



Taupō District Plan **REVIEW**

Te Arotakenga i te Mahere ā-Rohe o Taupō

Section 32 Evaluation Report Plan Change 47: Māori Purpose Zone

Adopted:

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	5
1.1	Māori Purpose Zones	6
1.2	Identifying MPZ.....	6
2	Glossary	8
3	Statutory and Planning Context	9
3.1	Resource Management Act 1991.....	9
3.1.1	Section 32 RMA	10
3.2	The National Planning Standards.....	13
3.3	National Policy Statements.....	14
3.3.1	National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (NPS-UD).....	14
3.3.2	National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM).....	14
3.3.3	National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Generation 2011 (NPS-REG)	14
3.3.4	National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2011 (NPS-ET).....	15
3.3.5	National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2024 (NPS-HPL).....	15
3.3.6	National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 (NPS-IB)	15
3.3.7	NPS Assessment Conclusion	15
3.4	National Environmental Standards	16
3.4.1	NES for Air Quality 2004	16
3.4.2	NES for Sources of Human Drinking Water 2007	16
3.4.3	NES for Telecommunication Facilities 2016	16
3.4.4	NES for Electricity Transmission Activities 2009.....	16
3.4.5	NES for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health 2011	16
3.4.6	NES for Plantation Forestry 2017	16
3.4.7	NES for Marine Aquaculture 2020.....	17
3.4.8	NES for Freshwater (part of the wider Freshwater NES package – in effect 2020)	17
3.4.9	NES Assessment Conclusion	17
3.5	Regional Policy Statements and Plans	17
3.5.1	Waikato Regional Policy Statement (WRPS) and Regional Plan	17
3.5.2	Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement (BoPRPS) and Regional Plan.....	17
3.5.3	Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement (HBRSP) and Regional Plan	18
3.5.4	Horizons Regional Council One Plan.....	18
3.5.5	Regional Plans.....	18
3.6	Taupō District Operative Plan Approach	19
3.6.1	Key Resource Management Issues	19

3.6.2	Operative Taupo District Plan.....	20
3.7	District Policy/Strategies.....	20
3.7.1	Taupō Future Development Strategy	20
3.8	Settlement and Iwi legislation	22
3.8.1	Ngati Tuwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010	23
3.8.2	Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012 and the Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012	23
3.8.3	Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki	25
3.8.4	Te Ture Whaimana - The Vision and Strategy	28
3.8.5	Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitāiki River.....	30
3.9	Iwi Management Plans	30
3.9.1	Individual Management Plans	33
3.10	Joint Management Plans.....	37
3.10.1	Central North Island Forests Iwi Collective (CNI): He Mahere Pūtahitanga (2018)....	37
4	Engagement	38
4.1	Timeline of Engagement on PC47	38
4.2	Engagement documents	40
5	Governance	41
6	Scale and Significance	41
7	Evaluation of Proposed Plan Change 47 – Māori Purpose Zones.....	43
7.1	Evaluation of the introduction of MPZ Chapter	43
7.2	Evaluation of the Proposed Objectives against the Purpose of the Act:	44
7.3	Assessment of the Provisions	49
8	CONCLUSION	58
Appendix 1.	Assessment against Taupō District Plan Strategic Directions.....	59
Appendix 2.	Policy Cascade	61
Appendix 3.	MPZ Engagement Documents.....	63
Appendix 4.	Draft Provisions Consulted on in February to May 2025	64

Table of Tables

Table 1	Proposed MPZ	7
Table 2	Section 32 Glossary	8
Table 3	Assessment of PC47 against the Taupō Future Development Strategy Outcomes	21
Table 5	Assessment of PC47 against Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki	26
Table 6	Summary of Alignment of PC47 with Kaupapa Kaitiaki	28
Table 7	Assessment of PC47 against the Te Arawa River Iwi Trust Environmental Management Plan	31
Table 8	Assessment of PC47 against the Ngāti Tūwharetoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan	34

Table 10 PC47 Assessment against the Raukawa Environmental Management Plan	36
Table 11 Assessment of Provision Options	43
Table 12 Assessment of Objective MPZ-01	45
Table 13 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-01	46
Table 14 Assessment of Objective MPZ-02	46
Table 15 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-02	47
Table 16 Assessment of Objective MPZ-03	47
Table 17 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-03	48
Table 18 Assessment of Objective MPZ-04	48
Table 19 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-04	49

1 Introduction

This report is the summary evaluation report for Plan Change 47: Māori Purpose Zones (PC47) to the Taupō Operative District Plan ('ODP'). This evaluation report is prepared to fulfil the requirements of Section 32 of the Resource Management Act 1991 ('the RMA').

