



Pukerua Bay

Plimmerton

Pauatahanui

Pauatahanui Stream

Porirua

Tawa

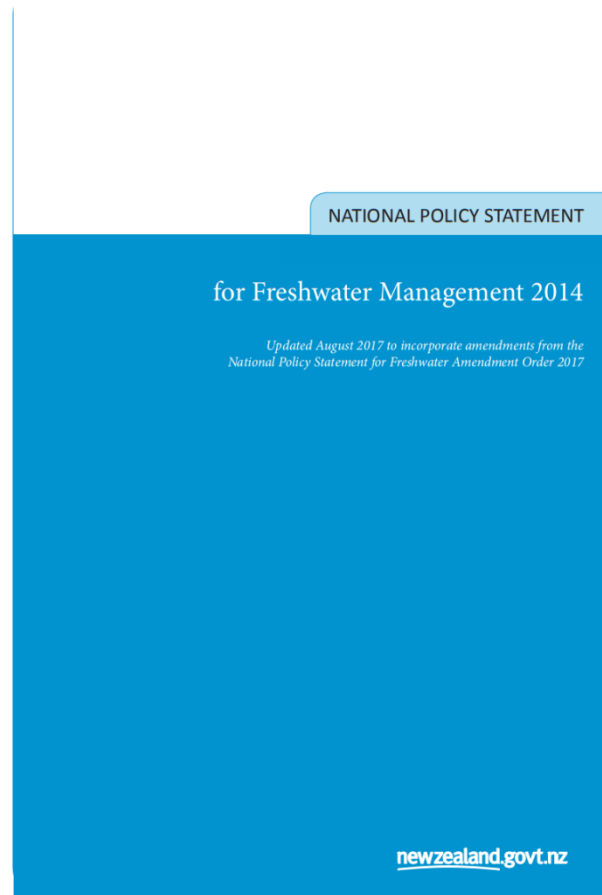
Churton

Upper Hutt

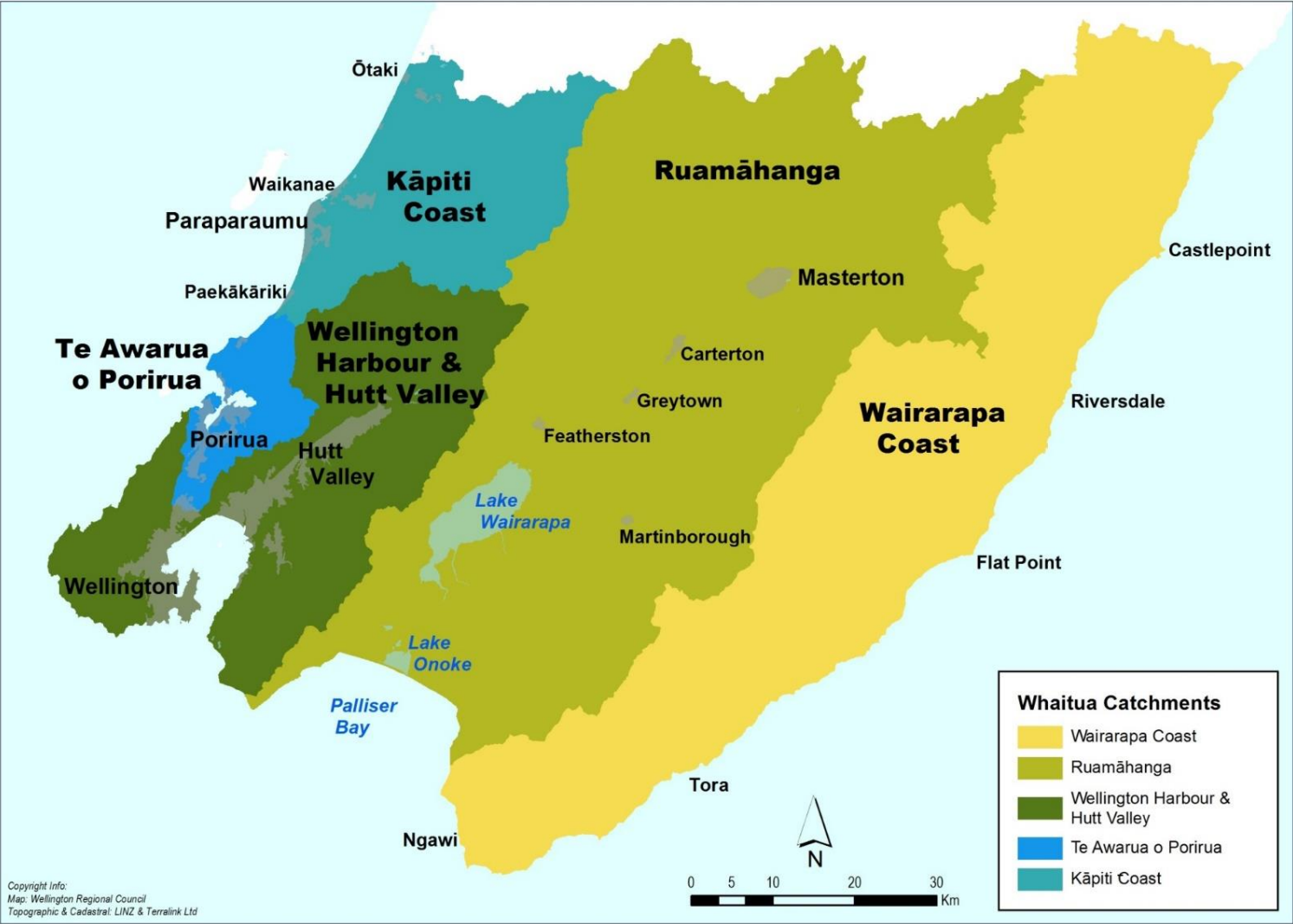
What's behind
the whaitua process?

