1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the Regional Coastal Plan

All regional councils are required to prepare one or more regional coastal plans under Section 64 of the Resource Management Act 1991. The purpose of the Southland regional Coastal Plan is to assist the Southland Regional Council (also known as Environment Southland), in conjunction with the Minister of Conservation, to achieve the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 in relation to the coastal marine area of the Southland region. This Plan sets out the manner by which Environment Southland is to undertake its functions under the Resource Management Act 1991 and it only applies to the coastal marine area.

1.2 Principal Reasons

The principal reasons for adopting the objectives, policies and methods of implementation in this Plan, are:

- (i) to promote the sustainable management of the coastal marine area;
- (ii) to minimise conflicts between the users of the coastal marine area;
- (iii) to provide for the communities social, economic and cultural wellbeing; and,
- (iv) to maintain, or enhance the opportunity for future generations to enjoy and utilise the coast.

Other reasons have been included as part of the explanations to the Plan's specific objectives, policies and methods of implementation.

1.3 Structure of the Document

Section 67 of the Resource Management Act specifies the content of regional plans as follows:

- (1) (a) the objectives for the region; and
 - (b) the policies to implement the objectives; and
 - (c) the rules (if any) to implement the policies.
- (2) A regional plan may state-
 - (a) the issues that the plan seeks to address; and
 - (b) the methods, other than rules, form implementing the policies for the region; and
 - (c) the principal reasons for adopting the policies and methods; and
 - (d) the environmental results expected from the policies and methods; and
 - (e) the procedures for monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of the policies and methods; and
 - (f) the processes for dealing with issues-
 - (i) that cross local authority boundarules; or
 - (ii) that arise between territorial authorities; or
 - (iii) that arise between regions; and
 - (g) the information required for the purpose of the regional council's functions, powers, and duties under this Act.
 - (h) any other information required fo the purpose of the regional council's functions, powers, and duties under this Act.
- (3) A regional plan must give effect to-
 - (a) any national policy statement; and
 - (b) any New Zealand coastal policy statement; and
 - (c) any regional policy statement
- (4) A regional plan must not be inconsistent with-
 - (a) a water conservation order; or
 - (b) any other regional plan for the region; or
 - (c) a determination or reservation of the chief executive of the Ministry of Fisheries made under Section 186E of the Fisheries Act 1996.
- (5) A regional plan must record how a regional council has allocated a natural resource under Section 30(1)(fa) or (fb) and (4), if the council has done so.

These matters have determined the structure and content of the various parts of this Plan.

1.3.1 Cross Referencing

For the assistance of users of this Plan, a cross referencing system has been provided. The system vertically cross reference links from Issues down through Objectives to Policies and Rules. Some vertical cross referencing has also been made where a particular policy relates to an objective in another section. For example, the policies for discharges that relate to objectives for water quality. This vertical cross referencing is shown in the margins of the document.

Cross referencing is also used to link effects-based sections and activities-oriented sections (horizontal cross referencing). In some situations it is more practicable to address effects by identifying an activity and focusing on the effects that activity has. Regardless of whether an issue has been identified in an activity-oriented or effects-based section, this Plan is focused on addressing effects. Some effects-based sections, including the sections on Fundamental Principles and General Issues, provide issues, objectives and policies that are generic to all activities. These sections should be read in conjunction with other activity oriented sections.

In some cases, an activity may produce effects that are covered by many sections in this Plan. For example, marine farming can have effects that are covered in the deposition and amenity sections. In such instances the reader will be directed to other relevant sections by horizontal cross referencing, shown in brackets below the "Explanation" with the words "See also.". It will then be possible to find objectives, policies and rules that relate to the proposal in that section by using the vertical cross referencing.

Where an activity is not specifically identified, the reader will need to have regard to several sections. For example, anyone wishing to erect a drilling platform in the coastal marine area would need to consider several sections including but not restricted to: structures, seabed and foreshore, coastal processes and protection works, navigation and safety and occupation.