Please also refer to the Overarching Background and Engagement Report for full context of Plan Change 47 in the context of the bundle of plan changes it sits within.

Plan Change 47 to the Taupō District Plan proposes the introduction of a new Māori Purpose Zone (MPZ) to better provide for the development and utilisation of Māori land in a way that reflects the cultural, social, and economic aspirations of tangata whenua. The MPZ responds to the National Planning Standards definition of such zones as areas predominantly used for activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including residential and commercial activities. The purpose of the MPZ is to support the self-determination of Māori landowners and enable a more flexible, enabling planning framework that respects kaupapa Māori, tikanga, and the relationship of Māori with their ancestral land.

This plan change introduces a standalone zone with its own objectives, policies, and rules, tailored to Māori land under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. It seeks to enable a wide range of land uses, including papakāinga, marae, community facilities, and commercial activity, while maintaining consistency with district-wide planning controls for infrastructure and natural hazards. The MPZ will be structured to allow for both rural and residential contexts, with standards that respond to the scale and infrastructure capacity of each.

Plan Change 47 responds to issues identified in the District Plan Monitoring and Issues Identification Report. This report identified that the Operative District Plan (ODP) provisions have not enabled tangata whenua to develop multiply owned Māori land and does not effectively recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga. The report identified that:

- Multiply owned Māori land tenure provides significant challenges for the owners. It is difficult to subdivide land and to sell it which has flow on challenges for raising capital.
- District Plan has tended to treat multiply-owned Māori land much the same as land in general title. This may have inhibited development of that land. For example, some Māori owned land has previously been identified as growth areas (within TD2050 and the District Plan) which in order to be developed requires all owners to agree on what and how development will occur. Multiple ownership can make this process difficult.
- Council has a requirement under Section 6e of the RMA to recognise and provide for the relationship with Maori and their ancestral lands.

A 2016 plan effectiveness review also identified that the ODP does not effectively recognise and provide for the importance of marae and papakaiaanga or the importance of ancestral lands.

The introduction of the MPZ through the 2019 National Planning Standards provided an opportunity for Taupō District Council to address these issues through the use of the new zone.

1.1 Māori Purpose Zones

PC47 proposes to introduce a new zone into the ODP. The Māori Purpose Zone provides for the social, cultural, environmental and economic needs of mana whenua and seeks to enable reconnection with sites of ancestral importance to mana whenua. The intention of this zone is to allow the development and use of Māori land in a manner that reflects traditional use of this land.

PC47 responds to guidance in the 2019 National Planning Standards that enables Plans to zone areas used predominantly for a range of activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including but not limited to residential and commercial activities. The intent of MPZ is to recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture and traditions. MPZ seek to enable settlement patterns, activities and development in accordance with kaupapa Māori and tikanga.

The guidance on MPZ within the National Planning Standards was broad and an additional framework was established from the following:

- The results of initial engagement with iwi, hapu, Māori landowners and trusts.
- The direction in the Proposed Strategic Direction Chapter of the TDP, specifically supporting development of Māori land to meet the needs of landowners.
- The existing and proposed rural and residential provisions in the Taupō District Plan.

This guidance enabled a set of principles to be developed which were used to inform discussion with iwi, hapu and Māori land owners. The following principles were tested and used to inform the development of the initial framework:

- Māori land will only be zoned as MPZ if the owners choose for it to be through this process.
- The focus of MPZ will be on enabling use and development of Māori land.
- MPZ will still be subject to wider rules such as natural hazards.
- A different approach will be taken according to whether the whenua is in a rural or residential setting to reflect the surrounding infrastructure and wider setting.
- MPZ will include specific recognition of marae and will provide for their development and ongoing use and expansion.
- MPZ will provide for traditional land uses in a mixed-use environment that supports residential, community and commercial uses of land.
- Use site specific standards to recognise the unique qualities of a site.

PC47 was developed based on these principles, consideration of wider statutory direction as required and engagement with iwi, hapu and Māori landowners and other stakeholders. Section 4 of this report sets out the engagement process in more detail.

