

Submission on Proposed Kaipara District Plan 30 June 2025

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Submission reference P McDermott Submission KDC PDP

Could you gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission : No

Are you directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that *

(a) Adversely affects the environment; and No

(b) Does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition No.

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission Yes

Preferred timeslot Afternoon

If others make a similar submission

I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing Yes

This submission focuses on the need to reinforce the community's capacity to avoid, mitigate, and recover from flooding events, which are predicted to become more frequent and severe. It reflects research and analysis I have been involved in as a contributor the Mangawhai Matters' Sustainable Mangawhai Project, although I am making it in a personal capacity.

Some of the findings of, not all of which has been published, have relevance to the provisions of the district plan.

The submission acknowledges and is intended to contribute to the PDP focus on resilience and sustainable development, calling for strengthening of the relevant plan provisions. It addresses objectives and policies but does not consider the rules through which they will be implemented.

NH – Natural Hazards

Explanation

Predictions of sea level rise are significant over the long-term (in this case, between 30 and 100 years) because they will exacerbate storm tides. Storm tides are more significant given the increasing intensity of cyclonic storms. Under the most favourable climate scenarios and a 10-year ARI storm (10% AEP) 1.5m will be reached by 2030 and 2m by 2080. With continued warming and a 20-year storm (5% AEP) the 2m mark comes forward by at least a decade, and 3m could be reached in 100 years. This expectation is conservative: based on rainfall totals both Cyclone Alfred and Cyclone Gabrielle easily exceeded 1 in 100-year ARI estimates).

The science and the evidence point to a greater probability of damaging storms than implied by SLR and 10-year ARI cited as defining Coastal hazards. Adaptive planning means that high risk hazard areas, especially flood hazard areas, need to be reviewed regularly. An anticipated increase in flood hazards calls for stringent controls of at risk areas, through the conditions attached to discretionary land uses and the design of buildings and infrastructure.

Provisions for natural hazards, in particular flooding effects, should influence policies and rules throughout the plan. My submission is not comprehensive but indicates the sorts of amendments which would recognise the significance of the issue. I am prepared to contribute further material if required, including the underlying reports and analyses.

SD-NH-01 Natural Hazards and Resilience

Insert after 3:

- 3 Require new infrastructure to be capable of withstanding a one in 50-year ARI flood.
- 4 Provision for works by way of hard and soft engineering to provide protection to communities, activities, and amenities from the direct effects of flooding and its effects {alternatively,...from natural hazards and their effects}.
- 5 Kaipara communities [No change]

Explanation: *There will be an increased need for defensive structures, such as groynes, sea walls, and floodgates and for the provision of extensive areas for holding and managing floodwaters by way of wetlands and the like in flood prone areas,*

Insert new:

NH- P4 Land Use

- 1 Identify areas within and around existing settlements in which development is prohibited because of the high probability of extensive, deep, or repeat flooding from coastal inundation, river flooding, or both.
- 2 Identify areas in which no further development or redevelopment will be permitted; or in which measures must be taken to remove or protect existing structures from the impact of flooding.

Amend

NH-P12 Limit Encourage new constructed natural hazard protection structures

- 1 Promote Consider new hazard protection structures to protect existing development and existing and new infrastructure where:

- 2 Provide for and encourage suitable low-lying areas to be set aside for floodwater retention and management.

INF – Infrastructure

Insert a comment on and recognition of significance of maintaining the capacity of lifeline services and critical infrastructure to expedite recovery from destructive events (storm damage, flooding landslides, earthquakes).

SUB -Subdivision

SUB-P3 Providing for recreation and public access

Insert

- 4 Allow for and encourage provision of large-scale flood detention or holding areas as recreational areas

Suggested rules – Residential other bonuses to the General residential Zone; credit against open space and recreational requirements; credit against financial contributions (for providing a soft engineering benefit as hazard management investment).

EW — Earthworks

The PDP proposes a simple approach to managing the effects of earthworks which leaves water bodies vulnerable to sedimentation. It notes that the Regional Council has primary responsibility for managing earthworks effects on freshwater, the coastal environment, natural hazards comet and soil.

More explicit attention needs to be paid true the water quality of Kaipara Harbour and Mangawhai Estuary given their significance to the communities, environment, and commerce. The lack of enforceable standards relating to erosion and sediment control is likely to result in large scale sediment run off under expected future storm conditions and given that the plan permits up to 2500m² in any zone. There should enforceable standards in the district plan to ensure that best practice erosion and sediment controls are adopted and implemented to prevent sediment discharge during and after earthworks. Reference should be made in the PDP to best practice, currently recognised as Auckland Council Guidance Document 2016/005.