The rationale for including both activity-oriented and effects-based sections is to provide greater certainty for plan users. Also, it is often necessary to deal with an activity to address its adverse effects. This system will help the reader to identify issues, objectives, policies and rules, of relevance to their proposal, in the decision making process.

Readers of the plan are asked to note that although the plan has been drafted to ensure cross references are provided, the cross referencing is not exhaustive. There may be some instances where there is a relationship between rules, policies and objectives that is not cross referenced.

Where applicable, area specific rules are shown on the maps in Appendix 3 and the figures contained within the Plan. This Plan will also be available on CD and on the internet.

1.4 Terminology

Section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991 contains an interpretation of the terms used in that Act. That section, however, does not provide interpretation of all words and phrases used in the Act, nor all words and phrases used in this document.

Section 67 of the Act requires this Plan to contain, amongst other things, "issues", "objectives", "policies", "methods" and "anticipated environmental results" (referred to in this Plan as "outcomes"). These terms are used in this Plan in the following way:

An "**issue**" is that which is viewed as a significant matter of resource management concern that needs to be resolved. If there is no values or adverse effect, then there is no issue. The extent to which those issues are significant is dependent on the values held by people and communities in relation to natural and physical resources, activities and the environment.

An "**objective**" is the resolution of a particular issue or set of issues. It is the desired result, end state, situation or condition that is aimed for.

A "**policy**" states explicitly the action that will be taken to achieve the stated objectives, i.e. a policy spells out what is going to be done.

A "**method**" is the practical action by which a policy is implemented. It is what can be done to put the policy into effect. A rule is a regulatory method.

An "outcome" is the anticipated environmental result of policies, methods and rules being implemented.

In some objectives and policies the phrase "avoid wherever practicable, remedy or mitigate" is used. In those objectives and policies, priority is being given to the need to avoid adverse effects. Only if this is not practicable are the options to remedy or mitigate to be used.

Six different types of activity are outlined in the rules of this Plan. They have been described below in simple terms to assist the reader who wishes to undertake an activity in the coastal marine area. This description is simply a guideline, the full legal descriptions are included in the glossary:

A "**permitted activity**" is an activity for which no resource consent is required if it complies with all the standards specified in the rule.

A "**controlled activity**" is an activity for which a resource consent must be applied for. The Regional Council will grant the consent but it may be subject to conditions.

A "discretionary activity" is an activity for which a resource consent must be applied for. The Regional Council has some discretion over whether it will grant the consent.

A "**non-complying activity**" is either an activity that is not specifically prohibited but contravenes a rule in a plan or proposed plan, or an activity that is provided for as a non-complying activity in the Plan. Either way a resource consent must be applied for. The Regional Council has some discretion over whether it will grant the consent. The activity must pass a more stringent test than is the case with a discretionary activity.

A "**prohibited activity**" is one that is not allowed and no application can be made.

Where Maori words and phrases are quoted from the Resource Management Act or other publications (for example the Treaty of Waitangi), then the same spelling of those words and phrases is used. In other cases, preference is given where possible to the use of the southern dialect of Maori. This is most noticeable in those words containing the letters "ng". In southern dialect it is more correct to use a "k". Examples include:

Kai Tahu rather than Ngai Tahu Takata whenua rather than tangata whenua Runaka rather than runanga Mahika kai rather than mahinga kai

The common meaning of Maori words and phrases used in this document is contained in the Glossary in Appendix 1.

Use of the Southern Maori dialect is preferred over the Northern dialect in the Plan as the Plan is for the Southland region and the Southern dialect is part of this region. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and the Resource Management Act 1991 use the Northern dialect and where this is used in the Plan, the Southern dialect is put in square brackets. The English interpretations of the Maori dialect are put in the glossary as it is seen as unnecessary to explain the meaning of Maori terminology during the course of the text.

