

## **Section 2      Rural Development**

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## **2.1 General Features**

### **2.1.1 Topography and Soils**

The Kaipara district contains a variety of land types ranging from consolidated sand dunes along its coasts, numerous river valleys and flats, to extensive areas of rolling hills and steep ranges. The highest point in the district is Mt Tutamoe in the Tutamoe Ranges which rises to 777 metres above sea level. Other notable features include the Tangihua Ranges (627 m), Houto Mountain (496 m), Maunganui Bluff (459 m), Brynderwyn Hills (430 m), the Maungaru Ranges (418 m), Pukekaroro Mountain (308m), Maungaraho Mountain (221 m) and Tokatoka Mountain (179 m).

The soils in the district have been mapped by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (D.S.I.R) and are shown on the N.Z Land Inventory N.Z M.S 290 Series. Copies of the maps which are at a scale of 100,000 are held at the Council's Dargaville office. The N.Z.M.S 290 Series record over 80 different soil types in the district. They can be grouped into seven major groups. These are:-

**Yellow - Brown Earths.** The yellow brown earths are found throughout Northland and were formed from sedimentary rocks that have been strongly weathered to produce clay soils. The soils cover most of the low hill country in the Awakino, Tangiteroria and Ararua areas and are often referred to as clayhill soils. The principal types present are Waiotira clay, Rockvale clay, Mata clay and Okaka clay. The soils are capable of supporting good pasture growth especially with top dressing.

**Gumland Soils.** The term gumland soil refers to the strongly weathered and often podzolised solids that have developed from deeply weathered sedimentary materials. Large areas of these soils were formed under forest cover, especially the kauri. They are mainly along the west coast with the principal types being the Tangitiki sands and the Te Kopuru sands. When strongly podzolised these soils contain a silica pan which prevents infiltration often resulting in wet winter and dry summer conditions.

**Limestone Soils.** The limestone or rendzina soils are derived from calcareous rocks, the most prevalent being the Arapohue clay soils which are formed from argillaceous limestone. The soils have a high natural fertility. High producing pastures can be established on them although they are naturally heavy and have a

poor subsoil drainage. They are present mainly in the Arapohue and Maungaturoto areas.

**Yellow Brown Sands.** The yellow brown sands are found mainly along the west coast and have generally formed from windblown sand deposits. Raw dunes border the coast and there are increasing stages of soil development further inland. The Pinaki sands are found nearest the coast with the Redhill sands on the more stable dune country. The soils have been mainly utilised for pastoral farming with some forestry on the Pinaki sands of the Pouto Peninsula.

**Brown Loams.** The brown loam soils which have been formed from basaltic materials are the largest soil group in the district. The main types present are the Takitu - Katui clays, Te Kie clay loam, Tutamoe clay loam and the Aranga clays. The soils are generally friable with the relatively high fertility. They support good pasture growth and in some areas are utilised for horticulture.

**Gley Organic and Saline Soils.** The principal gley soils are the Kaipara clays in the Dargaville and Ruawai areas. Other soils in the group include the Waipu clays, Otonga peaty loam, Ruakaka peaty loam and the Ahuriri silt loam which occur in smaller pockets. The Kaipara clays have a high water table and drainage is generally required. The soils are reasonably fertile and are utilised for vegetable growing and intensive grazing.

**Alluvial Soils.** The recent alluvial soils are found on most of the low river flats and terraces of the district. The principal soils in the group are the Mangakahia silt and clay loams and the Whakapara silt and clay loams. These soils have high natural fertility and utilised mainly for dairying, cash cropping and horticulture.

### **2.1.2 Land Use Capability**

The land resources in the district were assessed in the early 1970's as part of a capability survey carried out by the former Ministry of Works and Development. A series of maps known as the N.Z Land Resource Inventory Worksheets were produced. They divide land into units for which two sets of information are recorded; - the land resource inventory which contains physical facts on rock type, soils, slope erosion and vegetation and the land capability assessment which is an interpretation of potential land productivity. The capability assessment has a two tier system of areal units:

- Capability class - ranging from Class I through to Class VIII with decreasing capacity for sustained pastoral production. Classes I - IV are considered suitable for cultivation or cropping while Classes V - VII are not suitable for these uses but are suitable for pastoral farming or forestry. The limitations for use reach a maximum with Class VIII land which is considered suitable only for protection forestry purposes.
- Capability subclass - which group area units with the same kind of limitation or hazard. The four types of limitation recognised are erodability, wetness, soil limitation in the rooting zone and climate.

The worksheets are at a scale of 1:63360 and allow only land units of at least 50 hectares to be identified. They are generally not suitable for assessing individual properties. The boundaries of the units were determined by ensuring that as far as possible all land within each unit is of the same type. However some land does not naturally fall into one unit or another and the land types in the district are more diverse than the worksheets suggest. The capability assessment is based on management practices in the early 1970's. It does not account for subsequent new farming techniques or the introduction of new crops e.g. kiwifruit. One of the most important assumptions of the assessments concerned the potential use of land for forestry. Forestry was only considered a potential land use where it was seen as an erosion control measure i.e. on Classes VIe and VIII land.

Table 2.1 gives a breakdown of land use capability types in the district. No Class I land is present. The most versatile land is the Class II land (Kaipara clay soils) adjoining the Northern Wairoa River in the Dargaville - Ruawai area. This land has a slight wetness limitation and potential for market gardening and cropping. The Class III land is comprised mainly of the alluvial flats in the Awakino, Kaihu, Kirikopuni and Tangowahine Valleys. It is considered potentially suitable for market gardening, orcharding and cropping. The volcanic soils in the Pukekaroro and Tara areas are also classified as Class III.

About a third of the land is Class IV most of which has a moderate to severe limitation under cultivation. Just over half the land is classified as Class VI or Class VII land. Further details on the nature of land use capability classes in the district can be obtained from the worksheets. Copies of the worksheets are held at the Council's Dargaville Office.

**Table 2.1 Kaipara District : Land Capability Assessment**

Class	Area	District %
I	-	-
II	17310	5.7
III	14910	4.9
IV	110750	36.2
V	-	-
VI	112410	37.2
VII	41480	13.5
VIII	7860	2.5
	305,710	100.0

Source : N.Z Land Resource Inventory.

### **2.1.3 Rural Land Use**

The economy of the Kaipara district is based around pastoral farming and to a lesser extent horticulture and forestry. The Agricultural Census shows that in February 1992 around 212,000 ha or 70% of the 303,387 ha in the district were in grass, lucerne or tussock. There were at this time around 1650 farms employing 2500 people.

Beef and sheep farming along with dairying have long been the mainstays of the rural economy. The district has over 40% of the region's sheep population and around 30% of its beef cattle. Between 1980 and 1992 sheep numbers fell by about almost half, and beef cattle numbers by about one tenth. Dairy cattle numbers have risen significantly over this same period and there has been some growth of the deer and pig farming industries. In 1992 the district had over 40% of the region's dairy cattle. Table 2.2 summarises the principal farming features of the district.

The district has a small but significant horticultural industry. In 1990 just over 1100 ha of land was planted in horticultural crops. Vegetables, principally kumara and squash are grown, mainly on the Kaipara clay soils. The district grows around 80% of the nation's kumara crop.

Exotic forestry has traditionally been a relatively small industry with most plantings being made by the Crown. Substantial private forest development took place in the 1980's with a fourfold increase in plantings. Major forests have been established in the Tutamoe, Kaihu, Pouto, Tinopai and Topuni areas. In 1990 around 35,000 ha or 11% of the district was in exotic forest.

