. (f) The protection of the integrity of values of importance to Kai Tahu ki Otago. (g) Public safety. (h) The potential for material damage from erosion, subsidence, slippage, inundation or other natural hazard events and the likelihood that the exacerbation of any of these processes, is avoided, remedied or mitigated. (i) The intended level and type of traffic usage, and any foreseeable future demands. (j) The promotion of efficient energy use. (k) The maintenance of the safe and efficient operation of existing infrastructure and utilities including integration with the existing transportation network.
Policy 13.4.3 – Public Works and Network Utilities	To enable the development and operation of public works and network utilities including the transmission network that are sited or designed in such a way that amenity, heritage and landscape values are not significantly adversely affected.
Policy 13.4.4 – Development of Utilities	To ensure that the design, location and operation of utilities including the transmission network, having regard to specific locational and operational efficiency requirements, recognises and provides for the following matters, where relevant: (a) The avoidance, remedying or mitigation of the adverse effects of noise, vibration, lightspill and glare on the environment.



Number	Position
	(b) The avoidance, remedying or mitigation of adverse effects on landscape values. (c) The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna and statutorily managed sports fish and game, water bodies and their margins. (d) The avoidance, remedying or mitigation of any significant increase in risk to the safety of the public. (e) The maintenance of the efficient operation of other utilities and infrastructure. (f) The protection of the integrity of significant heritage values. (g) The protection of the integrity of sites of importance to Kai Tahu ki Otago.
Policy 13.4.5 – Utility Corridors and Co-siting	To reduce the impact that utilities including the transmission network have on the landscape values of the District by promoting and encouraging the co-siting of utilities and the location of utilities in “corridors” where this is possible and practicable having regard to the operational and commercial efficiencies of the utility concerned.
Policy 13.4.6 – High Voltage Transmission Lines	The maintenance of a separation distance between residential buildings and transmission lines is consistent with the corridor management approach and has been adopted for the following reasons: (a) To ensure that the public is reasonably protected from live transmission lines in the event of an emergency which results in a line failure. (b) To protect the integrity of supply from activities that may affect or damage the line. (c) To ensure ease of access for maintenance and operation purposes. (d) To retain the option of upgrading existing lines (rather than building additional lines to meet increased electricity demand) which may otherwise be precluded by development of buildings under or immediately adjacent to existing lines.
Policy 13.4.10 – Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features and Land in the Upper Manorburn / Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area	To recognise the District’s outstanding natural landscapes and outstanding natural features and land in the Upper Manorburn/Lake Onslow Landscape Management Area which: (a) Are unique to the district, region or New Zealand; or (b) Are representative of a particular landform or land cover occurring in the Central Otago District or of the collective characteristics and features which give the District it’s particular character; or



Number	Position
	(c) Represent areas of cultural or historic significance in the district, region or New Zealand; or (d) Contain visually or scientifically outstanding geological features; or (e) Have characteristics of cultural, historical and spiritual value that are significant to Kai Tahu ki Otago; (f) Have high natural character values and high landscape quality that can be distinguished from the general landscapes of the Central Otago District and provide protection for them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
Policy 13.4.15 – Public Access	To ensure activities make adequate provision for continued lawful public access except where a restriction is necessary: (i) To protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitats of indigenous fauna; (ii) To protect Kai Tahu ki Otago’s cultural values; (iii) To protect public health and safety; (iv) To provide an appropriate level of security for the continued operation of existing power generation facilities; or (v) In other circumstances that justify the restriction notwithstanding the national importance of maintaining public access; and to encourage new public access opportunities where appropriate.



