

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

In this Plan, unless the context otherwise requires:

Alteration: In relation to structures, to change the function, layout, or appearance of a structure without changing its physical dimensions.

Amenity values: ^{1*} Those natural or physical qualities that contribute to people's appreciation of its pleasantness, aesthetic quality and cultural and recreational attributes.

Annual Plan: Under the Local Government Act 1974, every local authority must produce each year a draft Annual Plan for public comment. This sets out the objectives of the Council, the activities that it proposes carrying out and their cost. Performance measures by which the Council can be judged are also included.

Anticipated Environmental results: means the intended result or outcome on the environment as a consequence of implementing the objective, policy or policies and methods of implementation. It provides a means of assessing the success of the objectives, policies and methods.

Aquaculture: The farming of aquatic fish, shellfish and plants. (New Zealand Fishing Industry Board, 1994).

Aquatic Life: The fauna, flora and micro-organisms that comprise ecosystems and which are found in coastal water or attached to or buried in the seabed or foreshore. Aquatic life may also include fauna, flora or micro-organisms found landward of Mean High Water Springs that demonstrate specialisations to exist in an environment dominated by coastal processes.

Archaeological site: Any place in New Zealand, including shipwrecks, which was associated with human activity more than 100 years before and which through investigation by archaeological techniques may provide scientific, cultural, or historical evidence as to the exploration, occupation, settlement or development of New Zealand.

Bays: Areas contained within the discrete visual catchment between headlands.

Benthic: Found in, on or near the seabed (in reference to aquatic plants and animals).

Best practicable option: * In relation to a discharge of a contaminant or an emission of noise, means the best method for preventing or minimising the adverse effects on the environment having regard, among other things, to:

- a) the nature of the discharge or emission and the sensitivity of the receiving environment to adverse effects; and
- b) the financial implications, and the effects on the environment, of that option when compared with other options; and
- c) the current state of technical knowledge and the likelihood that the option can be successfully applied.

¹**NB:** Definitions marked with an * are definitions found in the Resource Management Act and subsequent amendments up to and including 1996. They are repeated here for convenience. Future amendments to definitions in the Resource Management Act should be read in substitution to those definitions listed here.

Biological Community: Term used in a general, collective sense, to mean a group of plants or animals, of distinctive character related to a particular set of environmental requirements.

Biological Diversity / Biodiversity: Means the variability among living organisms from all sources including *inter alia*, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

Capital Dredging: When dredging of an area is first done including the deepening of previously dredged areas beyond approved depths and the widening of such areas.

Coastal Marine Area (CMA): * The foreshore, seabed and coastal water, and air space above the water: NB: See Appendix 4.

- of which the seaward boundary is the outer limits of the territorial sea
- of which the landward boundary is the line of mean high water springs except that where that line crosses a river, the landward boundary at that point shall be whichever is the lesser of-
 - one kilometre upstream from the mouth of the river; or
 - the point upstream that is calculated by multiplying the width of the river mouth by 5.

Coastal permit: A consent to do something in the Coastal Marine Area that would otherwise contravene any of sections 12, 14, and 15 of the RMA.

Coherence: Relates to the way landscape elements fit together which may add to, or detract from, the quality of a scene (that is, its composition). It is ranked on a scale from landscapes with a visual unity of elements (close relationship) and unity with surrounding areas (ranked high) through to landscapes that are ambiguous with discordant elements and little visual cohesion (ranked low).

Conditions: * In relation to plans and resource consents includes terms, standards and restrictions, and prohibitions.

Consultation:² Consulting involves putting forward a proposal which is not yet finally decided upon, listening to what others have to say about it, considering their responses, and then deciding what will be done. ... Consultation should include:

- providing sufficient information to the consulted party so that they can make intelligent and informed decisions.
- allowing sufficient time for both the participation of the consulted party and the consideration of the advice given; and
- genuine consideration of that advice, including an open mind and a willingness to change.