#### **2.1.4 Minerals**

The Kaipara district has significant mineral resources, principally the argillaceous limestone deposits and various sedimentary and volcanic rocks which serve as a source of aggregate for building and road construction. No precious minerals are currently being mined although exploration and prospecting licences have been issued for some areas in recent years.

In 1989 there were 8 limestone quarries operating in the district, mainly in the Turiwiri, Tokatoka, Ruawai and Matakohē areas. Total limestone production was around 105,000 tonnes. The Northern Wairoa Limestone Quarry at Turiwiri is the largest producer of limestone for agricultural purposes in Northland.

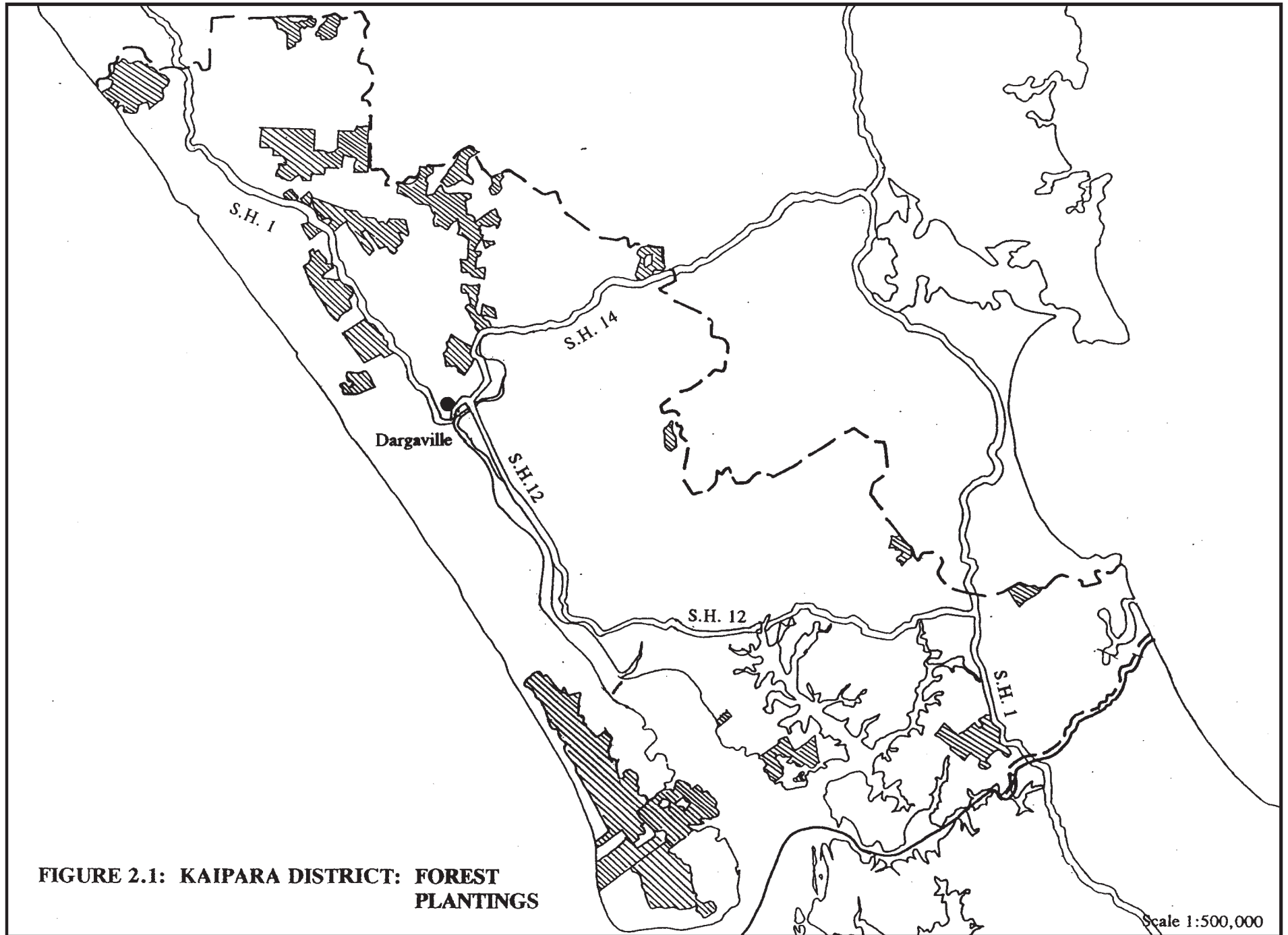
Aggregate production from the district in 1989 was around 276,000 tonnes. Almost 70% came from Leaches Quarry (Matakohē) and the Turiwiri Quarry which are amongst the largest producers in the region.

There is a small coalfield in the Avoca area. It has been utilised in the past but is not currently the subject of any development interest. A lignite belt extends along the west coast. It was briefly investigated in the mid 1970's but little is known of its potential for utilisation.

**Table 2.2: Kaipara District : Principal Features of Farming Activity.**

	Kaipara 1980	Kaipara 1992	Northland 1992
Number of Farms	1549	1643	8247
Land Use (ha)			
Grassland/Tussock	211,220	212,147	665,773
Exotic Forestry	4,850	31,168	135,992
Horticulture	2,150	1,222	4,952
Other Crops	-	79	411
Total Agricultural Land	274,540	271,661	991,695
Total Land	303,387	303,387	12,600,000
Employment			
Working Owners/Sharemilkers	2,138	2,067	7,361
Full-time Employees	442	384	1,249
Stock Numbers			
Sheep	810,681	402,211	942,774
Beef Cattle	198,661	182,661	587,335
Dairy Cattle	124,805	145,996	361,063
Goats	Not Recorded	11,175	51,770
Pigs	5,344	5,087	8,479
Deer	Not Recorded	5,950	15,497

Source : Statistics N.Z. : Agriculture Statistics



**FIGURE 2.1: KAIPARA DISTRICT: FOREST PLANTINGS**

Scale 1:500,000

## **2.2 Legislative Considerations**

### **2.2.1 Resource Management Act**

The Resource Management Act has as its primary purpose the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. The term natural and physical resources is an all embracing one and includes land, water, air, soil, minerals, plant and animal life and structures. Under the Act the Northland Regional Council has primary responsibility for managing the air and water resources in a sustainable manner whilst the District Council has a similar responsibility in respect of land and mineral resources. (Sections 30-31 refer).

This plan focuses on issues related to the sustainable management of the district's land, soil and mineral resources. In doing so there is a clear recognition of the interrelationship between them and air and water resources and the need for co-ordinated management approaches between the Regional and District Councils. This aspect is developed particularly in Section 6 which deals with coastal, lake and river management.

The Kaipara district is primarily an agriculture one relying heavily on its rural land and soil resources for its future prosperity and well being. The sustainable management of these resources is of paramount importance and the following parts of this section identify related resource issues considered to exist in the district. In identifying these issues and setting associated objectives and policies the Council has had to develop its own understanding of what constitutes sustainable management of these resources. Section 5 of the Act which outlines five matters of national importance gives some general guidance in this area. It is to be noted that no specific reference is made in Section 5 to the protection of rural land resources from urban forms of development as there was in the former Town and Country Planning Act.

### **2.2.2 Crown Minerals Act**

The Crown Minerals Act 1991 deals with management of Crown owned minerals. Most minerals are the property of the Crown including gold, silver, petroleum and various metallic minerals eg copper, and ironsand, and non-metallic minerals eg quartz, and silica sand. Industrial rocks and building stones such as aggregate limestone, sandstone, and gravel tend to be privately owned and in such circumstances are not subject to the Crown Minerals Act.

