

# Part IV

## 21. Monitoring and Review

### 21.1 Introduction

Resource management planning does not stop with the adoption of an operative regional policy statement or plan. Plans and policies are prepared because there are issues to be resolved. It is only by monitoring the state of the environment and the implementation of plans that the Regional Council can determine how well the policies and methods are achieving the objectives and resolving the original issues.

If monitoring reveals that the issues are not being resolved then a review of the objectives, policies and methods is needed.

The RM Act requires the Regional Council to:

- (1) Monitor and report on the state of the environment (section 35);
- (2) State in the Regional Policy Statement the procedures to be used to:
  - (a) monitor the effectiveness of the Regional Policy Statement as a means of achieving its objectives and policies
  - (b) review the Regional Policy Statement (section 62(1)(i)).

### 21.2 Monitoring the State of the Environment

- (1) The Regional Council is preparing a strategy for monitoring the state of the environment. The Regional Council will consult appropriate organisations and individuals to determine the suitable parameters to be monitored and other relevant details (e.g. where monitoring occurs, frequency of sampling).
- (2) The Regional Council will prepare an annual regional environment report summarising key environmental information for the region. The source of this information will include:
  - (a) the specific monitoring programmes (identified in (1) above);

- (b) monitoring identified in specific regional plans; and
- (c) compliance monitoring for consents.

While some parameters will be reported on annually others will be reported at longer intervals reflecting in part the time needed to distinguish trends or changes.

Information derived from state of the environment monitoring will assist in measuring the performance and effectiveness of the Regional Policy Statement.

### **21.3 Procedures to Monitor the Regional Policy Statement**

The procedures to be used to monitor the suitability and effectiveness of the Regional Policy Statement will be identified through the preparation of a Regional Policy Statement monitoring strategy.

The Regional Council will consult with district/city councils and other organisations during the preparation of the strategy to ensure that unnecessary duplication of monitoring is avoided and an integrated approach is achieved.

Once completed, a change to the Regional Policy Statement will be made to include relevant provisions to meet the requirements of section 62(1)(i) of the RM Act.

### **21.4 Procedures for the Review of and Changes to the Policy Statement**

The Regional Policy Statement must be reviewed within 10 years of the Regional Policy Statement becoming operative although it may be reviewed or changed at any time. Circumstances which may result in a review or change include:

- (1) changes in legislation which would make part of the Regional Policy Statement ultra vires.
- (2) case law rendering part(s) of the Regional Policy Statement ultra vires.
- (3) the notification of, or change to, any National Policy Statement or the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, or the making of any water conservation order with which the Regional Policy Statement is not consistent.
- (4) new information (e.g. from monitoring iwi management plans) which requires change to part(s) of the Regional Policy Statement.
- (5) changes initiated by the Crown or by a territorial authority.
- (6) emergence of new issues of regional significance not dealt with in the Regional Policy Statement.

The Regional Council will initiate changes or reviews as required, following the procedures set out in the First Schedule of the RM Act. This will include consultation with Tangata Whenua, district and city councils and Government departments.

## 21.5 Summary of Monitoring Provisions from Part II

### Introduction

The following is an aggregation of the monitoring provisions as stated at the end of each of Chapters 6 to 18. Its purpose is to provide an overview of the monitoring to be undertaken to determine whether the implementation of policies and methods is being effective in achieving the objectives and thereby resolving the issues.

### Ch 6. Provision for the Relationship of Tangata Whenua with Resources

- (1) Provisions in Regional Plans and district plans.
- (2) Provisions reflecting regional policy in Iwi Management Plans.
- (3) Extent of Tangata Whenua participation in resource planning and consultative processes.
- (4) Extent of concern on access to and protection of koiwi tangata, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga.

### Ch 7. Soils and Land Use

- (1) Trends in key soil quality indicators at sample sites.
- (2) The degree of adoption of land management practices that minimise erosion.
- (3) Incidents of soil erosion.
- (4) Incidents of land contamination.
- (5) Incidents of unauthorised vegetation clearance on non-arable land.
- (6) Trends in plant and animal pest populations, and their effects on the land resource.
- (7) The extent of conversion of Classes I and II land to irreversible uses.
- (8) Trends in vegetation cover and composition in hill and high country areas.