1.5 Extent of this Regional Coastal Plan

1.5.1 Coastal Marine Area

The Regional Coastal Plan has effect over the coastal marine area of the Southland region. The coastal marine area is defined by Section 2 of the Resource Management Act as:

The foreshore, seabed and coastal water, and the air space above the water -

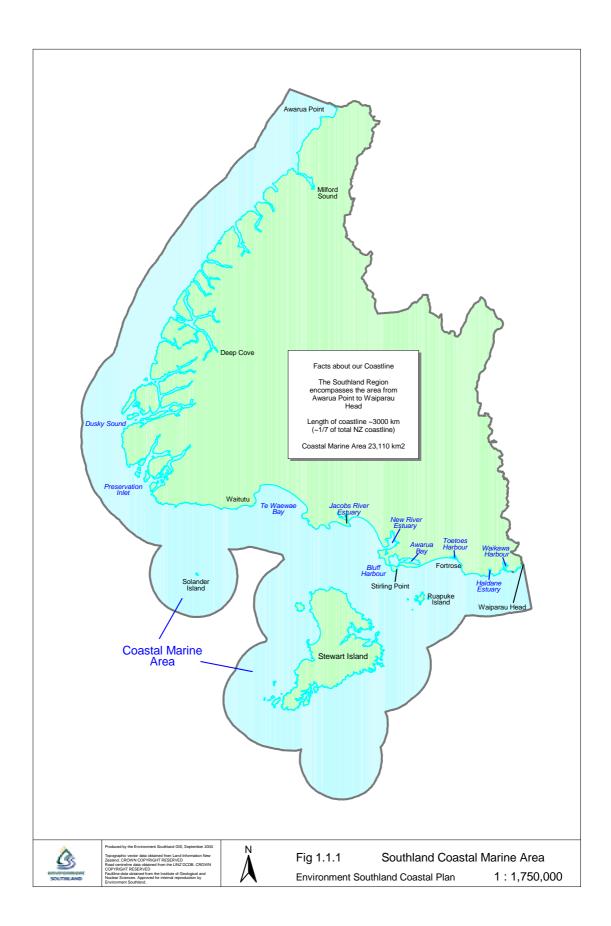
- (a) of which the seaward boundary is the outer limits of the territorial sea:
- (b) of which the landward boundary is the line of mean high water springs, except that where that line crosses a river, the landward boundary at that point shall be whichever is the lesser of -
 - (i) one kilometre upstream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

Southland's coastal marine area extends from the line of mean high water springs out to the 12-nautical mile territorial sea limit (22.2 kilometres) from Awarua Point to Brothers Point, as shown on Figure 1.1.1. This covers over 3,000 kilometres of coastline; approximately one seventh of New Zealand's coastline.

The Coastal Marine Area Agreement between the Minister of Conservation, Environment Southland, Invercargill City Council and Southland District Council, defines the boundary of the coastal marine area at river mouths as:

- (a) in the case of any river not referred to in (b) below, at the continuation of the line of mean high water springs of the coast across the river;
- (b) in the case of any river referred to below, the boundary of the coastal marine area for the Southland region is as described in Appendix 2 of this Plan. The rivers to which this applies are:
 - Waikawa River
 - Waipapa Stream
 - Tokanui River
 - Titiroa River
 - Mataura River
 - Muddy Creek
 - Mokotua Stream
 - Waimatua (Duck) Creek
 - Clifton Channel
 - Kingswell Creek
 - Waihopai River
 - Otepuni Creek
 - Oreti River
 - Waimatuku Stream
 - Aparima River
 - Pourakino River
 - Waiau River
 - Rowallan Burn
 - Waikoau River
 - Wairaurahiri River
 - Waitutu River
 - Big River

- Seaforth River (Supper Cove)
- Coal River
- Camelot River
- Irene River
- Stillwater Creek
- Arthur River
- Cleddau River
- Harrison River
- Hollyford River
- Kaipo River
- Awarua River
- Freshwater River
- Rakeahua River
- Heron River
- Lords River
- Toitoi River
- Doughboy Creek
- Smoky River
- Yankee River
- Murray River
- Unnamed River at Maori Beach



1.5.2 Functional Extent

Part I of the Second Schedule to the Resource Management Act allows this Plan to cover any matter relating to the use, development, or protection of the coastal marine area which a regional council has responsibility for under this Act, in conjunction with the Minister of Conservation, including the control of:

- (a) use of the coastal marine area described in Section 12 including, where appropriate, the protection of conservation values, the recognition of opportunities for recreation, aquaculture, and other forms of development;
- (b) actual or potential effects of the use, development, or protection of the land, including the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards and the prevention or mitigation of any adverse effects of the storage, use, disposal, or transportation of hazardous substances;
- (c) occupation of space on lands of the Crown or lands vested in the regional council and the extraction of sand, shingle, and other natural material from those lands;
- (d) activities in relation to the surface of the water;
- (e) discharges of contaminants into or onto land, air, or water, and discharges of water into water:
- (ea) dumping of waste or other matter from any ship, aircraft, or offshore installation and incineration of waste or other matter in any marine incineration facility and dumping of ships, aircraft, and offshore installations:
- (f) taking, using, damming, or diverting of the water;
- (g) any emission of noise arising from any activity referred to in paragraphs (a) to (f), and the mitigation of the effects of noise.

1.5.3 Coastal Environment

The coastal environment covers a wider area than the coastal marine area but includes the coastal marine area as well as features landward of mean high water springs (Figure 1.5.1).

An explanation of 'coastal environment' is provided in the 'Report and Decisions of the Board of Inquiry into the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement' as follows:

"...an environment (surrounding) in which the coast is a significant element or part, but because of Section 6(a) it now specifically includes all of the coastal marine area.". The coastal environment will vary from place to place. It includes at least four distinct, but interrelated parts:

- the coastal marine area;
- an area of coastal dominance;
- an area of coastal influence;
- an area of coastal hinterland.

While this Plan focuses on the sustainable management of the coastal marine area, it also recognises that management issues do not stop at administrative boundaries. Section 6(a) of the Act recognises and provides for the "preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area) ... and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development". The rules of the plan apply only to the coastal marine area. However, the objectives and policies relating to some activities in the coastal marine area recognise that their effects can cross outside of the coastal marine area.

This Plan has tried to accommodate this by referring to integrated management and cross boundary issues when the coastal marine area is considered to be too narrow for the issue at hand. For cross boundary issues, integrated management is critical. This is when liaison and consultation with adjoining local authorities and agencies is important. Internal co-ordination of plans is also important to prevent confusion over which plan should contain the methods that address the adverse effects of a particular activity. The activity may occur on land but adverse effects may occur in the coastal marine area or vice versa. In cases where it is difficult to address the adverse effects without addressing the activity, a pragmatic approach is necessary.

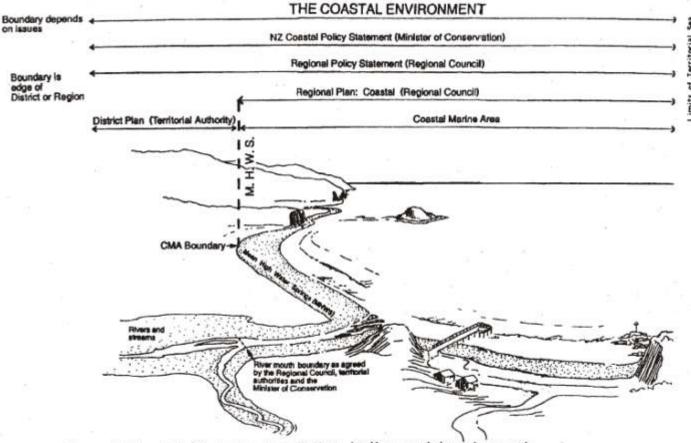


Figure 1.5.1: Administrative jurisdictions in the coastal environment

(Source: Auckland Regional Council, 1995: 1-17)

1.6 Methods of Implementation

A method is the practical action by which a policy is implemented. It is what can be done to put the policy into effect.

This Plan uses two types of methods to implement its policies: regulatory and non-regulatory. Regulatory methods control activities through the use of rules, resource consents, compliance and abatement action. Non-regulatory methods seek to implement policies and achieve objectives by using a range of "softer" methods. District plans and other regional plans contain regulatory methods, as well as non-regulatory methods, to address activities landward of the coastal marine area.