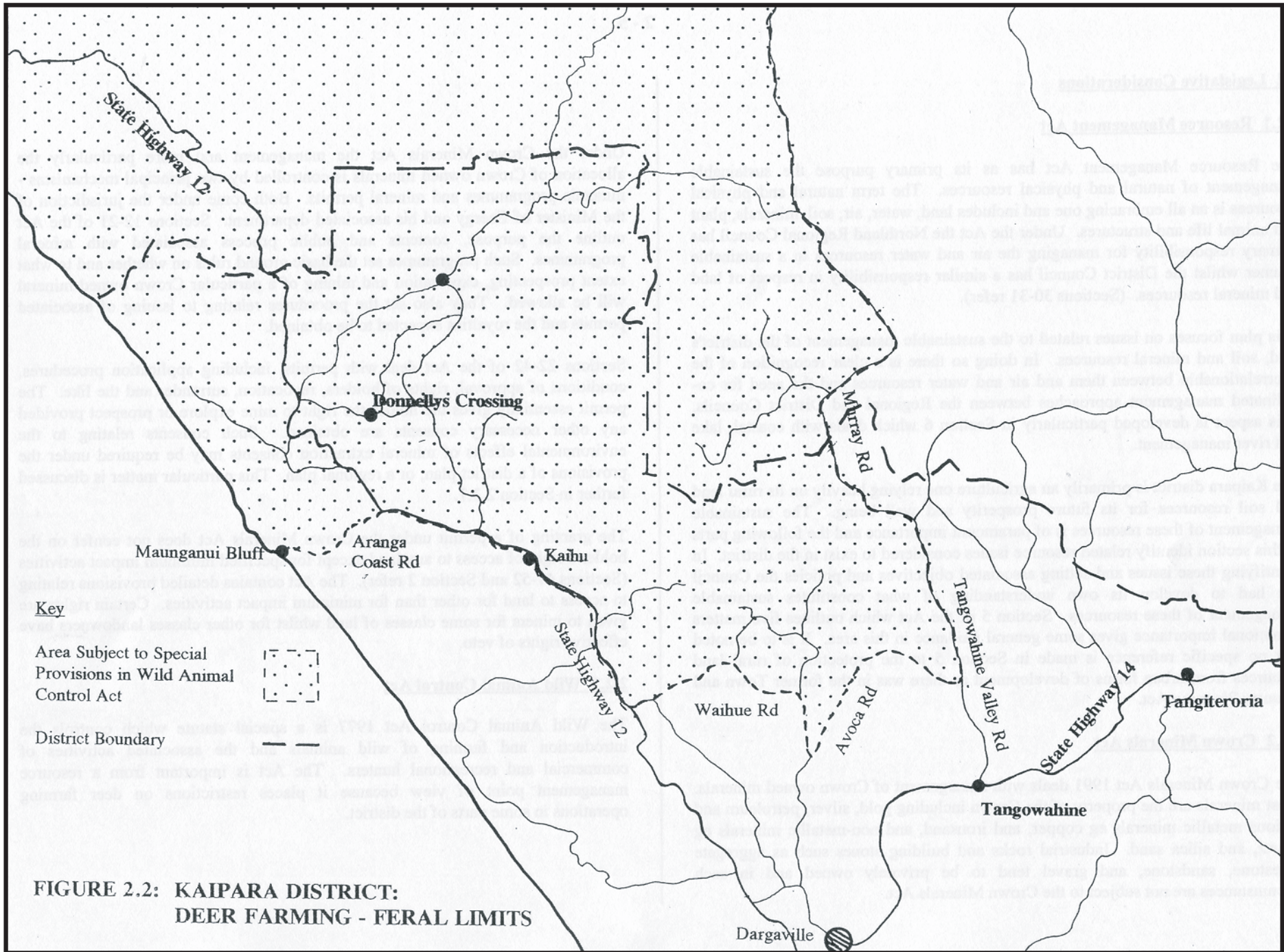
Under the Crown Minerals Act the management and more particularly the allocation of Crown owned minerals is controlled by two principal mechanisms - minerals programmes and mineral permits. Both come under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Energy and his associated department. Sections 12-21 of the Act outline the purpose, contents and public process associated with mineral programmes. Such programmes set the basic ground rules on whether and to what extent prospecting, exploration and mining of a particular Crown owned mineral will be allowed. They also set the procedures relating to issuing of associated permits and the royalties expected to be obtained.

Sections 22-42 of the Act deal with permits, including application procedures, conditions of approval, rights of holders, revocation, surrender and the like. The permit essentially gives the holder the right to mine explore or prospect provided any other necessary consents are obtained. Such consents relating to the environmental effects of mineral extraction consents may be required under the provisions of a district plan, or a regional plan. This particular matter is discussed further in Section 2.3.7.

The granting of a permit under the Crown Minerals Act does not confer on the holder a right of access to any land except for specified minimum impact activities (Sections 47-52 and Section 2 refer). The Act contains detailed provisions relating to access to land for other than for minimum impact activities. Certain rights are given to miners for some classes of land whilst for other classes landowners have effective rights of veto.

### **2.2.3 Wild Animal Control Act**

The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 is a special statute which controls the introduction and farming of wild animals and the associated activities of commercial and recreational hunters. The Act is important from a resource management point of view because it places restrictions on deer farming operations in some parts of the district.



Section 12(1) generally states that any person wanting to capture, convey, or keep in captivity any wild animal for the purposes of farming is to obtain a permit or licence from the Director General of Conservation. Deer (including wapiti or moose) are defined as wild animals under Section 2 of the Act. However under Section 12A deer farming operations are made exempt from the permit or licensing provisions, except:-

- (a) On any land where such farming is prohibited under or pursuant to the provisions of any other Act:
- (b) On any land which, pursuant to the system of land use capability adopted by the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Council, would be classified as Class VII or Class VIII land:
- (c) Where prohibited pursuant to subsection (2) of this section:
- (d) In any part of any National Park, forest sanctuary, nature reserve, scientific reserve, or scenic reserve.

As outlined in Section 2.1.2 of this plan there are significant areas of Class VII and Class VIII land in the district. Under Section 12 (1) (b) of the Act the farming of deer on these land capability classes requires permit or licence approval from the Director General of Conservation.

The Director General of Conservation has under the provisions in Section 12 (2) of the Act declared deer farming to be prohibited in certain areas of the district. The areas concerned are adjacent to the Kaihu, Marlborough, Mataraua and Waipoua Forests and shown on Figure 2.2. Any person wanting to farm deer in these areas is required to obtain permit or licence approval from the Director General of Conservation.

Under Section 12 (4) of the Act any person wanting to farm deer outside the above mentioned areas is obliged to notify the Director of Conservation accordingly. In doing so they are required to ensure that the enclosures on the land are suitable to contain the animals and prevent their escape. The Noxious Animals In Captivity Regulations 1969 contain specific fencing and other requirements relating to the farming of deer.

## **2.3 Management Issues**

### **2.3.1 Land Clearing and Erosion Control**

The Kaipara District contains a variety of land types, some of which are very prone to soil erosion. Most of the land concerned is in inland hill country areas although significant areas of consolidating sands along the west coast are also affected. The NZ Land Inventory records show that around 115,000 ha or 37% of the land in the district is Class IV e, VI e or VII e with a moderate to severe erosion potential.

Concerns have at times been expressed about the extent of erosion occurring in some rural areas, particularly from farming and forestry operations. The erosion often occurs when substantial areas of scrub and other vegetation are cleared and exposed to heavy rain storms. Heavy stocking of land has also been a contributing factor on occasions, especially in drought prone hill country areas. The soil loss which occurs through gully, slip and slump erosion can be significant and limit future production from land. More importantly the resultant sedimentation in rivers and streams is damaging to plant and animal life and water supplies.