1.2 Identifying MPZ

Throughout the engagement process TDC invited Māori landowners and trusts to consider whether they wanted their lands zoned as MPZ. As noted in the principles above, the zoning process was an 'opt in' process where landowners choose to put their land forward for inclusion in PC47. In addition to landowners consent, the other requirement was that the land in question must be Māori land within the meaning of Section 129 (1) (a, b or c) of Te Ture Whenua Maori Land Act 1993.

Five areas have been proposed to be zoned as follows:

Table 1 Proposed MPZ

Site ID	Identifier	Legal Description
MPZ-1	Te Rangitautahanga Road Turangi 3334	LOT 41 DP 29782, PT LOT DP 32861, SEC 56 TN OF Turangi, SEC 2 SO 36174, SEC 1 SO 36174, SEC 55 TN OF Turangi
MPZ-2	46 Hirangi Road Turangi 3334	Waipapa 1D2B1
MPZ-3	State Highway 1 Turangi	PT Tauranga Taupo 2B2L41
MPZ-4	301 State Highway 1 Turangi	Tauranga Taupo 2B2L22
MPZ-5	3245 State Highway 1 Turangi	Tauranga Taupo 2B2M3A ML 17862

In all cases the areas of land were requested to be included in PC47 by the owners or trustees of the land in question. All requests were made in writing.

Land can only be zoned as MPZ through the First Schedule process. Additional MPZ are able to be added through submissions on PC47 or through future First Schedule processes (Plan Changes or Variations).

2 Glossary

There are several occasions throughout this report where an external document is referred to, often by an abbreviation. This section provides a list of these documents, and the appropriate abbreviation.

Table 2 Section 32 Glossary

Document	Abbreviation	Comment
Operative District Plan	ODP	The Taupō District Plan which was made operative on 11 October 2007.
Resource Management Act 1991	RMA	As at 5 April 2025.
Waikato Regional Policy Statement	WRPS	The Waikato Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 20 May 2016.
Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement	BOPRPS	The Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 1 October 2014.
Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement	HBRS	The Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 28 August 2006.
Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Policy Statement	MWRPS	The Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Policy Statement which was made operative on 25 November 2014.
National Policy Statement	NPS	Several as promulgated by the government, see https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/national-policy-statements
National Environment Standard	NES	Several as promulgated by the government, see https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/national-environmental-standards

3 Statutory and Planning Context

Much of the Statutory Context is included within the Background and Engagement Report. Many pieces of legislation are relevant across Plan Change 44-6 and 50, so rather than it be repeated it has been summarised in the Background and Engagement report which essentially acts as an overarching section 32.

3.1 Resource Management Act 1991

The District Plan Change has been undertaken in accordance with RMA requirements. This report provides an overview of the key requirements, which are then assessed in more detail in each Section 32 report.

The matters addressed in District Plans are determined by the key functions of territorial authorities as outlined in section 31 of the RMA. The key functions for TDC are to:

- Achieve integrated management of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district.
- Ensure sufficient development capacity in reports of housing and business land to meet the expected demands of the district.
- Control the actual or potential effects of the use and development of land, including for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating natural hazards, preventing or mitigating the adverse effects of contaminated land and maintaining biological biodiversity.
- Control the emission of noise and mitigation of noise effects.
- Control the effects in relation to surface water in rivers and lakes.

Sections 72 – 77 set out the purpose and processes associated with District Plans. District Plans allow the Council to fulfil its functions under the RMA (Section 72).

Every Council must have a District Plan that is prepared under the requirements of the 1st schedule (Section 73). The 1st schedule outlines the statutory requirements for preparing a Proposed Plan, including consultation and process matters both prior to and post District Plan public notification.

The Council needs to consider higher order documents when preparing its District Plan and also any Iwi Management Plans and their bearing on the resource management issues of the district (Section 74).

Sections 75 – 77 outline what must be and what may be included in District Plan (i.e. objectives, policies and methods) and authorises the inclusion of rules and the ‘activity status’ that can be given to activities.

Section 5, the purpose of the RMA, promotes the sustainable management of natural and physical resources, as outlined in Section 5(2).