In preparing this Coastal Plan and any future changes to it, the provisions of Section 32 of the Act apply, and consideration is required as to which of the following methods should be adopted. In giving effect to the objectives and policies of the Plan, the following methods will apply. In some instances, a variety of methods will need to be adopted in order to achieve integrated management of use and development of the resources.

1.6.1 Method 1 - Enforcement

Abatement notices and enforcement orders are a means of ensuring compliance with the Resource Management Act 1991 and any rules or resource consents made or granted pursuant to the Act.

Abatement notices may be served on any person by an enforcement officer requiring something to stop or requiring the person to do something that will avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of an activity. These are covered by Sections 322-325 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Enforcement orders are issued under Section 314 of the Act. Applications for enforcement orders bring adverse effects on the environment under the control of the Environment Court, whether or not the activity is in accordance with a rule in a plan, a resource consent or existing use rights.

1.6.2 Method 2 - Advocating

Actively pursuing a course of action is sometimes required to achieve a desired outcome. For example, seeking changes to government policy or legislation, or advocating the adoption of a particular policy on matters such as ballast water. The implementation of new legislation, like the Resource Management Act 1991, often reveals inadequacies that need to be addressed nationally. Some inadequacies will be experienced by some regions more than others depending on local issues. The only way to resolve these inadequacies is for affected parties to advocate for change.

An example of advocacy is for Environment Southland to advocate appropriate subdivision, use and development in the coastal environment above MHWS to territorial authorities when preparing their plans and considering consent applications.

1.6.3 Method 3 - Assistance

In addition to economic instruments, local authorities may wish to provide other assistance to encourage certain courses of action or outcomes to be achieved. This could include provision of secretarial services, meeting facilities or staff expertise to groups or organisations which have links, or are involved in activities, which are compatible with the objectives of this document. Assistance to Estuary or Coast Care Groups or individuals to maintain and enhance the coastal environment is an example. Such enhancement could occur through fencing, land purchase, or development of interpretation facilities.

1.6.4 Method 4 - Consultation

The Resource Management Act requires consultation to be undertaken as part of the formal processes under the Act, particularly in the preparation of documents. It involves seeking information or advice from people who also have a stake in the decision. Effective consultation by the Council involves the provision of sufficient information, allowing sufficient time to consider the information given and a genuine consideration that is characterised by an open mind and a willingness to change and start again. There is a specific requirement to consult with tangata whenua. Where cross boundary issues occur, consultation with the relevant territorial authorities and/or neighbouring regional councils will occur.

There may also be situations where other organisations with a management role in the coastal marine area will need to be consulted. Consent applicants will need to ensure that their proposals do not affect wahi tapu, wahi taoka or other sites of significance to tangata whenua. This will require consultation with both the tangata whenua, Te Ao Marama Inc. and the New Zealand Archaeological Association Southland File Keeper at the Southland Museum.

Informal consultation prior to preparing plans or taking other action provides additional information and other points of view that can be taken into account. The use of working parties, circulation of draft documents, and discussions with interested parties are examples of informal consultation used during the development of this Plan.

1.6.5 Method 5 - Delegations and Transfer of Powers

The Resource Management Act enables local authorities to transfer any of their functions, powers or duties under the Act to another public authority by way of a transfer of power or delegation. Under Section 33(2), 'public authority' includes any local authority, iwi authority, government department, statutory authority, and joint committee set up for the purposes of Section 80. Potential examples include enforcement of rules controlling foreshore or surface water activities, noise and the management of areas containing high cultural values to tangata whenua. Such delegations are particularly useful where the regional council does not have a presence in estuaries or harbours, or where such values are important to tangata whenua or in remote areas. Delegations will only be contemplated following appropriate consultation with relevant authorities.

1.6.6 Method 6 - Developing Guidelines for Resource Users

For resource users, guidelines are an effective means of identifying the appropriate manner to undertake activities, so as to avoid, remedy or mitigate any potential adverse effects of those activities. For example, guidelines could relate to marine farming including handling of shell material, and port activities including washing of wharves, stormwater sump and outlet design and maintenance, clearing of log handling areas, sediment runoff from land use, noise from boats and craft, or the design of structures. Resource users are generally encouraged, rather than required, to adopt guidelines.