Over recent years there has been greater public awareness of the need for special soil conservation techniques to be incorporated into day to day land management. This has come mostly through experiences and publicity associated with Cyclone Bola and other natural events. Industry initiatives such as the NZ Logging Industry Research Association's Forest Code of Practice have also been important. This code contains a number of recommended soil conservation techniques for forest managers at the key stages of land preparation, forest establishment and harvesting. It is used by most forest companies and includes measures to minimise exposure of bare ground, sensitively site access tracks, and maintain riparian strips along watercourses.

The Northland Regional Council has also produced a set of land development guidelines which incorporate a number of similar recommended soil conservation techniques. Three guidelines have particular application in rural areas; these are:

- Development of Erosion Prone Land for Agricultural Purposes
- Forest Operations

- Quarrying and Mining

They deal with site preparation methods, roading and tracking and management of sensitive areas. The guidelines are used by Regional Council land management staff as part of a wider advisory service offered throughout the region.

The Regional Council also administers some rules on land clearing, earthworks and other development operations as part of its proposed Regional Water and Soil Plan - Section 1 (Discharges and Land Management) April 1995. The rules require land use consent for specified land disturbance activities according to three land type categories namely:-

- Land within streamside management areas. The term streamside management area is explained in the plan. It varies according to the nature of the land adjacent to the waterbody.
- Land which has a Class I, II, III, IV, V VI (except VI e 16, VI e 17, VI e 18, and VI e 19 VII e or VIII) rating in the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory.
- Land which has a Class VI e 16, VI e 17, VI e 18, VI e 19, VII e or VIII rating on the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory.

Further details on the rules and other provisions of the plan can be obtained from the Regional Council offices in Dargaville and Whangarei.

### **2.3.2 Conversion of Farm Land to Forestry**

One of the most significant changes to have taken place in the district over recent years has been the expansion of forestry. Since 1980 some 20,000 ha of land has been planted, mostly in large blocks by forestry companies. Some of the land was previously in pasture and used for dry stock farming purposes. Concerns have been expressed about several aspects of the land use changes including:-

- the 'loss' of productive farmland and the impact on associated service industries
- the 'loss' of resident population and effects in rural schools and other community services

- the impact of forest planting and harvesting on soil and water values and natural features.
- impacts of forest harvesting on the road network.

It was these concerns that prompted the former Hobson County Council to place planning controls over forestry in some parts of the district. Forest plantings of over 40 ha or 10% of a land holding in the Rural A zone required planning consent as a conditional use (discretionary activity). The Rural A zone was considered to contain the most productive farmland in the county and was based largely on land use capability class information. In the other principal rural zone - the Rural AF zone - forest plantings were permitted as of right as a predominant use (permitted activity).

Research shows that nearly all of the major forest plantings over the last ten years have been in the Rural AF Zone. The land planted has generally been Class IV, VI or VII and been of a marginal farming nature. Very little Class II or III land which could be considered of high value for food production has been utilised. Generally where large properties have been acquired the most productive land has been subdivided out and sold for farming purposes. In this regard the Council considers that there is little need to retain planning controls in forestry in order to protect the most productive land in the district. More importantly under the Act the Council has to relate any such controls to the concept of sustainable land use. Forestry is, like farming, a sustainable land use, even on Class II and III land, where plantings of high value hardwood species may be attractive to some land owners. Although forestry is a long term crop, the land is not irreversibly damaged or locked up so as to prevent future alternative uses.

The economic and social impacts of the recent forestry expansion are difficult to quantify. Whilst changes in land ownership and management have affected some small rural communities they have been largely overshadowed by those resulting from wider restructuring of the economy and associated government services. There are both legal and practical difficulties in trying to control or influence these economic and social changes through the district planning process and resource consent procedures. It is the cumulative effect of the changes which are significant and these are very difficult to assess on an individual application basis.

The Regional Council has in place forest development guidelines and rules on vegetation clearance which generally address related soil and water management issues. They are at present being reviewed (see Section 2.3.1). The rules also indirectly give some general protection to natural features. More specific provisions have been developed by the District Council in this plan relating to the protection of particular stands of bush and wetlands with recognised ecological or scenic values. This being the case it is considered that no special land use controls are required over the establishment and tending of forests.

The district plan contains three zones which apply to land in rural areas; these being:-

- Maori Purposes - which covers land in multiple Maori ownership.
- Coastal - which covers environmentally sensitive coastal and associated lake catchment areas.
- Rural - which takes in all of the remaining rural land in the district.

The basis of the Maori Purposes zone is outlined in Section 5.3.2 and the Coastal zone in Section 6.3.2. Forestry is listed as a permitted activity in all three zones.

### **2.3.3 Forest Harvesting**

The Kaipara District contains around 22,000 ha of production forest, the vast majority of which is *pinus radiata* and in large plantations. Whilst a number of small farm wood lots (less than 5ha) have been established they are estimated to represent less than 10% of the total forest resource. The forests are also relatively young. A 1990 Ministry of Forestry survey found that over 50% of stocked exotic forest was less than 5 years old and a further 25% was between 6 and 10 years old.

Most of the younger plantings were made by Mangakahia Forest Ltd and lie in the Dargaville - Kaihu - Tangowahine area. They are being managed on a saw log regime and not expected to be harvested until at least 2010. The older forests include most of the ex-Crown estate in the Waipoua and Pouto areas along with private plantings in the Rototuna, Tinopai and Topuni areas. Some of the latter forests have recently been thinned or clearfelled and similar operations are planned over the next few years.

The forest harvesting operations carried out over recent years have been relatively small scale, generally involving areas of tens rather than hundreds or thousands of hectares. No particular land management or associated environmental issues have been raised to date. However concerns have been expressed about the likely extent of future operations and in particular the impact of large scale clear felling on soil and water resources and the effect of heavy traffic on the road network.

As noted earlier the Regional Council has forest operation guidelines and rules on vegetation clearance which apply to forest harvesting. They are directed at limiting the impact of such operations on soil and water resources and are under review. The District Council's main concern in this area relates to the effects of harvesting on the road network.

Road transport has to date been almost exclusively used to move logs and other produce from the forests. Much of the timber has gone to Auckland and Whangarei for processing or export overseas. Whilst investigations have been made into alternative barge and rail transport systems no significant developments have taken place. There are indications that considerable reliance will be placed on road transport for the foreseeable future.

Significant increases in logging related traffic are to be expected as the forests mature and substantial volumes of timber come on stream. This is evident from a recent survey of forest plantings and logging traffic volumes by the New Zealand Forest Owners Association. It estimated that in 1990 just over 91,000 tonnes (150 planted ha) of logs and other timber produce was transported in the Kaipara District. This is expected to almost double to 181,000 tonnes (300 planted ha) by the year 2000. Over this same period the average weighted lead or distance moved is expected to increase from 38 km to 61 km. Very high demands will be placed on particular roads over fairly short periods of time. For instance the logging of a 100 ha block of forest will result in 2400 additional heavy vehicle movements which if spread over a six month period will amount to 2 loaded trips every hour for each working day.

The Council is currently assessing the likely impact of more extensive forest harvesting operations on the roading network. The impacts are expected to vary considerably from road to road according to the volume of timber moved, the frequency of vehicle trips and present roading standards. Some roads have relatively poor foundation conditions as well as poor horizontal and vertical

alignments. Some also have limited metal widths and bridge facilities. Upgrading of such roads is likely to be required if appropriate traffic safety and efficiency standards are to be met.

The Council has powers under the Act to require that financial contributions be made towards the upgrading of roads or other services as a result of any proposed land use activity. The powers can only be utilised on the basis that specific policies and rules relating to the determination of such contributions, including the maximum amount, are included in the district plan. Such provisions have been developed in relation to land subdivision activities and expected to be applied in appropriate circumstances. Different forms of subdivision are listed as either controlled or discretionary activities with various zones. One of the reasons for using this approach is to enable financial contributions for roading, reserves and utility services to be assessed and conditions imposed accordingly, at the time of subdivision.