In this Act, sustainable management means managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, that enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and for their health and safety while –

- (a) Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
- (b) Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and
- (c) Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

Section 6 of the RMA specifically requires that the Council recognise and provide for matters of national importance. These are:

- (a) The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment.
- (b) The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, land use and development.
- (c) The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
- (d) The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers.
- (e) The relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga.
- (f) The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
- (g) The protection of customary rights.
- (h) The management of significant risks from natural hazards.

Section 7 of the RMA requires the Council to have particular regard to the following other matters:

- (a) Kaitiakitanga
 - (aa) The ethic of stewardship
- (b) The efficient use and development of natural and physical resources
 - (ba) The efficiency of the end use of energy
- (c) The maintenance and enhancement of amenity values
- (d) Intrinsic values of ecosystems
- (e) Maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment
- (f) Any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources
- (g) The protection of the habitat of trout and salmon
- (h) The effects of climate change
- (i) The benefits to be derived from the use and development of renewable energy

Section 8 of the RMA requires the Council to *take into account* the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi). Tangata whenua, through iwi authorities have been consulted as part of the review process and the obligation to make informed decisions based on that consultation is noted.

3.1.1 SECTION 32 RMA

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of section 32 of the RMA. Broadly, a section 32 evaluation involves the following steps:

- identifying the resource management issue

- evaluating the extent to which any objective is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA
- identifying alternative policies and methods of achieving the objective
- assessing the effectiveness of alternative policies and methods
- assessing the benefits and costs of the proposed and alternative policies, rules, or other methods
- examining the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the policies, rules, or other methods (meaning the nature and extent of the issue and the appropriateness of the objective)
- deciding which method or methods are the most appropriate given their likely effectiveness and their likely cost, relative to the benefit that would likely deliver
- carrying out the evaluation outlined above before the provisions being adopted and summarising the evaluation in a report.

The purpose of this report is to summarise the process and evaluations undertaken by Council and their consultants in formulating the Strategic Directions Chapter of the ODP.

The following are key terms in the application of s32 of the RMA:

Appropriateness - means the suitability of the plan provision to its proposed purpose. It has two related meanings:

In the context of section 32(3)(a) (evaluation of appropriateness of objectives) its meaning may (depending on the circumstances) include:

- relevancy
- usefulness
- achievability
- reasonableness

In the context of section 32(3)(b) (appropriateness of policies, rules or other methods) it includes the extent to which the provisions will be:

- effective
- efficient

Effectiveness - means how successful a particular option is or will be in achieving the stated objective. How successful an option is can be measured in terms of not just whether an objective will be achieved outright; but alternatively, it may relate to the extent to which progress will be made even if the objective will not be met in full. The speed at which progress is made may also be a relevant consideration.

Efficiency - means where the benefits will outweigh the costs, either immediately or over time. The most efficient policy or method will achieve the stated objective with the greatest benefit and at the least cost. Efficiency is not to be confused with the terms 'net benefit' or 'net present value' (a measure that implies that all benefits and costs can be converted to a common 'currency' and netted off against one another to generate a single measure).

Costs and benefits may be quantitative, semi-quantitative and/or qualitative. A mixture of these have been relied upon in formulating this section 32 report. Section 32 in full is as follows:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1991/0069/latest/DLM232582.html>:

Section 32 Requirements for preparing and publishing evaluation reports

(1) An evaluation report required under this Act must—

(a) examine the extent to which the objectives of the proposal being evaluated are the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of this Act; and

(b) examine whether the provisions in the proposal are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives by—

(i) identifying other reasonably practicable options for achieving the objectives; and

(ii) assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions in achieving the objectives; and

(iii) summarising the reasons for deciding on the provisions; and

(c) contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the proposal.

(2) An assessment under subsection (1)(b)(ii) must—

(a) identify and assess the benefits and costs of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the provisions, including the opportunities for—

(i) economic growth that are anticipated to be provided or reduced; and

(ii) employment that are anticipated to be provided or reduced; and

(b) if practicable, quantify the benefits and costs referred to in paragraph (a); and

(c) assess the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the provisions.

(3) If the proposal (an amending proposal) will amend a standard, statement, national planning standard, regulation, plan, or change that is already proposed or that already exists (an existing proposal), the examination under subsection (1)(b) must relate to—

(a) the provisions and objectives of the amending proposal; and

(b) the objectives of the existing proposal to the extent that those objectives—

(i) are relevant to the objectives of the amending proposal; and

(ii) would remain if the amending proposal were to take effect.