Why the whaitua process?

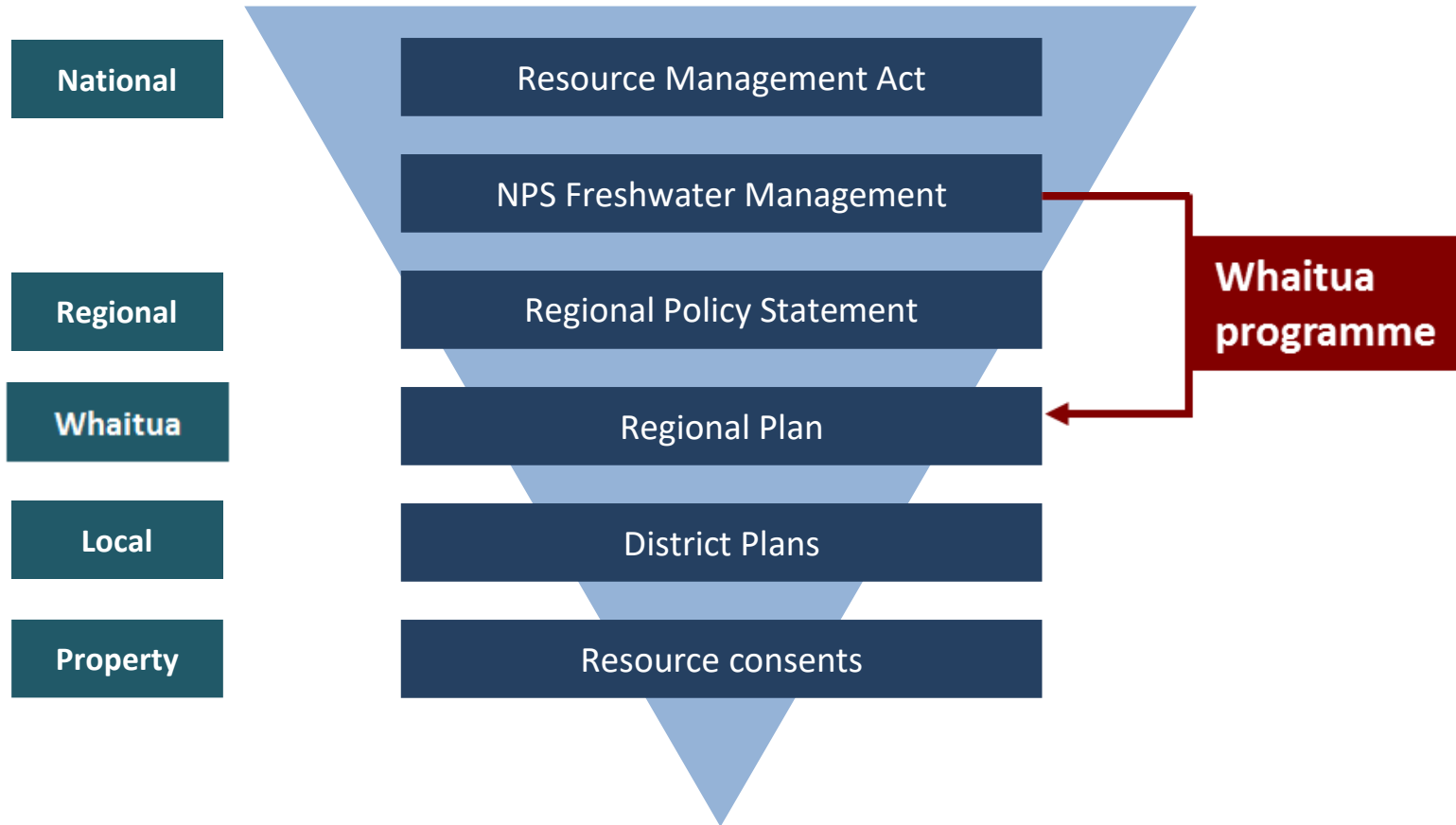
- There's a national push to maintain and improve water quality
- Certain things regional councils must do