1.6.7 Method 7 - Economic Instruments

A range of economic instruments can be used to enable objectives to be achieved. Possible examples include coastal tendering, tradeable pollution permits, financial conditions on resource consents levies of various forms, financial contributions to offset adverse effects, subsidies and grants to achieve outcomes which may not otherwise be achieved (for example, habitat protection through fencing), rate rebates, incentives and disincentives.

1.6.8 Method 8 - Environmental Audits

Environmental audits are a method that relate to cross boundary issues such as stormwater discharges. In the case of stormwater, environmental audits could be used to identify what is being discharged into the stormwater system and consequently what ends up in the coastal marine area. Other methods may then be adopted to address any problems identified in the audit.

1.6.9 Method 9 - Information, Education and Public Awareness

This method can be used to help people understand the need for specific policies and rules, and the outcomes they are designed to achieve. It can also be used as an alternative to rules by making people aware of the adverse effects that arise from current practices and advising them of more environmentally acceptable alternatives. Examples of how awareness can be increased include newspaper articles, articles in local authority or recreational organisations' newsletters and the production of information pamphlets.

1.6.10 Method 10 - International Standards and Agreements

The adoption of International Standards and Agreements, which address environmental management systems. The standard requires the organisation to set policies and objectives, to establish systems to monitor its compliance with those policies and objectives and to demonstrate its compliance to people from outside the organisation. The standard does not necessarily remove the need for external management, but it should assist organisations to minimise their adverse effects on the environment.

1.6.11 Method 11 - Investigations and Research

Investigations and research complement monitoring and provide the factual information that is necessary to enable sound decisions to be made. Expansion of knowledge assists in avoiding in the first instance, or remedying or mitigating thereafter, the adverse effects of activities. The coastal marine area is a difficult environment to research. Consequently, there is much still to be learnt about coastal ecosystems and their vulnerability to people's activities. Consent applicants may need to undertake studies to obtain sufficient information to design and assess developments in a way which reflects the site conditions. Baseline studies may also be required to understand the actual and potential adverse effects of the activity on the natural systems of the area, as well as continuing studies to determine the effects of the activity on the coastal marine area.

1.6.12 Method 12 - Liaison

Liaison involves working together and co-operating with tangata whenua, territorial authorities, neighbouring regional councils, government agencies such as the Ministry of Fisheries, Department of Conservation and the contracted Public Health agency, organisations such as industry groups or recreation groups and research agencies. Liaison with these types of groups will help to identify adverse effects and may assist with developing strategies to avoid, remedy or mitigate those effects. Liaison between parties will promote integrated management. The main difference between liaison and consultation is that consultation is effectively an information seeking role while liaison is more of a communication role. Consultation can arise out of liaison.

1.6.13 Method 13 - Monitoring

Where there is a need to observe the impacts of activities over time, monitoring is an appropriate technique. Monitoring, however, is a means to an end and should not be

seen as a separate activity in its own right. Baseline monitoring is particularly important in areas where development is likely, or is expanding, for example Big Glory Bay.

There are five types of monitoring - state of the environment, baseline, consent compliance, complaints and plan. State of the environment monitoring can detect problem areas. Baseline monitoring establishes the initial condition of an environment as a reference point. Complaints provide an indication of public concerns which may need to be followed up with environmental monitoring. Consent compliance monitoring checks for compliance with consent conditions, and plan monitoring examines whether a plan is achieving its outcomes.

1.6.14 Method 14 - Negotiation, Facilitation, Mediation and Arbitration

There may be incidents where conflict arises between different activities occurring or wishing to occur in the same location. The parties may wish to adopt informal processes to resolve differences. Techniques can be adopted instead of, or in addition to, the formal processes under the Act. Negotiated agreements are a particularly useful method of obtaining an outcome that is satisfactory to all parties involved. Conflicts between surface water activities could be an example.

1.6.15 Method 15 - Ownership

Circumstances will arise where statutory bodies may wish to purchase a resource or site in order to obtain management control. Public mooring facilities in Harrison Cove are a potential example.