(4) If the proposal will impose a greater or lesser prohibition or restriction on an activity to which a national environmental standard applies than the existing prohibitions or restrictions in that standard, the evaluation report must examine whether the prohibition or restriction is justified in the circumstances of each region or district in which the prohibition or restriction would have effect.

(4A) If the proposal is a proposed policy statement, plan, or change prepared in accordance with any of the processes provided for in [Schedule 1](#), the evaluation report must—

(a) summarise all advice concerning the proposal received from iwi authorities under the relevant provisions of [Schedule 1](#); and

(b) summarise the response to the advice, including any provisions of the proposal that are intended to give effect to the advice.

(5) The person who must have particular regard to the evaluation report must make the report available for public inspection—

(a) as soon as practicable after the proposal is made (in the case of a standard, regulation, national policy statement, or New Zealand coastal policy statement); or

(b) at the same time as the proposal is notified.

(6) In this section,

Objectives means,—

(a) for a proposal that contains or states objectives, those objectives:

(b) for all other proposals, the purpose of the proposal

Proposal means a proposed standard, statement, national planning standard, regulation, plan, or change for which an evaluation report must be prepared under this Act

provision means,—

(a) for a proposed plan or change, the policies, rules, or other methods that implement, or give effect to, the objectives of the proposed plan or change:

(b) for all other proposals, the policies or provisions of the proposal that implement, or give effect to, the objectives of the proposal.

Section 32AA of the RMA sets out the requirements for further evaluations as necessary following notification of a plan change. This relates to the public submission, hearings and decisions process, and recording evaluations in respect of changes to the notified provisions through these processes. If section 32AA evaluations are necessary, they will be added to this report as an addendum or be attached separately, with the decisions released on the Strategic Directions chapter of the ODP at the appropriate time.

3.2 The National Planning Standards

The National Planning Standards were gazetted in April 2019.

The National Planning Standards determine the sections that should be included in a District Plan. Mandatory directions are also set out that determine how the District Plan should be ordered.

The National Planning Standards contain the following direction relating to Māori Purpose Zones:

1. **Zone Framework Standard** - A district plan must only contain the zones listed in Table 13 of the NPS
2. **Mandatory Name & Purpose** – The zone must be titled *Māori Purpose Zone (MPZ)* and its purpose statement must match that set out in Table 13
3. **Distinct Function** – MPZ must contain provisions that cannot be replicated by simply layering other rules over another rules; the National Planning Standards anticipate a materially different land-use mix and outcomes.
4. **Integrated Structure** – Place the MPZ chapter in the Special-purpose section, reference it in Strategic Direction chapters, and use schedules or precincts for site-specific variations. Rules relating to matters such as subdivision and general matters will be located in those sections of the Plan.
5. **Definitions Alignment** – Use or be compatible with standard planning-standard definitions add local terms only where necessary.

Plan Change 47 complies with all mandatory directions of the National Planning Standards for Māori Purpose Zones and meets recommended mapping/colour/guidance notes. Minor implementation tasks (hyperlinking schedule and explicit overlay-hierarchy note) are administrative and will be completed prior to public notification.

3.3 National Policy Statements

There are several higher order national statutory planning documents that the District Plan must give effect to. There are five other National Policy Statements (NPS) that are currently adopted. The directions in these statements have been given effect where relevant to Māori Purpose Zones, within the individual chapters, and within the associated Section 32 reports as outlined below.

NPSs currently in effect are:

- National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020
- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020
- National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Generation 2011
- National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2011
- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010
- National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2024
- National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023

3.3.1 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT 2020 (NPS-UD)

The NPS-UD sets out objectives and policies for planning decisions that contribute to well-functioning urban environments and enable greater housing supply, particularly in areas with high demand. While the Māori Purpose Zone is not an urban intensification policy per se, it enables papakāinga and other forms of residential development on Māori land, which directly supports housing choice and provision for Māori communities. PC47 establishes a planning framework tailored to Māori land. MPZ supports the comprehensive, coordinated and efficient development of ancestral land in a manner that supports development of Māori land while still retaining the necessary controls to manage effects.

Plan Change 47 is consistent with the intent of the NPS-UD to support diverse, responsive, and equitable urban development.