The Kāi Tahu Ki Otago Natural Resource Management Plan 2005

Part 3 – Issues, Objectives and Policies

Chapter 5 – Issues, Objectives and Policies for Otago Region

Chapter 5.2 - Overall Objectives

- (i) The rakātirataka and kaitiakitaka of Kāi Tahu ki Otago is recognised and supported.
- (ii) Ki Uta Ki Tai management of natural resources is adopted within the Otago region.
- (iii) The mana of Kāi Tahu ki Otago is upheld through the management of natural, physical and historic resources in the Otago Region.
- (iv) Kāi Tahu ki Otago have effective participation in all resource management activities within the Otago Region.
- (v) The respective roles and responsibilities of Manawhenua within the Otago Region are recognised and provided for through the other objectives and policies of the Plan.

Chapter 5.3 – Wai Māori

Objective 5.3.3 (i)	The spiritual and cultural significance of water to Kāi Tahu ki Otago is recognised in all water management.
Objective 5.3.3 (ii)	The waters of the Otago Catchment are healthy and support Kāi Tahu ki Otago customs.
Objective 5.3.3 (iii)	There is no discharge of human waste directly to water.
Objective 5.3.3 (iv)	Contaminants being discharged directly or indirectly to water are reduced.
Policy 5.3.4.1	To require an assessment of instream values for all activities affecting water.
Policy 5.3.4.2	To promote the cultural importance of water to Kāi Tahu ki Otago in all water management within the Otago Region and Lower Waitaki Catchment.
Policy 5.3.4.4	To protect and restore the mauri of all water.
Policy 5.3.4.8	To require land disposal for human effluent and contaminants.
Policy 5.3.4.10	To encourage all stormwater be treated before being discharged.
Policy 5.3.4.12	To encourage Kāi Tahu ki Otago input into the development of monitoring programmes.
Policy 5.3.4.13	To require monitoring of all discharges be undertaken on a regular basis and all information,



Part 3 – Issues, Objectives and Policies

including an independent analysis of monitoring results, be made available to Kāi Tahu ki Otago.

Policy 5.3.4.14 To encourage Management Plans for all discharge activities that detail the procedure for containing spills and including plans for extraordinary events.

Policy 5.3.4.18 To require groundwater monitoring for all discharges to land.

Policy 5.3.4.19 To require a Cultural Impact Assessment for all proposals to dam.

Policy 5.3.4.22 To require that resource consent applicants seek only the amount of water actually required for the purpose specified in the application.

Chapter 5.4 – Wāhi Tapu

Objective 5.4.3 (i) All wāhi tapu are protected from inappropriate activities.

Objective 5.4.3 (ii) Kāi Tahu ki Otago have access to wāhi tapu.

Objective 5.4.3 (iii) Wāhi tapu throughout the Otago region are protected in a culturally appropriate manner.

Policy 5.4.4.1 To require consultation with Kāi Tahu ki Otago for activities that have the potential to affect wāhi tapu.

Policy 5.4.4.4 To require that a Kāi Tahu ki Otago mandated archaeologist survey an area before any earth disturbance work commences.

Policy 5.4.4.5 To promote the use of Accidental Discovery Protocols for any earth disturbance work.

Chapter 5.5 – Mahika Kai and Biodiversity

Objective 5.5.3 (i) Habitats and the wider needs of mahika kai, taoka species and other species of importance to Kāi Tahu ki Otago are protected.

Objective 5.5.3 (ii) Mahika kai resources are healthy and abundant within the Otago Region.

Objective 5.5.3 (iii) Mahika kai is protected and managed in accordance with Kāi Tahu ki Otago tikaka.

Objective 5.5.3 (v) Indigenous plant and animal communities and the ecological processes that ensure their survival are recognised and protected to restore and improve indigenous biodiversity within the Otago Region.

Objective 5.5.3 (vii) To develop strategies and implementation plans for comprehensive control and/or eradication of pest species in targeted areas beyond conservation managed lands.