² Air New Zealand v Wellington International Airport Ltd, High Court, Wellington Registry, CP No. 408/91, McGechan J, 6 January 2002, page 8.

Contaminant: * Includes any substance (including gases, liquids, solids and micro organisms) or energy (excluding noise) or heat, that either by itself or in combination with the same, similar, or other substances, energy, or heat:

- when discharged into water, changes, or is likely to change the physical, chemical, or biological condition of water; or
- when discharged onto or into land or into air, changes, or is likely to change the physical, chemical or biological condition of the land or air onto or into which it is discharged.

Controlled activity: * An activity which:

- is provided for as a controlled activity, by a Rule in a plan or a proposed plan; and
- complies with standards and terms specified in a plan or proposed plan for such activities; and
- is assessed according to matters the consent authority has reserved control over in the plan or proposed plan; and
- is allowed only if a resource consent is obtained in respect of that activity.

Detractors: Elements which interfere with the visual character and quality of a landscape unit. Detractors are either natural or cultural features.

Developed: In the context of the natural environment means modified by man.

Discharge: * Includes emit, deposit, and allow to escape.

Discretionary activity: * An activity which:

- is provided for, as a discretionary activity, by a Rule in a plan or proposed plan; and
- is allowed only if a resource consent is obtained in respect of that activity; and
- may have standards and terms specified in a plan or proposed plan; and
- in respect of which the consent authority may restrict the exercise of its discretion to those matters specified in a plan for that activity.

Disturbance: An action which breaks through or agitates the seabed or foreshore and includes excavating, drilling, moving, dumping, tunneling and removal of sand, shell, shingle, or other materials.

Dunelands: Areas formed from sand dunes including spits which are characterised by their lack of land backdrop.

Ecology: The study of organisms in relation to one another and to their surroundings.

Ecological District: Geographic area with a recognisable distinct geological, topographical, climatic and biological features and processes which interrelate to produce characteristic landscapes and ranges of biological communities.

Ecosystem: A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit. Ecosystem includes people and communities.

Ecosystem management: Is used in the widest sense of the term, to refer to all of the actions involved in avoiding, mitigating or remedying the adverse effects of human activities on ecosystems and, more generally, the environment. The primary focus of ecosystem management is the protection of life support capacity.

Effect: In the context of the use, development, or protection of natural and physical resources, or in relation to the environment, includes:

- Any positive or adverse effect; and
- Any temporary or permanent effect; and
- Any past, present, or future effect; and
- Any cumulative effect which arises over time or in combination with other effects – regardless of the scale, intensity, duration or frequency of the effect, and also includes
- Any potential effect of high probability; and
- Any potential effect of low probability which has high potential impact.

Emergency: Any sudden event causing or likely to cause loss of life, injury, or serious damage to property and, in relation to shoreline protection works and structures, which requires immediate measures to prevent or remedy such effects.

Endangered: Plants or animals in danger of extinction or whose survival is unlikely if adverse causal factors continue in operation, and this includes species whose habitat has been so reduced or altered that the species is in danger of rapid extinction, or species whose population numbers are so low, for any cause whatsoever, that a breeding collapse is considered to be probable.

Endemic: Species of plants or animals, which are unique to an area, or animals which may migrate but breed only in the area.

Environment: * Includes:

- a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and
- b) all natural and physical resources; and
- c) amenity values; and
- d) the social, economic, aesthetic, and cultural conditions which affect the matters stated in (a) to (c) of this definition or which are affected by those matters.

Erosion: means the natural (geological) processes of the wearing away of the land surface (including soil, regolith or bedrock) by natural agents and the transport of the derived material. Erosion includes sheet, wind, creep, slump, flow, rill, gully, tunnel gully and stream erosion. *Accelerated erosion* means intensification of the role of erosion of the land surface by human activity.