3.3.2 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT 2020 (NPS-FM)

The NPS-FM seeks to ensure that freshwater is managed in a way that prioritises the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems (Te Mana o te Wai), the essential health needs of people, and the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being. While Plan Change 47 does not directly amend freshwater management provisions, any development enabled by the MPZ (e.g., papakāinga, community facilities, or infrastructure) remains subject to regional plan requirements under the Waikato Regional Plan, including stormwater management and on-site wastewater systems.

The MPZ recognises and supports the relationship of tangata whenua with freshwater through culturally grounded development frameworks and acknowledges the importance of protecting and restoring water bodies associated with Māori land. The MPZ does not override or diminish the application of national or regional freshwater regulations but rather enables development in a way that is consistent with Te Mana o te Wai. Therefore, Plan Change 47 is not inconsistent with the NPS-FM and aligns with its principles by enabling Māori-led development while respecting freshwater management responsibilities.

3.3.3 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION 2011 (NPS-REG)

PC47 does not propose or restrict renewable electricity generation. While Māori landowners may pursue renewable energy initiatives, the MPZ provisions do not directly enable or constrain such development. Any

renewable generation proposals would be assessed under district-wide rules or national-level legislation. No inconsistency with the NPS-REG is anticipated.

3.3.4 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION 2011 (NPS-ET)

The MPZ does not affect the National Grid or propose activities that would impact electricity transmission. No sites have been identified that have transmission lines. Where relevant, standard district-wide provisions regarding setbacks and protection of transmission corridors would continue to apply. The plan change does not conflict with the NPS-ET.

3.3.5 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE LAND 2024 (NPS-HPL)

The NPS-HPL seeks to protect highly productive land (HPL) for present and future primary production. The MPZ provisions apply to Māori freehold land, some of which may coincide with areas classified as HPL. However, the NPS-HPL acknowledges that Māori land presents unique circumstances.

Under Clause 3.8(1)(b) of the NPS-HPL, councils may allow subdivision, use, or development of HPL if it occurs on Māori land and is required to support the well-being of tangata whenua. Plan Change 47 aligns with this exception by enabling housing, cultural, and economic development on Māori land, which is fundamental to Māori well-being.

The MPZ provisions also maintain general consistency with the NPS-HPL's intent to minimise unnecessary loss of productive land by managing built form through zone-specific performance standards. Therefore, the MPZ gives appropriate effect to the NPS-HPL, balancing protection of productive land with Māori development rights.

3.3.6 NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY 2023 (NPS-IB)

The MPZ provisions recognise the presence of indigenous biodiversity and apply existing district-wide overlays for Significant Natural Areas (SNAs). Development on Māori land within MPZs will continue to be subject to ecological constraints, and the plan change does not remove or weaken protections for SNAs or other ecologically significant areas.

Under Objective 1 of the NPS-IB, local authorities are required to maintain indigenous biodiversity while recognising the mana of tangata whenua as kaitiaki of indigenous biodiversity, including through managing indigenous biodiversity on Māori land. The MPZ achieves this by supporting development consistent with Māori values and cultural uses, while applying existing environmental constraints and assessment criteria where needed.

The MPZ is therefore consistent with the NPS-IB, particularly its dual objectives of biodiversity protection and enabling tangata whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga.

3.3.7 NPS ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

PC47 aligns with the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) by enabling well-functioning communities and housing choice on Māori land, particularly where located within urban areas. It supports the NPS-FM by retaining district-wide controls that protect freshwater bodies and by recognising the principles of Te Mana o te Wai. While the NPS for Highly Productive Land NPS-HPL applies to some Māori land, PC47 recognises the unique tenure and cultural purposes of Māori Freehold and Reservation Land, and development enabled under the MPZ is limited in scale and scope. The MPZ is also consistent with the intent of the proposed NPS for Indigenous Biodiversity, as it does not override Significant Natural Area protections and continues to

manage effects on indigenous biodiversity through district-wide provisions. Overall, PC47 is well aligned with national policy directions, and gives effect to the intent of each relevant NPS by providing a culturally responsive, environmentally responsible, and enabling framework for the sustainable use of Māori land.

3.4 National Environmental Standards

There are six National Environmental Standards that are currently in place that prescribe standards that Councils must enforce. The relevance of these are summarised below.

3.4.1 NES FOR AIR QUALITY 2004

This standard regulates discharges to air, including from domestic fires and industrial activities. While the MPZ may enable residential and small-scale commercial development, it does not directly alter air quality provisions or introduce activities likely to breach the NES. Any discharges to air would remain subject to regional council control. The MPZ is therefore not inconsistent with this NES.