The Council has looked at adopting aspects of this approach in relation to forest harvesting. Consideration was given to making those forest harvesting operations which involve significant contiguous areas of land, say 5ha or more, a controlled activity. This would have enabled the Council to assess the effect of harvesting operations on the adjacent road network and require a financial contribution towards road realignment, widening and watertabling, bridge replacement, intersection, site entrance or safety improvements in appropriate circumstances. The level of the contribution could have been based around a pre-determined formula. However difficulties were seen in applying such provisions to one form of land use activity, ie forest harvesting, when other activities such as dairying and horticulture can in many situations have similar impacts, but spread out over the 25-30 year production cycle of a forest. Any provisions which were directed at forestry could be seen as inequitable in this regard.

The Council considers other methods need to be looked at including those which deal with the rating of land, the use of roads by heavy vehicles and sources of roading finance. Investigations carried out as part of the district plan preparation process indicate that land which is used for forestry purposes may be making a significantly lower per ha contribution to the general rate (60% of which is currently used for roading) than land which is farmed. This is because of the related land valuation process whereby forestry land is valued on the basis of the condition of the land after harvesting, ie in stumps and with no pasture. This

tends to lower the value of forestry land with respect to its pastoral land equivalent and hence a lower contribution to road funding via rates.

Other matters which need to be considered include the establishment of private forestry roads coupled with the use of provisions in the Local Government Act which enable the Council to restrict heavy traffic movements on public roads, particularly during the winter when forest harvesting impacts are likely to be greatest. The Council intends investigating these matters along with related issues concerning the collection and distribution of road user charges and other central government sources of roading finance. Discussions are to be held with organisations like the NZ Forest Owners Association and Transit NZ and if necessary appropriate representations made to central government.

The Council would like to have an accord or arrangement with forest owners where it is advised of major harvesting operations in advance of them occurring. This is so it can assess the likely impacts on roads and the needs for any mitigation measures. This arrangement would enable the Council to adjust its maintenance programme and carry out water tabling and other works designed to lessen the effects of heavy traffic particularly during winter months. There may be some situations where a road requires strengthening to avoid punch outs and unacceptable levels of deterioration. In these situations the Council would like the forest owners to consider making a reasonable contribution to the cost of carrying out the work.

The Council has looked at including rules in this plan which require forest owners to formally advise the Council of their intentions to harvest areas of a certain size within a prescribed time period. There are several legal and practical difficulties with the approach which were highlighted in submissions on the proposed plan. The Council proposes to investigate the matter further in consultation with forestry interests. Its aim is to reach an agreement whereby the information on road usage is provided and associated assistance given with any necessary roading works.

#### **2.3.4 Control of Wild Animals**

The farming of deer and goats represents a small but significant part of Kaipara's rural economy. In 1992 some 6,000 deer and 11,000 goats were farmed commercially. The viability of the two industries has fluctuated over the years and currently limited new development is taking place. Recently there have been reports of some farms not being well maintained and animals escaping into the

wild. Reports of deer escapes in the Brynderwyn Ranges have raised concerns about the effect of such activities on important forest habitats in the area.

Deer farming operations are controlled under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 and Noxious Animals in Captivity Regulations 1969. Under the Regulations a permit is required to hold deer and other specified noxious animals in captivity. The permit system is tied in with detailed fencing requirements in the Third Schedule of the Regulations. They specify standards for fence posts, netting, gates and locking devices. The Regulations which contain some offence provisions are administered by the Department of Conservation. There are no similar regulations which govern the farming of goats.

The Council has not assessed the state of the various deer and goat farms in the district and the extent of animal escapes and associated feral populations. It proposes to investigate the matter with the Department of Conservation and other interested parties and determine if any particular initiatives are required.

### **2.3.5 Intensive Farming of Animals**

The Kaipara district is an important pig farming area. In 1992 it had around 5,100 pigs which represents about 60% of the region's pig population. It also has some poultry, rabbit and other intensive farming operations. Most of these operations involve the keeping of relatively large numbers of animals in buildings or other confined areas. Whilst the Council is not aware of any particular problems with these operations some guidelines or controls are required, especially for new facilities. Intensive farming operations can create a nuisance for adjoining property owners if they are inappropriately sited or serviced. Noise and smell problems are the most common, the latter often arising from the storage and treatment of animal wastes.

District plans have traditionally provided for factory farming as a discretionary activity in most rural areas. The term factory farming has generally been defined as meaning those farming activities which do not rely on the productive capability of the soil and are predominantly carried out in buildings. Pigs, poultry, rabbit, fish, and mushroom farms have been included in the definition. The consent procedures associated with discretionary activity status have often been seen as unnecessarily restrictive and a disincentive, especially to small operators.

Over the last few years several industry associations have developed codes of practice which deal with land management and other environmental aspects of intensive farming operations. The three principal codes of practice concerned are:-

- New Zealand Pork Industry Board - Pig Farming Code of Practice
- Poultry Industry Association of New Zealand - Environmental Industry Agreed Code of Practice For Poultry Keeping and Broiler Farming
- Federation of Commercial Rabbit Breeders - Recommended Code of Practice for Commercial Rabbit Farming

The codes vary somewhat in their subject matter but generally cover the following matters:-

- site layout
- building design and housekeeping
- waste treatment and disposal
- landscaping and visual impacts
- noise, dust and odour control
- feed, storage and water supply
- vermin control

The code of practice for pig farming contains a number of recommended buffer or separation distances for both piggery buildings and effluent treatment systems. The distances vary according to the scale of the operation, the number of pigs being housed, and use of adjacent properties and buildings. Many of the other standards relating to building design, landscaping, noise control, etc are performance oriented but worded in fairly general terms.

The principal standards in the codes could be incorporated into the district plan thereby enabling factory farming to be listed as a permitted activity in most zones.

However some refinement and rationalisation of the standards would be needed and them extended to include operations such as poultry egg farms which are not covered at present. The Pork Industry Council is currently investigating how its code of practice can be utilised by local authorities in this manner. The District Council proposes to liaise further with the industry associations in this matter. In the meantime factory farming is listed as a controlled activity. This will enable the Council to retain some control over new operations and assess them against the standards in the relevant codes of practice.

### **2.3.6 Use of Pesticides and other Agricultural Chemicals**

Extensive use is made of various herbicides and other insecticides and fungicides in the district to kill unwanted plants and animals and boost associated productivity from the land. Concerns have been expressed about the increasing use of some of these chemicals and their possible side effects on people and property. Particular concerns have been raised about drift from aerial and roadside spraying operations. The application of pesticides and agricultural chemicals is controlled under several Acts and Regulations including:-

- Agricultural Chemicals (2,4,5 T Specifications) Notice 1979
- Pesticides Act 1979
- Pesticides Regulations 1983
- Pesticides (Vertebrate Pest Control) Regulations 1983
- Toxic Substances Act 1979

The Pesticides Act and Toxic Substances Act deal with various aspects of chemical use including the storage and disposal of containers and unwanted materials. Under the Pesticides (Vertebrate Pest Control) Regulations restrictions are placed on the supply and use of controlled pesticides including sodium fluoroacetate (1080) and cyanide products. Similar controls are placed in the sale and application of scheduled insecticides such as D.D.T, under the Pesticide Regulations. These same Regulations also place some controls on the application and transport of herbicides in general. Amongst the controls is a restriction on the use of herbicide dusts during spring summer and autumn. Under the Regulations it is an offence to apply any herbicide in a manner which results in damage to any property other than that intended.