### Ch 8. Landscape, Ecology and Heritage

- (1) Trends in quality and extent of wetlands.
- (2) Trends in rate and quality of change affecting natural features and landscapes.
- (3) Trends in indigenous biodiversity.
- (4) Incidents reported to the Regional Council relating to management of landscape and ecology, or related Tangata Whenua concerns.
- (5) Instances of heritage values being protected.

## **Ch 9. Water**

- (1) The presence and concentrations of contaminants in water bodies and coastal water, and their effects.
- (2) Water body flows and levels (including rates of flow, pressures, and for geothermal water, temperatures).
- (3) The health of flora and fauna, and availability and quality of mahinga kai in water bodies, coastal water and their surrounds.
- (4) Trends in total abstraction of water relative to water availability.
- (5) Incidents reported to the Regional Council relating to water quantity and quality.
- (6) Trends in compliance with conditions on resource consents and on permitted activities.

## **Ch 10. Beds of Rivers and Lakes and their Margins**

- (1) The quality and extent of habitats associated with the beds of lakes and rivers and their margins.
- (2) Changes in flood-carrying capacity of river systems.
- (3) The accessibility of rivers and lakes to the public.
- (4) The effects of land use on the stability and performance of essential structures.
- (5) The effects of land use on natural character, landscapes, and heritage sites.

## **Ch 11. The Coastal Environment**

- (1) Changes in recreational use and noise.
- (2) Trends in compliance with resource consent and permitted activity conditions.
- (3) Community complaints for matters such as noise and recreation conflicts.
- (4) Accessibility of the coastline to the public.

## **Ch 12. Settlement and the Built Environment**

- (1) Adverse effects of urban development and the physical expansion of settlements on urban, natural and physical resources of regional significance.
- (2) Efficiency in the use of transport infrastructure and other facilities of regional significance.
- (3) Social, economic and cultural welfare in rural settlements.
- (4) Incidents reported to the Regional Council relating to loss or infringement of identified mahinga kai, wahi tapu or wahi taonga.
- (5) Extent of provision in district plans for papakainga.

### **Ch 13. Air**

- (1) Concentration of contaminants in air and their effects.
- (2) Trends in compliance with conditions on resource consents and on permitted activities.
- (3) Incidents reported to the Regional Council relating to air quality.

### **Ch 14. Energy**

- (1) Trends in regional and sectoral energy use and the proportions involving renewable sources.
- (2) Incidents and effects of significant energy shortages.

### **Ch 15. Transport**

- (1) The ability of the strategic transport infrastructure to meet community needs.
- (2) Use of different transport modes including public transport, private vehicles and bicycles.
- (3) Trends in transport accidents.
- (4) Trends in regional and sectoral energy use and the proportions using renewable resources.
- (5) Concentration of contaminants in air and their effects.
- (6) Levels of service in terms of the freedom of movement or absence of congestion provided by the transport network.

### **Ch 16. Natural Hazards**

- (1) Trends in compliance with conditions on resource consents and permitted activities.
- (2) The long-term trend in community expenditure on mitigating natural hazards.
- (3) The long-term trend (over decades) in gross financial losses due to natural hazards.
- (4) Incidents reported to the Regional Council relating to natural hazards or relevant Tangata Whenua concerns.
- (5) Trends in the incidence of significant adverse effects on the environment, in particular on significant habitats of indigenous fauna, amenity values and heritage places resulting from natural hazard management measures.

### **Ch 17. Hazardous Substances**

- (1) Incidents reported to the Regional Council relating to hazardous substances.
- (2) Trends in compliance with conditions on resource consents and on permitted activities.
- (3) Usage of hazardous substances in Canterbury.
- (4) The adoption of measures to reduce or mitigate the adverse effects arising from the storage, use, disposal and transportation of hazardous substances.

## **Ch 18. Solid And Hazardous Waste Management**

- (1) The amounts of various types of solid and hazardous wastes produced and disposed of in Canterbury.
- (2) The adoption of the Ministry for the Environment's 1992 Waste Analysis Protocol by local authorities.
- (3) Contamination from previous and existing waste disposal sites.
- (4) The adoption of measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects arising from solid and hazardous waste management.