1.6.16 Method 16 - Plans, Other Documents, and Action Under Other Acts

In some instances, desired resource management outcomes may be better achieved through plans or documents prepared under legislation other than the Resource Management Act, or by taking some action under other legislation. For example, Annual Plans, Marine Reserve and Management Plans, Harbours Act 1950, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, Maritime Transport Act 1994, Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978, Historic Places Act 1993 and bylaws.

1.6.17 Method 17 - Promotion

Promotion is a means of encouraging the use of specific methods to achieve desired outcomes. For example, promotion of a particular way to develop one resource, or area, over another. Promotion can involve workshops, publication of information materials or use of field officers.

1.6.18 Method 18 - Protocols, Accords, Memoranda of Understanding and Codes of Practice

Protocols are formal agreements between agencies on the approach that will be adopted to address a particular issue or matter. For example, joint hearing procedures and maimai management. The protocol may be written up as a Memorandum of Understanding, or as permitted activity rules in a plan.

Accords are formal agreements with industry on the standards which sector groups will adopt in carrying out particular activities, for example, a Code of Practice for the operation of ships, especially sewage and bilge water discharges, or a code of practice for pot storage. Such codes may negate the need to implement regulatory methods.

1.6.19 Method 19 - Resource Consents

In order to assess the effects of particular activities, or to have regard to aspects of activities, the Resource Management Act provides for the lodging and processing of resource consents. The rules contained within this Plan may result in the need for certain activities to be subject to a resource consent, or for decision-making bodies to have regard to certain matters in assessing consents. Conditions can be attached to the consent to ensure that adverse environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

1.6.20 Method 20 - Resource Groups

Resource groups are another useful method of addressing cross boundary issues such as non-point source discharges from land into water and eventually into the coastal marine area. The groups are usually comprised of land managers and tend to focus on key issues relating to land management. The concept can be broadened to include "Beach Care" or "Estuary Care" groups.

Groups such as Coast Care groups can have a significant role in raising public awareness of coastal issues and can be proactive in reducing the adverse effects of use and development of the coast.

1.6.21 Method 21 - Regional Rules

Rules specify particular classes of activity (permitted, controlled, discretionary, restricted coastal, non-complying and prohibited) depending upon the effects the activity has on the environment. Rules enable the regional council to carry out its functions under the Act and to achieve the objectives and policies of this Plan in the coastal marine area. Rules can contain standards and specific criteria to provide certainty for resource users.

1.6.22 Method 22 - Strategies

Where an overview relating to either an area, or a particular activity is desired, there is an opportunity to prepare an informal strategy document. If such a document is prepared in consultation with other affected agencies then it could be used as a means of co-ordination. A strategy to deal with the adverse effects of non-point source discharges is one example identified in this Plan. Strategies prepared by other organisations with a management role in the coastal marine area also exist. These may be referred to in developing policies for similar resources in the coastal marine area. An example of this is the Department of Conservation's Historic Resources Strategy for the Southland Conservancy.

1.6.23 Method 23 - Works and Services

The Council may wish to provide works and services to achieve desired outcomes by directly carrying out activities. Examples include: provision of engineering services such as the construction and maintenance of stopbanks, the removal of abandoned structures or the provision of public moorings. Alternatively, local authorities may wish to contract the carrying out of work to other bodies or to affected landowners.

1.6.24 Method 24 – Resource Consent Hearing Commissioner

The Council may wish to appoint a commissioner to a resource consent hearing committee when an application is likely to have significant effect on Ngai Tahu values. This commissioner will have expertise in tikaka Maori which will aid the Council in providing for Ngai Tahu values in the decision-making process.

General Comment

Attention is also drawn to the relationship between the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, the Regional Policy Statement, Regional Coastal Plan, other regional plans, and the Regional Council's Annual Plan.

The methods described above are of a general nature. The policy sections of this Plan contain objectives which address specific coastal management Issues, Policies which seek to achieve these objectives, and the specific methods by which the policies will be implemented. Those specific methods are to be read in addition to those above.