Parts of the Conservation Act 1987, Fisheries Act 1953, Health Act 1956, and Resource Management Act 1990 can also be used to control or prevent inappropriate chemical application. For instance under the Resource Management Act an abatement notice can be issued to prohibit commencement of any activity which is likely to have adverse effect on the environment. Rules can also be incorporated into district or regional plans relating to aerial spraying and other chemical application methods.

The Council recognises that the legislation governing the use of herbicides and pesticides is somewhat disjointed and not altogether focussed on human health risks. However it sees difficulties in trying to achieve better integration and control through the district plan. There is a need for greater public awareness of correct application procedures as well as notification of interested parties through personal contact, newspapers and the like. These matters could be covered in a set of user guidelines or a code of practice. In this regard the New Zealand Forest Owners Association have recently published a Code of Practice For The Use Of Pesticides In Plantation Forestry Operations. It contains a number of recommended user practices and procedures relating to:-

- training of applicators
- programme development and checks
- notification of neighbours - it is recommended that neighbours within 500 metres of the treatment area be notified
- equipment use, calibration and cleaning
- application techniques - it is recommended that spray operations cease if wind exceeds 15 kph, temperature exceeds 20 degrees C, or humidity is below 45%
- risk control
- emergency procedures

The Council considers that any rules or further guidelines in this area are best administered by the Regional Council as part of its air quality and pollution control functions. The Regional Council is currently preparing an Air Quality Management Plan for Northland which deals with pesticide spray draft. It is

expected to contain a number of policies and proposals including rules on certain spraying activities.

### **2.3.7 Mining and Quarrying**

The Kaipara district contains a number of mining and quarrying operations most of which are based around the extraction of rock aggregate or limestone and situated in inland rural areas. The scale of the operations vary considerably ranging from small farm borrow bits to extensive open cast quarries. Specific resource consents are in place for most of the major quarry sites whilst others are operating under existing use rights. Concerns have been expressed about some aspects of these operations, particularly the control over screening and rehabilitation of sites. The potential impact of new operations, especially mining in sensitive coastal and inland forested areas is also an issue.

One of the existing consents which related to extensions to the Arapohue Limeworks quarry in Arapohue Road was issued by the Planning Tribunal (A 68/81). It includes special conditions dealing with the extent of quarrying, site access, landscaping and noise control which are particular to the site. They differ from the general environmental standards for quarrying and other activities in the rural zone. These general standards in no way negate or override the obligation of any consent holder to abide by the special conditions of a resource consent which have been imposed in relation to the operation of their quarry.

Under the Act the District Council is responsible for controlling the land use impacts of activities such as mining and quarrying. The Regional Council is responsible for controlling related air and water management effects, particularly in terms of contaminant discharges. In looking at the land use impacts of mining related activities there is a need to differentiate between the three principal phases of prospecting, exploration and extraction.

Prospecting involves the preliminary evaluation of mineral resources and is aimed at identifying particular areas which warrant closer investigation. It usually involves an initial desktop investigation looking at existing geological, topographical and mining data and then a field based reconnaissance involving gridding, surveying and sampling work. The grid lines or tracks are established for survey control and access to any sampling sites. The nature of the gridding depends on the materials being investigated and the type of land involved. They may be spread from 50 to 1000 metres apart and in heavily vegetated areas rarely exceed a metre in width. Geochemical sampling is likewise generally low impact, with small samples sought from stream, soil and rock resources. Soil and rock

samples are invariably taken by hand using spades, chisels and augering devices. Soil samples are usually between 100-500 grams and rock samples 1-5 kg.

Exploration is aimed at accurately defining and quantifying commercial mineral deposits highlighted in earlier prospecting operations. The activities involved are more intensive and likely to have greater impact on the environment, principally in terms of vegetation disturbance, noise, water usage and discharges. They include those activities undertaken at the prospecting stage as well as trenching, tunnelling, drilling and bulk sampling. Trenches and tunnels are usually dug by mechanical means and extend down into the bedrock for bulk sampling and drilling purposes. The depth and width of trenches and tunnels vary and they are generally backfilled once sampling is finished. Drilling is often the principal method of exploration because it enables the size and shape of the mineral deposit to be better established. Drilling operations vary with access and terrain and rigs available. Both percussion and diamond drilling methods are used which penetrate the water table and return water to the surface. Land disturbance also occurs especially in bush areas, where small pads of 10-15 metres and more are cleared. The impacts of exploration activities vary considerably depending on methods used and the nature of the surrounding environment.

Mining and quarrying operations involve the extraction of mineral and other material deposits generally in large commercially viable quantities. The impact of the operations on the environment and in particular land resources depends on several factors including:-

- the type of mineral or material being extracted and the degree of on site processing involved. This affects the amount and type of wastes produced and the associated storage and treatment facilities required
- the area of operations, i.e. whether they are opencast or underground and associated topography. This affects the need for subsidence prevention, screening and rehabilitation measures
- the location of the operations and their proximity to residential areas, wildlife habitats and other natural features. This affects the need for controls on blasting and noise and control of stormwater runoff, soil erosion and the like.

Prospecting is generally a very low impact activity and is accordingly listed as a permitted activity in the Rural, Coastal and Industrial zones. There is an associated requirement for a written prospecting notice to be submitted to the Council, before commencement of activities. The notice is of an advisory nature only and intended to outline the scope and timing of the activities and what, if any, other consents have been obtained. Prospecting is listed as controlled activity in the Maori Purposes, Residential and Commercial Zones where more detailed consideration needs to be given to potential cultural and environmental impacts.

Exploration is listed as a controlled activity in the Rural and Coastal zones on the basis that it can have significant impacts in some areas, especially those which have high natural or residential amenity values. Use of the controlled activity provisions in the Act means that the Council has the ability to place conditions on particular tracking, trenching and drilling operations in sensitive areas yet not unnecessarily restrict the activity as a whole. This will enable the mining industry to plan with some certainty such activities in the district. Exploration is a discretionary activity in the Maori Purposes zone in accordance with iwi concerns about its potential impacts.

Mining and quarrying is listed as a discretionary activity in the Rural, Coastal and Maori Purposes zones. This is on the basis that such operations can have major environmental impacts and may not be suitable on some sites. Criteria relating to consideration of associated resource consent applications have been incorporated into the district plan. They will enable the Council to grant consent to proposals which are sensitively planned, include high standards of access, dust, noise and blasting control, and protect associated soil and water resources. The use status of mining and quarrying will also enable the Council to require a financial contribution towards the upgrading of any roads and other services affected by the development and set conditions for progressive site rehabilitation where this is appropriate. The definition of mining and quarrying is such as to generally exclude small farm borrow pits, which are specifically listed as permitted activities.

### **2.3.8 Small Lot Farming and Retention of Rural Industries and Services**

Most rural parts of the district have experienced a loss of population over the last 10-15 years through restructuring of the national economy and changes in primary production practices. This has had flow on effects on several small towns which have also likewise lost people and services. Recent population growth has been

largely confined to the Mangawhai and eastern Kaipara Harbour fringes areas. Even in the latter area the population increase has been modest (5.4% or 240 people for the Rehia-Oneriri census area between 1986 and 1996). The Council considers that the land and other resources of the district have the ability to support a wide variety of rural businesses which are natural resource-technological and/or visitor based. Land area or quality is often not critical to the success of such businesses, eg arts and crafts shops, hydroponic grown crops, plant nurseries and farm stay accommodation.

The Council wants to foster subdivision and use of small farming lots which serves to not only retain existing residents who want to change business or personal direction, but also attracts new residents and businesses to the district. The retention of population in rural communities is also seen as critical for the ongoing viability of schools and other facilities.