Esplanade reserve: * A reserve within the meaning of the Reserves Act 1977 which is either:

- a local purpose reserve within section 23 of that Act, if vested in the territorial authorities under section 239 of the RMA; or
- a reserve vested in the Crown or a regional council under section 237D of the RMA; and
- which is vested in the territorial authorities, regional council, or Crown for a purpose or purposes set out in section 229 of the RMA.

Esplanade strip: * A strip of land created by the registration of an instrument in accordance with section 232 of the RMA for a purpose or purposes set out in section 229 of the RMA.

Estuarine: Areas formed at the tidal mouths of, generally, larger rivers and generally associated with dunelands. Estuaries are enclosed, often by a gravel or sand bar and fresh river water mixes with seawater. They act as sediment traps accumulating silts brought in by the rivers and tides. The sheltered conditions, the rich sediment, and the mixing of fresh and salt water have a profound effect on the types, numbers and distribution of plants and animals in an estuary.

Excessive Noise: * Any noise that is under human control and of such a nature as to unreasonably interfere with the peace, comfort, and convenience of any person (other than a person in or at a place from which the noise is being emitted), but does not include any noise emitted by any-

- a) Aircraft being operated during, or immediately before or after, flight; or
- b) Vehicle being driven on a road (within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Transport Act 1962); or
- c) Train, other than at a railway station or in railway yards.

Exotic Plant: A plant which is not native to New Zealand.

Fauna: Animal life of a place or time.

Financial contribution: Money, land, works, services or any combination thereof made for the purposes specified in the plan.

Flora: Plant life of a given place or time.

Foreshore: * Any land covered and uncovered by the flow and ebb of the tide at mean spring tides and, in relation to any such land that forms part of the bed of a river does not include any part not within the Coastal Marine Area.

Freshwater fish: Species of finfish (classes Agnatha and Osteichthyes) and shellfish (classes Mollusca and Crustacea) that spend all or part of their life histories in fresh water.

Generic Landscape Areas: Within landscapes there are areas which comprise the same combination of landscape characteristics (landform, land cover, landuse). These areas can be grouped together as generic landscape areas.

Guardian: In the context of a historic or cultural site means the statutory authority, Iwi, hapu or other tangata whenua for the site that have primary responsibility for ensuring that the values of the site are maintained. Unless the context states otherwise, "guardian" does not include the Gisborne District Council and may mean officers of an authority or group.

Habitat: Means the place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs.

Handheld Appliance: In relation to agrichemicals, means a knapsack sprayer, a handgun sprayer, a motorised knapsack sprayer, or a handheld sprayer with a rate and volume of application no greater than these devices.

Hapu: Means sub-tribe, usually a number of whanau with a common ancestor.

Hazardous substance: * Means any substance which may impair human, plant, or animal health or may adversely affect the health or safety of any person or the environment, and whether or not contained in or forming part of any other substance or thing; and

- a) includes substances prescribed by regulations as not being hazardous substances.

"Hazardous substance" means, unless expressly provided otherwise by regulations, any substance -

- a) With one or more of the following intrinsic properties:

- i. Explosiveness:
- ii. Flammability:
- iii. A capacity to "oxidise"
- iv. Corrosiveness:
- v. Toxicity (including chronic toxicity):
- vi. Ecotoxicity, with or without bioaccumulation; or

- b) Which on contact with air or water (other than air or water where the temperature or pressure has been artificially increased or decreased) generates a substance with any one or more of the properties specified in paragraph (a) of this definition:

Headlands: Prominent landforms which project out into the sea.

Heritage values: Means those values, whether they be physical or not, that alone or in combination give a site or thing historical importance.

Impounding: For the purpose of Rule 4.3.9D, impounding means the alteration or disturbance of the seabed or foreshore that has the effect of collecting or confining coastal waters.

Indigenous: Plants or animals which were established in New Zealand before arrival of human beings and includes species which are unique to New Zealand (endemic) as well as those which are also found elsewhere in the world.