Part 3 – Issues, Objectives and Policies

Policy 5.5.4.4	To require Kāi Tahu ki Otago participation in the management of mahika kai, both introduced and indigenous.
Policy 5.5.4.7	To require that all assessments of effects on the environment include an assessment of the impacts of the proposed activity on mahika kai.
Policy 5.5.4.8	To promote the protection of remaining indigenous fish habitat by: (i) Identifying waterways that exclusively support indigenous fish. (ii) Prohibiting the introduction of exotic species where they currently do not exist. (iii) Ensuring fish passage (both ingress and egress). (iv) Removing exotic species from waterways of particular importance where this is achievable and appropriate according to Kāi Tahu ki Otago.
Policy 5.5.4.16	To require that hazardous operations and the use, transportation and storage of hazardous substances are not to impact mahika kai and other cultural values.

Chapter 5.6 – Cultural Landscapes

Objective 5.6.3 (ii)	The protection of significant cultural landscapes from inappropriate use and development.
Policy 5.6.3.16	To discourage mining and quarrying activities within landscapes of cultural significance or highly visible landscapes.
Policy 5.6.3.17	To require all applications for mining or quarrying to include: (i) Site rehabilitation plans that include the planting of indigenous species and address long term concerns; (ii) Requirement for screening off of the work site; (iii) Prevention or reduction of vibration, dust, noise, soil and water contamination; (iv) Restriction of the hours during which explosives may be used; and (v) Provision for the containment of all waste discharges from mining operation.
Policy 5.6.3.19	To require all earthworks, excavation, filling or the disposal of excavated material to: (i) Avoid adverse impacts on significant natural landforms and areas of indigenous vegetation; (ii) Avoid, remedy, or mitigate soil instability; and accelerated erosion; and (iii) Mitigate all adverse effects.
Policy 5.6.3.20	To require an accidental discovery protocol for all road realignments and widening and forest harvest roads and to avoid any sediment run-off during earthworks and road construction to avoid contamination of waterways.



Part 3 – Issues, Objectives and Policies

Policy 5.6.3.21	To require indigenous re-vegetation with locally sourced species for all disturbed areas. Revegetation should be monitored by an assessment of the vegetative cover at one growing season after establishment and again at three seasons from establishment.
------------------------	--

Chapter 5.7 – Air and Atmosphere

Objective 5.7.2 (iii)	The life supporting capacity and mauri of air is maintained for future generations.
------------------------------	---

Policy 5.7.3.1	To require earthworks and discharges to air consider the impact of dust and other air-borne contaminants on health, mahika kai, cultural landscapes, indigenous flora and fauna, wāhi tapu and taoka.
-----------------------	---

Chapter 10 – Issues and Policies for the Clutha Mata-au Catchment

Chapter 10.2 – Wai Māori

Policy 10.2.3.1	To oppose the creation of new dams within this Catchment.
------------------------	---

Policy 10.2.3.4	To require effects associated with dam management (e.g. flow issues, changes to waterways upstream downstream, habitat changes, fish passage, inundation of values habitats, health and safety issues, siltation concerns, erosion) are addressed. Where the scale of effects is such that it cannot be addressed to the satisfaction of Kā Papatipu Rūnaka and depending on the legal status of the dam Kā Papatipu Rūnaka may advocate for either the removal of existing dams or decline consent to dam.
------------------------	---

Policy 10.2.3.5	To discourage activities that increases the silt loading in waterways or reaches of waterways.
------------------------	--

Policy 10.2.3.10	To promote sustainable land use in the Clutha / Mata-au Catchment.
-------------------------	--

Chapter 10.3 – Wāhi Tapu

Policy 10.3.3.1	To require that wāhi tapu sites are protected from further loss or destruction.
------------------------	---

Policy 10.3.3.2	To require accidental discovery protocols for any earth disturbance activities.
------------------------	---

Chapter 10.4 – Mahika Kai and Biodiversity

Policy 10.4.3.1	To require native fish ingress and egress past all dams and structures.
------------------------	---

Policy 10.4.3.2	To support programmes and initiatives that enhances mahika kai.
------------------------	---

Policy 10.4.3.7	To require co-ordinated pest management controls.
------------------------	---