The land use and subdivision provisions in the district plan recognise that a diverse range of activities can take place on rural properties, many of which are only indirectly related to the land itself. Small farming lot subdivision is seen as appropriate, in all areas, with a greater degree of control exercised on the form and overall density in areas with significant coastal natural character values. Minimum lot size and other rules have been set to ensure that rural amenity values are taken into account in the subdivision and land development process and reverse sensitivity issues do not threaten existing rural industries. The Council will have regard to the impact of subdivision on the safety and efficiency of the state highway network, and will carefully scrutinise the number, siting and design of vehicle crossings in conjunction with Transit NZ.

## **2.4 Objectives Policies and Methods of Implementation**

### **2.4.1 Objectives - Rural Development**

Objective 1: To promote the sustainable management of the district's soil and water resources and utilisation of its mineral resources in an environmentally sensitive manner.

Explanation: The future economic and social well being of the district depends on continued utilisation of its natural soil, water and mineral resources. The district

plan has a key role in ensuring that such resources are used in a sound environmental manner based on the overriding purpose and principles of the Act.

### **2.4.2 Policies and Methods of Implementation**

#### **(1) Land Features**

Policy 1: To identify and protect land which has special cultural, historic or natural qualities and is sensitive to land use change.

Policy 2: To recognise and protect land which is of high actual or potential value for food production.

Methods of Implementation.

- 1 A Maori Purposes zone which covers land in multiple Maori ownership.
- 2 A Coastal zone which covers land in the coastal environment which has high biological or scenic qualities or cultural qualities of special value to tangata whenua.
- 3 A Rural Zone which covers land not in multiple Maori ownership or in sensitive coastal areas.
- 4 A schedule of bush, wetland and other natural features which are protected by rules in the plan.
- 5 Rules which ensure that any archaeological sites, as defined in the Historic Places Act 1993, are identified prior to any activity being carried out which could disturb such sites.
- 6 Special assessment criteria (rules) relating to the use and subdivision of Class II and III land shown on the N.Z. Land Resource Inventory.
- 7 Special assessment criteria (rules) which limit the subdivision and use of Class II and III land for activities of a principally residential, commercial or industrial nature.

Explanation: Specific policies and proposals are required relating to the protection of land with special cultural, landscape and natural values in accordance with the requirements in Section 6 of the Act. High quality soils which are a valuable

resource also deserve some protection taking into account their limited extent and potential for intensive primary production.

## **(2) Farming**

Policy 1: To provide for diversification and intensification of farming activities and ensure that control is exercised over any environmentally damaging aspects of them.

### Methods of Implementation

- 1 Rules which list farming as a permitted activity and factory farming as a controlled activity in the Rural, Coastal and Maori Purposes zones.
- 2 Use N.Z. Pork Industry Board, Poultry Industry Association of N.Z., and Federation of Commercial Rabbit Breeders Codes of Practice for assessing relevant applications for land use consent involving factory farming.
- 3 Liaise with the Department of Conservation on deer farming operations in the district and undertake appropriate publicity and legislative initiatives.
- 4 Promote in association with the Regional Council and farming groups codes of practice relating to agricultural chemical use and land development.
- 5 Administer rules (environmental standards) which control the height and location of accessory buildings.

Explanation: The district plan places minimal controls on farming activities except where intensive housing of animals and similar operations are involved. Recognition is given to the role that the Department of Conservation has in respect of deer farming operations under the Wild Animal Control Act. Closer monitoring of these and goat farming operations may be required to protect natural features in the district.

## **(3) Forestry**

Policy 1: To recognise the diverse range of land use activities which are forestry based and control those aspects which are likely to have significant environmental impacts.

### Methods of Implementation

- 1 Rules which list forestry as a permitted activity in the Rural, Coastal and Maori Purposes zones.
- 2 Promote in association with the Regional Council and forestry groups codes of practice relating to land development and chemical use.
- 3 Maintain dialogue with forest owners on harvesting operations and seek associated information on likely road usage demands.
- 4 Discuss with forest owners the need for upgrading of roads to cater for forest harvesting operations in appropriate circumstances.

Explanation: The provisions in the district plan recognise the various protection and production land uses which come within the ambit of forestry. They are intended to give the Council the ability to monitor and if need be control certain aspects of production forestry operations in accordance with the plan's wider environmental and servicing objectives.

## **(4) Mining and Quarrying**

Policy 1: To provide for the investigation and utilisation of the district's mineral resources whilst minimising the impact of associated activities on soil and water resources, natural features, cultural and amenity values.

### Methods of Implementation

- 1 Rules which list prospecting as a permitted activity in the Rural and Coastal zones, with an associated requirement for a written notice to be submitted to the Council before commencement of activities and prospecting a controlled activity in the Maori Purposes zone.

- 2 Rules which list exploration as a controlled activity in the Rural and Coastal zones and a discretionary activity in the Maori Purposes zone.
- 3 Administer rules (environmental standards) relating to blasting, noise emissions and siting of buildings.
- 4 Require the progressive rehabilitation of extraction sites where practicable as conditions of land use consent.
- 5 Require financial contributions towards the upgrading of roads to cater for mining and quarrying related traffic in appropriate circumstances, as conditions of land use consent.

Explanation: The Council recognises the need to identify, quantify and where appropriate permit the utilisation of mineral resources. Provision is made in the plan for prospecting, exploration and mineral extraction operations within the general zoning framework. Various advisory notice and consent procedures enable associated environmental effects to be assessed and controlled where necessary.

## **2.5 Rules**

### **2.5.1 Rural Zone - Zone Statement**

This zone covers most of the inland rural areas of the district and incorporates a variety of land types ranging from river flats to steep hill country. The land has been primarily developed for pastoral farming, along with horticulture and production forestry. Significant areas of land are in a relatively natural state containing native bush, wetlands and other features with important conservation values.

The principal purpose of the zone is to enable the productive potential of the land to be realised through associated diversification and intensification of land use activities. A range of farming, forestry and mining related uses are listed as permitted or controlled activities. Land uses which have the potential to generate significant off-site environmental impacts, particularly noise, traffic or visual

related and which may not be suitable on all sites are listed as discretionary activities.

The environmental standards for the zone are intended to limit the impact of building, development and other works on the amenities of adjacent sites and the road network. Controls are placed on the siting of buildings in sensitive areas adjacent to airfields, some public works and water bodies. Noise emissions and blasting activities are generally restricted in the zone. Special provisions apply to the protection of important historic buildings, indigenous forests and wetlands.

### **2.5.2 Permitted Activities**

1. Aquaculture landward of mean high water springs
2. Borrow pits
3. Conservation areas and reserves
4. Farming
5. Forestry
6. Home occupations
7. Homestay accommodation.
8. Mineral prospecting provided that a Mineral Prospecting Notice shall be submitted to the Council before prospecting commences.
9. Network utilities including those in existence at the date of public notification of the proposed plan and their maintenance and upgrading where of a minor nature.
10. Plant nurseries.
11. Portable batten mills portable post peelers and portable sawmills.
12. Remote camp sites in compliance with the Camping Ground Regulations 1985.
13. One residential dwelling on sites of less than 4ha, provided the site contains at least 1000m<sup>2</sup> net site area.
14. Two dwellings on sites of 4ha or more, net site area.
15. River control and soil conservation works.
16. Temporary Military Activities.
17. Walkways.
18. Accessory buildings and uses to any of the above.

**2.5.3 Controlled Activities**

1. Airstrips.
2. Animal boarding facilities.
3. Cottage industries.
4. Depots
5. Electricity substations.
6. Factory farming.
7. Marine farming ancillary facilities.
8. Mineral exploration.
9. Roadside stalls except on sites with associated vehicle access onto a state highway.
10. Telephone exchanges.
11. Accessory buildings and uses to any of the above.