Intactness: A reflection of the level of modification and the type of modifying elements within a landscape. It is ranked on a scale from natural (ranked high) through to landscapes that are ambiguous with discordant elements and little visual cohesion (ranked low).

Intrinsic values: * In relation to ecosystems, means those aspects of ecosystems and their constituent parts which have value in their own right, including -

- a) their biological and genetic diversity; and
- b) the essential characteristics that determine an ecosystem's integrity, form, functioning, and resilience.

Islands: Discrete landforms surrounded by the sea.

Issue: means a matter of interest or concern to the Region's community regarding activities affecting some aspect of natural or physical resources in the region.

Iwi: Means tribe, people: an iwi authority can refer to any group which legitimately represents Maori tribal interests (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, 1992).

Iwi authority: * The authority which represents an Iwi and which is recognised by the Iwi as having authority to do so.

Jetty: A projecting part of a wharf; a landing-pier; a timber pier of slight construction.

Kai moana: Food from the sea

Kaitiakitanga: The exercise of guardianship, and, in relation to a resource, includes the ethic of stewardship, based on the nature of the resource itself.

Kawanatanga: means governorship, government.

Land: Includes land covered by water and the air space above land.

Landscape Character Types: Large areas of landscape whose unity of character is derived from similar geomorphological structure.

Landscape Character Units: The delineation of landscape units groups areas which display a homogeneous visual character. A refinement of the broad landscape character types based on landform, vegetative cover and broad patterns of land use.

Mahinga kai: Means areas from which food resources are gathered and/or propagated.

Maintenance dredging: Any dredging of the bed of the sea necessary to maintain water depths to previously approved levels, for the safe and convenient navigation of vessels, in navigation channels and at berthing and mooring facilities, including marina developments.

Maintenance and Upkeep: Activities associated with a structure or thing that are necessary to avoid the consequences of ageing and deterioration. Maintenance and upkeep does not include activities which alter the dimensions or capacity of a structure - except as provided for in a rule in this plan.

Maataitai: Food resources from the sea and "mahinga maataitai" means the areas from which these resources are gathered.

Mana whenua: Means customary authority and the title exercised by an iwi or hapu over land and other taonga within the tribal rohe.

Marae: The spiritual; social, political and economic gathering place of iwi, hapu or whanau.

Marina: A naturally or artificially enclosed or semi-enclosed area of protected water of suitable depth containing moorings in the form of finger jetties, berths or other similar structures which, in combination, provide for the permanent mooring of 25 or more vessels, each with walking access, and which area is maintained and managed for that specific purpose.

Mauri: * Means essential life force or principle, a metaphysical quality inherent in all things, both animate and inanimate.

Mean High Water Spring: The place on the shore where spring high tides reach on average.

Mineral: Means a naturally occurring inorganic substance beneath or at the surface of the earth, whether or not under water; and includes all metallic minerals, non-metallic minerals, fuel minerals, precious stones, industrial rocks and building stones and a prescribed substance within the meaning of the Atomic Energy Act 1945.

Modification: A reflection of the change to the landscape caused by human activity on the land. It is an assessment of the amount of modification which has occurred. Landscapes, which are essentially unmodified, tend to have a low VAC score (ie. low ability to absorb change), whereas landscapes which are modified tend to have a high VAC score (ie. high ability to absorb change).

Mouth: For the purpose of defining the landward boundary of the CMA, means mouth of the river either:

- as agreed and set between the Minister of Conservation and the Gisborne District Council in the period between consultation and notification of this RCEP. See Appendix 4 for the agreement between the Minister of Conservation and the Gisborne District Council; or
- as declared by the Environment Court under section 310 of the Resource Management Act.

Natural and Physical Resources: * Includes land, water, air, soil, minerals, and energy, all forms of plants and animals and all structures.