The whaitua



RMA and water management



What does the NPS-FM require?

Identify the ways to, in your place:

- Maintain and improve water quality
- Safeguard ecosystems
- Improve water for contact recreation (e.g. swimming)
- Meet compulsory bottom lines for identified measures

While:

- Enabling economic well-being
- Considering climate change
- Recognising connections with coastal water

Example:

National bottom line for nitrate toxicity

Value	Ecosystem health		
Freshwater Body Type	Rivers		
Attribute	Nitrate (Toxicity)		
Attribute Unit	mg NO ₃ -N/L (milligrams nitrate-nitrogen per litre)		
Attribute State	Numeric Attribute State		Narrative Attribute State
	Annual Median	Annual 95 th Percentile	
A	≤1.0	≤1.5	High conservation value system. Unlikely to be effects even on sensitive species.
B	>1.0 and ≤2.4	>1.5 and ≤3.5	Some growth effect on up to 5% of species.
C	>2.4 and ≤6.9	>3.5 and ≤9.8	Growth effects on up to 20% of species (mainly sensitive species such as fish). No acute effects.
National Bottom Line	6.9	9.8	
D	>6.9	>9.8	Impacts on growth of multiple species, and starts approaching acute impact level (ie risk of death) for sensitive species at higher concentrations (>20 mg/L).

Note: This attribute measures the toxic effects of nitrate, not the trophic state. Where other attributes measure trophic state, for example periphyton, freshwater objectives, limits and/or methods for those attributes will be more stringent.

What are pressures on water here?

- Development
 - Lots of new houses and roads
 - Lack of regulation of new development
- Under-investment in wastewater and stormwater
- Catchment characteristics:
 - Sensitive harbour
 - Steep slopes and sediment
 - Changing climate

What's the current state of water here?

- *E. coli* is a problem in both the streams and harbour, both urban and rural
- Excessive sedimentation rates in the harbour
- Toxicant hot spots in some parts of harbour
- Ecosystem health is mixed
- Cultural uses and values very impacted