**2.5.4 Discretionary Activities<sup>#</sup>**

1. Camping grounds and visitor accommodation.
2. Cemeteries and urupa.
3. Coastal protection works.
4. Commercial services, offices and shops.
5. Community and recreational facilities.
6. Electricity substations, electricity transmission lines (high voltage) and telecommunication works.
7. Factories and industrial premises processing agricultural and seafood produce.
8. Hospitals, rest homes and welfare homes.
9. Hotels restaurants taverns and tourist house premises.
10. Landfills, refuse recycling facilities and transfer stations.
11. Mining and quarrying.
12. Network utilities not being a permitted activity.
13. Any residential dwelling on a site of less than 1000m<sup>2</sup> net site area.
14. Two or more residential dwellings on a site of less than 4ha net site area.
15. Three or more residential dwellings on a site of 4ha or more net site area.
16. Roadside stalls on sites with associated vehicle access into a state highway.
17. Sawmills and timber treatment plants.

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<sup>#</sup> Updated August 2005

18. Service stations.
19. Slipways.
20. Stock saleyards.
21. Wharves, jetties and other landing facilities.
22. Windmills not being a permitted activity.
23. Accessory buildings and uses to any of the above.
24. Any activity listed as a permitted or controlled activity which fails to comply with the environmental standards for the zone.

**2.5.5 Environmental Standards**

The following standards shall apply to all permitted activities in the zone, except network utilities.

**1. Buildings and Structures<sup>#</sup>**

- (a) Location of Buildings in Relation to Site Boundaries (Yards)  
No building shall be erected within the front, side or rear yards of a site which are as follows:-
  - Front yards - 10 metres
  - Side and Rear Yards - 3 metres
- (b) Location of Buildings Near Lakes Rivers and the Sea  
No building shall be erected within 30 metres of mean high water springs mark of the coastal marine area, or the banks of any lake whose bed has an area of 8ha or more, or the bank of any river or stream whose bed has an average width of 3 metres or more.
- (c) Distances between Buildings or Enclosures Housing Livestock and Residential Dwellings.  
No building or enclosure intended to house livestock shall be erected within 50 metres of any residential dwelling unless that dwelling is occupied by the owner or occupier of the site or their employees.

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<sup>#</sup> Updated August 2005

- (d) Distances between Residential Dwellings and Sewage Treatment Sites  
No residential dwelling shall be erected within 150 metres of the sewage treatment sites at Dargaville, Te Kopuru, Maungaturoto and Kaiwaka shown on Planning Maps 36, 41, 50 and 53.
- (e) Height of Buildings - General  
No building shall exceed a height of 10 metres or that equal to 3 metres plus the shortest horizontal distance between that part of the building and any site boundary whichever is the lesser.
- (f) Relocation of Dwellings
  - (i) Any relocated dwelling intended for use as a dwelling (excluding previously used garages and accessory buildings) must have been previously designed built and used as a dwelling.
  - (ii) A building inspection report shall accompany the application for a building consent. That report is to identify all reinstatement work required to the exterior of the building.
  - (iii) All work required to reinstate the exterior of any relocated building, including the siting of the building on permanent foundations, shall be completed within six months of the building being delivered to the site.

NB: Relocated dwellings are permitted activities only where they meet the environmental standards above. Where it will take longer than 6 months to carry out the necessary work to meet these standards an application must be made for consent to a discretionary activity. The Council may use its powers under sections 314 and 322 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to apply for an enforcement order or to issue an abatement notice where these standards are not met and/or appropriate consent has not been granted.
- (g) Buildings and Structures near Airfields.  
See Section 9.9
- (h) Minimum Floor Levels of Buildings  
See N.Z. Building Code (Clause E13.2)
- (i) Buildings and Structures Near Road and Railway Intersections

See Section 9.10

- (j) Buildings and Structures Near Electricity Lines  
See Electricity Regulations 1993
- (k) Building and Excavations Near Gas Lines  
See Gas Industry Regulations 1984
- (l) Buildings and Structures Near Drains  
See Kaipara District Council Land Drainage Bylaw

NB: Compliance with the above standards does not derogate from the Council's powers under section 36 of the Building Act 1991.

## 2. Noise Emissions

- (a) Noise Limits

All activities shall be conducted so as to ensure that noise from the site shall not exceed the following limits, neither at nor within the boundary of any site zoned Residential, nor within the notional boundary of any dwelling on a site in the Rural, Coastal or Maori Purposes zones.

7.00 am to 7.00 pm Monday to Saturday	50 dBA L10
All other times and on public holidays	40 dBA L10
Any day from 10.00 pm to 7.00 am the following day	70 dBA Lmax

provided that the abovementioned noise limits may be exceeded under the following circumstances:-

- (1) where emergency valves need to be used for a short period of time during emergencies.
  - (2) where safety valves are being tested on site. On these occasions public notification of safety valve testing shall be given one week prior by advertisement in the local paper.
- (b) Measurements of Noise

Subject to the express provisions of this rule, sound levels shall be measured in accordance with New Zealand Standard NZS 6801:1991 Measurement of Sound and assessed in accordance with NZS 6802:1991 Assessment of Environmental Sound.

(c) Construction Noise

Construction noise shall meet the limits recommended in, and shall be measured and assessed in accordance with, NZS 6803P:1984 The Measurement and Assessment of Noise from Construction, Maintenance and Demolition Work.

(d) Noise From Temporary Military Activities

Noise emanating from military activities of a temporary nature shall not exceed the following limits, neither at nor within the boundary of any site zoned Residential nor within the notional boundary of any dwelling on a site in the Rural, Coastal and Maori Purposes zones.

Time (Any Day)	Limits (dBA)		
	L10	L95	Lmax
0630 - 0730	60	45	70
0730 - 1800	75	60	90
1800 - 2000	70	55	85
2000 - 0630	40		

Notwithstanding the above, noise resulting from the use of explosives shall not exceed 122 dBC and shall be limited to daylight hours. The noise measurement shall be taken at or within the boundary of site zoned Residential and within the notional boundary of any dwelling on a site in the Rural, Coastal or Maori Purposes zones.

**3. Use of Explosives and Blasting**

All explosives shall be handled stored and used in accordance with the provisions in the Dangerous Goods Regulations 1979 and N.Z. Standard NZS 4403 (1976) "Code of Practice for Storage, Handling and Use of Explosives."

All blasting operations shall be carried out between the following hours:

Monday to Friday	0700 - 1900 hours
and Saturday	0700 - 1300 hours

except in emergency situations where the Council is advised accordingly and provided the following levels are not exceeded:

- a peak overall sound pressure level of 128dBA linear unweighted
- a peak particle velocity ground vibration of 10mm per second measured in the frequency range 3-12 metres as measured from or within 20 metres of any occupied dwelling on any adjacent site.

Records shall be kept of all blasting activities and made available for Council inspection at all times.

**4. Contaminant Discharges**

No activity shall be carried out which results in the discharge of any contaminant to the air, onto land or into water in contravention of Section 15 of the Resource Management Act unless provided for by a rule in a Regional Plan or Proposed Regional Plan (See Section 4.3.4 for further explanation)

**5. Protection of Heritage and Natural Features** See Section 8.

**6. Signs** See Section 9.

**7. Vehicle Access Loading and Parking** See Section 9.

**8. Other Resource Consents**

People undertaking a land use listed as a permitted activity, controlled activity or discretionary activity in the zone are advised to contact the Northland Regional Council to determine if any other resource consents are required under the

provisions of any Regional Plan. All Regional Plans are available for inspection at the Regional Council offices in Dargaville and Whangarei.