Natural hazard: Any atmospheric or earth or water related occurrence (including earthquake, tsunami, erosion, volcanic and geothermal activity, landslip, subsidence, sedimentation, wind, drought, fire, or flooding), the action of which adversely affects or may adversely affect human life, property, or other aspects of the environment.

Navigational Aid: Beacons lights, buoys and other markers

- fixed (non floating) navigational aids includes all beacons and markers that are rigidly attached to the seabed or floor, and which do not rise and fall with changes in the tide.
- floating navigational aids includes all buoys and markers that are attached to the bed or floor by rope or chain and usually rise or fall with the tide.

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement: A statement issued under section 57 of the RMA.

Network Utility: Any activity relating to:

- a) The distribution or transmission by pipeline of natural or manufactured gas, petroleum product or geothermal energy; or
- b) Telecommunication or radio communication as defined in Section 2(1) of the Telecommunications Act 1987; or
- c) The generation, transformation, transmission, or distribution of electricity; or
- d) The distribution of water for supply, including irrigation; or
- e) Drainage or sewage reticulation; or
- f) The construction, maintenance or operation of roads and railway lines; or
- g) The construction, maintenance or operation of heliports, helipads or airports as defined by the Airport Authorities Act 1966, including the provision of any approach control service within the meaning of the Civil Aviation Act 1990; or
- h) Undertaking a major project or work described as a "network utility operation" by regulations made under the Resource Management Act 1991 and subsequent amendments; or
- i) Lighthouses, navigation aids and beacons, meteorological services and ancillary structures.

And includes:

- i. All structures; and
- ii. Any incidental activity in relation to the network utility including, without limitation, the operation, maintenance, alteration and upgrading of the network utility.

Non-complying activity: An activity (not being a prohibited activity) which:

- contravenes a Rule in a plan or proposed plan; and
- is allowed only if a resource consent is obtained in respect of that activity.

In respect of the Coastal Marine Area any activity for which no rule exists is a non-complying activity.

Objective: A statement of a specific and desired environmental outcome.

Open Coastal Water: * Coastal water that is remote from estuaries, inlets, harbours, and embayment.

Permitted Activity: * An activity that is allowed by a plan without a resource consent if it complies in all respects with any conditions specified in the plan.

Personal Watercraft: Means a power driven ship that:

- a) Has a fully enclosed hull; and
- b) Does not take on water if capsized; and
- c) Is designed to be operated by a person standing, sitting astride, or kneeling on it, but not seated within it.

Policy: Means a statement that guides or directs decision-making. A policy indicates a commitment to a general course of action in working towards an objective.

Precautionary Approach: Means that in the absence of adequate or sufficient evidence to prove that adverse effects will not occur, decision makers and others exercising discretion will make decisions conservatively and favouring environmentally sound outcomes.

Preservation: In relation to a resource, means the maintenance, so far as is practicable, of its intrinsic values (Conservation Act, 1987)

Prohibited Activity: Means an Activity for which no Resource Consent shall be granted.

Proper Speed: Means speed through the water.

Protected Areas Legislation: Term that applies collectively to the statutes which govern the areas administered or managed by the Department of Conservation, and includes the Conservation Act 1987, the Reserves Act 1977, the Wildlife Act 1952, the Walkways Act 1990, the Marine Reserve Act 1971, the National Parks Act 1980.

Protected Natural Areas (PNA) Programme: Programme which aims to establish a network of reserves and other protected natural areas which is representative of the full range of New Zealand's natural diversity.

Protection: In relation to a resource, means its maintenance, so far as is practicable, in its current state, but includes:

- its restoration to some former state; and
- its augmentation, enhancement, or expansion (Conservation Act, 1987)

Rahui: Restriction on access, prohibition.

Rare: Those species with small world populations that are not at present Endangered or threatened but are at risk, and includes but is not limited, to species that are localised within restricted geographical areas or habitats or are thinly scattered over a more extensive range.