Air

Climate change

Fresh water

Marine

Land

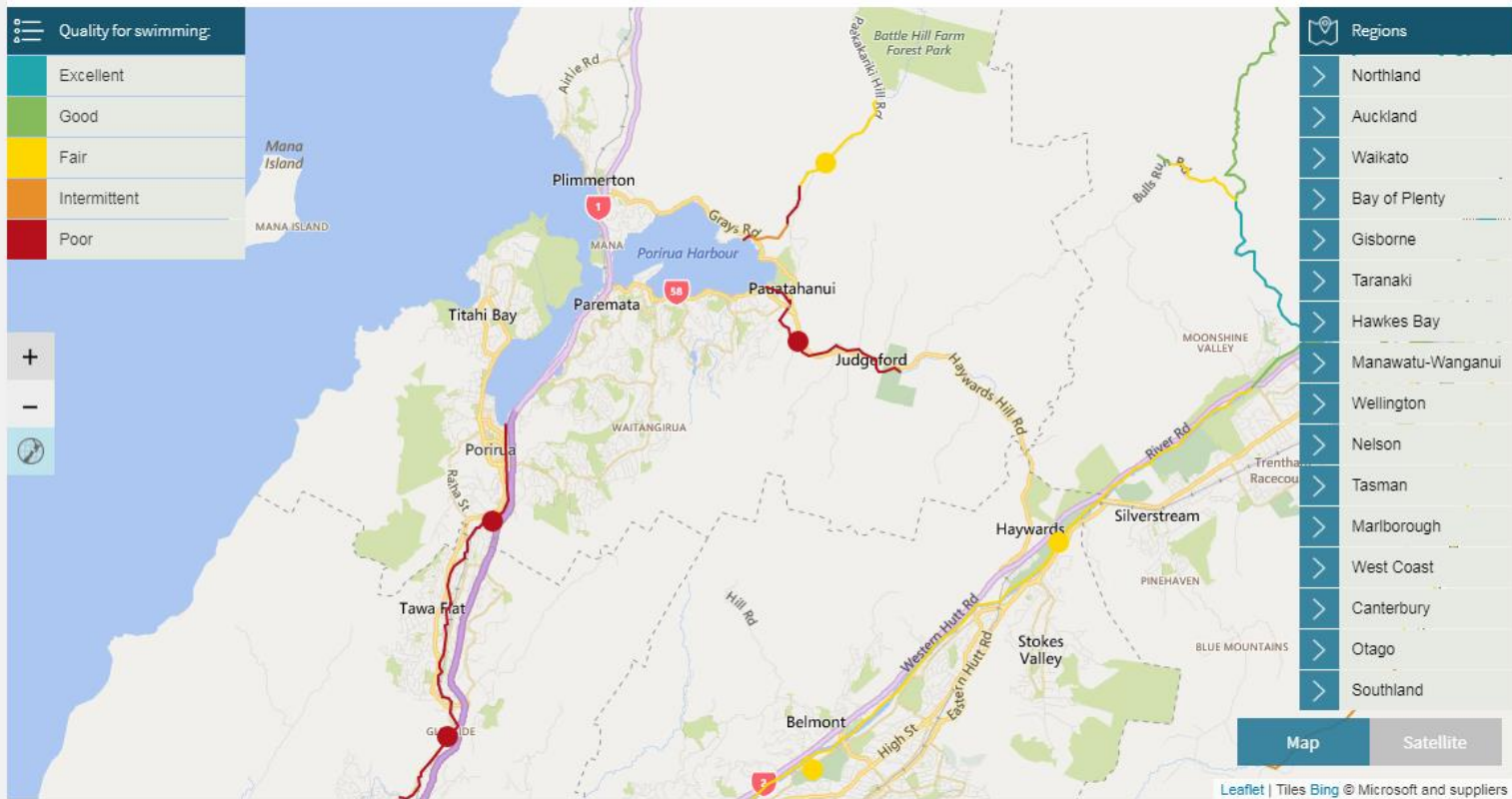
RMA

Waste

More...

Publications

Rivers and lakes in Wellington Region



<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/fresh-water/about-freshwater/wellington>



What will be in the Committee's WIP recommendations?

- Changes to the PNRP
 - Fresh and coastal water objectives
 - Limits for water quality and water quantity
 - Rules and other methods
- Recommendations on investment, education and working with land owners

How will the Committee reach these recommendations?

- Modelling scenarios
- Working with communities
- Technical expertise
- Connecting with Ngāti Toa and council partners
- Drawing on the Harbour Strategy
- Building up knowledge, over and over

Committee's work over 2018

- Identifying draft freshwater objectives
- Identifying ways to reach these objectives (policy packages)
- Talking further with communities about putting these together

Joining up planning for water