Reasonable: Means that which is reasonable as determined or resolved by the Gisborne District Council or its officers acting under delegated authority under Section 34 of the RMA.

Recommended Area for Protection (RAP): Place identified as a priority for protection because it contains the best example(s) of its type or class of natural ecosystem and/or landscape in an ecological district.

Reclamation: For the purposes of this plan, reclamation includes both:

- a) the permanent infilling of the foreshore or seabed with sand, rock, concrete or similar material to form land above the level of Mean High Water Springs (including any embankment, causeway, or rubble mound breakwater which has a vehicle access track); and
- b) the permanent drying out of any part of the foreshore or seabed below the level of Mean High Water Springs by means of the construction of a causeway, bund, seawall, other similar solid structure, or any combination thereof, which act to exclude coastal water from part of the coastal marine area.

Region: * Means in relation to a Regional Council or Unitary Authority, the region of the Regional Council or Unitary Authority as determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 1974.

Regional Coastal Plan: * Means an operative plan approved by the Minister of Conservation under the First Schedule of the Act, and includes all operative changes to such a plan (whether arising from a review or otherwise).

Regional Plan: * Means an operative plan (including a regional coastal plan) approved by a Regional Council or Unitary Authority or the Minister of Conservation under the First Schedule of the Act; and includes all operative changes to such a plan (whether arising from a review or otherwise).

Regional Policy Statement: * Means an operative regional policy statement approved by a Regional Council or Unitary Authority under the First Schedule of the Act, and includes all operative changes to such a policy statement (whether arising from a review or otherwise).

Regional rule: * Means a rule made as part of a regional plan in accordance with Section 68 of the Act.

Rehabilitation: To return a degraded ecosystem or population to an undegraded condition, which may be different from its original condition.

Relief: The nature of the relief within a landscape unit will affect its ability to incorporate change (low VAC) without significant visual effects. Gently undulating and hilly landscapes, by contrast, have a landform pattern which provides opportunities for the visual integration of change (ie. high VAC).

Restoration: Returning a place as nearly as possible to an earlier known state by reassembly, reinstatement and/or the removal of extraneous additions.

Restricted coastal activity: * Any discretionary activity or non-complying activity:

- which, in accordance with section 68, is stated by a Regional Coastal Plan to be a restricted coastal activity; and
- for which the Minister of Conservation is the consent authority.

River: * Means a continually or intermittently flowing body of fresh water; and includes a stream and modified watercourse; but does not include any artificial watercourse (including an irrigation canal, water supply race, canal for the supply of water for electricity power generation, and farm drainage canal).

Rohe: Means a territory or boundary which defines the area which a tangata whenua group claims traditional association and mana whenua.

Rule: * Means a district rule or regional rule.

Scarps: Dramatic steeply sloping, almost precipitous landforms, which face out to sea.

Ship: Means every description of boat or craft used in navigation, whether or not it has any means of propulsion, and includes:

- a) A barge, lighter, or other like vessel.
- b) A hovercraft or other thing deriving full or partial support in the atmosphere from the reaction of air against the surface of the water over which it operates.
- c) A submarine or other submersible.

Small Craft: Means a ship that is less than 30 metres in overall length, or a seaplane that is less than 30 metres in overall length and is on the water.

Small Motor Craft: Means any small craft that is propelled or driven otherwise than solely by oars, paddles, or the wind.

Solid waste: Means primarily solid contaminants for which disposal by discharge into the environment is intended, or for which disposal by discharge into the environment would be necessary if other processes such as reuse or recovery cannot be applied.

Structure: Any building, equipment, device, or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land and includes any raft.

Sustainable management: Managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in away, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety while -

- Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
- Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and
- Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

Taiao: means the natural world or environment.

Taiapure: A taiapure-local fishery declared under the Maori Fisheries Act, 1989, Part IIIA.

Tangata whenua: In relation to a particular area, means the iwi or hapu that holds mana whenua over that area.

Taonga: Treasure, property: taonga are prized and protected as sacred possessions of the tribe. The term carries a deep spiritual meaning and taonga may be things that cannot be seen or touched.

Taonga raranga: Plants which produce material highly prized for use in weaving.

Tapu: means under spiritual protection or restriction.

Tauranga waka: Canoe landing sites.

Temporary Military Training: An activity undertaken for defence purposes. Defence purposes are those in accordance with the Defence Act 1990.

Terraces: Generally long, flat plains which have been uplifted at some point in time to form a terrace. They generally include a characteristic escarpment which often varies in height with an angled terrace.

Territorial Sea: * Means the territorial sea of New Zealand as defined by section 3 of the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1977 (12 nautical miles from the coast).

Threatened: Species likely to become Endangered in the near future if adverse causal factors continue operating, and includes but is not limited to, species of which most or all of the populations are decreasing because of over-exploitation, extensive destruction of habitat or other environmental disturbance; species whose populations have been seriously depleted and whose ultimate security is not yet assured; and species with populations that are still abundant but are under threat from serious adverse factors throughout their range.

Tikanga Maori: Maori customary values and practices.

Tino rangatiratanga: Means chiefly authority, chieftainship, full tribal authority and ... refers to tribal self-management - to manage and control in accordance with the preferences of the owner.

Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi): Has the same meaning as the word "Treaty" as defined in section 2 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

Truncated Coastal Hills: Hills which have been cut off by coastal processes to form an eroding cliff and steep landward edge to the coast.

Urupa: Places associated with death, ie, burial grounds and caves.

Vegetation (In the context of landscape): The amount and pattern of distribution of vegetation within a landscape unit influences its ability to absorb change.

Vehicle: A contrivance equipped with wheels, tracks or involving runners upon which it moves or is moved (excluding items such as prams, pushchairs, shopping or sporting trundlers etc., identified in the Transport Act 1962).

Visibility: An indication as to the degree to which a landscape unit is viewed both by a static residential population and mobile viewers based on roading pattern and hierarchy. Landscapes which are not frequently seen can still be visually sensitive to change.

Visual Absorption Capability (VAC): Describes a landscape's ability to absorb change. Three criteria are used to assess VAC; modification, relief and vegetation cover.

Visual Context: The area, both horizontal and vertical, around a landscape feature or component of the landscape which provides its landscape setting.

Visual Quality (VQ): The inherent character of the landscape. Three criteria are used to assess visual quality - vividness, coherence and intactness.

Vividness: A reflection of special relief, features, or water, or of powerful spatial definition. It is ranked on a scale from landscapes that are outstandingly memorable and visually powerful (ranked high) through to bland immemorable landscapes containing little or no distinction (ranked low).

Vulnerable: Plant or animal believed likely to move into the endangered category in the near future if the causal factors continue.

Waahi tapu: A particular category of ancestral land or water which are held in the highest regard by tangata whenua. They can include places, sites, areas or objects that are tapu, sacred, and special to an Iwi. (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, 1992)

Wairua: Spirit.

Waka: Canoe.

Waste: Means any contaminant, whether liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, which is discharged, emitted or deposited in the environment and which includes all unwanted and economically unusable by-products at any given place and time, and any other matter which may be discharged, accidentally or otherwise, into the environment.

Water: * Means water in all its physical forms whether flowing or not and whether over or under the ground.

- Includes fresh water, coastal water, and geothermal water
- does not include water in any form while in any tank, pipe or cistern.

Wetland: * Includes permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water, and land-water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions.

Wharf: A substantial structure of timber, stone, etc., built along the water's edge so that ships may lie alongside for loading and unloading.

Wild animal: Specified animals under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, including deer, chamois, thar, wallaby and opossum; goats and pigs that are living in a wild state. Except for deer kept in captivity for farming, the definition does not include animals kept in captivity, or rats, mice, rabbits, stoats, ferrets or weasels.

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