3.4.2 NES FOR SOURCES OF HUMAN DRINKING WATER 2007

This NES requires that activities do not adversely affect registered drinking water sources. The MPZ provisions do not alter land use in a way that would affect the quality of drinking water sources. Any proposed development within the MPZ would still need to comply with regional rules regarding stormwater and wastewater management. As such, the plan change is consistent with this NES.

3.4.3 NES FOR TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES 2016

This NES permits certain telecommunication facilities as of right and sets standards for their placement and operation. The MPZ does not conflict with or amend these national provisions. Telecommunication infrastructure is likely to support development in the MPZ where required, but its control remains subject to national rules. No inconsistency is identified.

3.4.4 NES FOR ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION ACTIVITIES 2009

This standard sets out a national framework for managing existing transmission infrastructure. The MPZ does not propose any changes that would conflict with the operation or maintenance of the national grid. District-wide rules for setbacks and protection of transmission corridors would continue to apply. The MPZ is consistent with the NES.

3.4.5 NES FOR ASSESSING AND MANAGING CONTAMINANTS IN SOIL TO PROTECT HUMAN HEALTH 2011

This NES applies when land is being developed and has a history of potentially contaminating activities. The MPZ may enable residential or community development on Māori land, some of which may be subject to the NES if previous activities are listed on the Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL). Where applicable, the NES-CS requirements for preliminary site investigations and remediation will continue to apply. The MPZ does not exempt development from these requirements, and therefore it is consistent with this NES.

3.4.6 NES FOR PLANTATION FORESTRY 2017

This NES manages the environmental effects of plantation forestry. While some Māori land may contain or be adjacent to plantation forestry, the MPZ itself does not enable or restrict such activities. If plantation forestry is proposed on MPZ land, it would be subject to the NES independently. The MPZ does not conflict with this standard.

3.4.7 NES FOR MARINE AQUACULTURE 2020

This NES applies only to marine aquaculture activities and has no relevance to the inland Māori land subject to the MPZ provisions. There is no connection or conflict with this NES.

3.4.8 NES FOR FRESHWATER (PART OF THE WIDER FRESHWATER NES PACKAGE – IN EFFECT 2020)

The NES-Freshwater manages activities affecting natural wetlands, rivers, and fish passage, including earthworks and vegetation clearance near these features. The MPZ provisions do not override freshwater-related restrictions and do not permit any activity that would otherwise breach the NES-Freshwater. Any development proposal within a MPZ must comply with the NES-Freshwater standards or obtain the necessary regional consents. This ensures consistency with the NES and maintains protection of freshwater values in line with Te Mana o te Wai.

3.4.9 NES ASSESSMENT CONCLUSION

The proposed Māori Purpose Zone provisions are generally consistent with the purpose and requirements of applicable National Environmental Standards. Where relevant (e.g., NES-Freshwater and NES-CS), existing national rules continue to apply alongside the MPZ framework. The plan change does not introduce inconsistencies with any current NES and complements the broader national regulatory framework by providing a culturally responsive and enabling zoning mechanism.

3.5 Regional Policy Statements and Plans

The Taupō District falls within the jurisdiction of four regional councils: Waikato Regional Council (WRC), Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC), Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) and Horizons Regional Council (HRC). Most of the district falls within WRC, and only very small portions of the district fall within HBRC and HRC. For this reason, most of the assessment is against the Waikato Regional Policy Statement, with some assessment against the other three regional policy statements proportional to the extent of the district within each region.

District Plans are required ‘to give effect to’ a regional policy statement. In the case of Taupō District this requires evaluation of four regional policy statements as to how the PDP gives effect to these regional documents.

District Plans also ‘must not be inconsistent’ with any regional plan pursuant to section 75(4) of the RMA.

3.5.1 WAIKATO REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (WRPS) AND REGIONAL PLAN

The WRPS covers most of the district as the Waikato regional boundary is based on the catchment of the Waikato River, including Lake Taupō.

Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River, has been incorporated within the WRPS, although it has an elevated status as a national policy statement. The WRPS was made operative on 20 May 2016. The most significant plan change to the WRPS is Plan Change 1: Healthy Rivers as it seeks to provide a comprehensive response to the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.

There is not considered to be any element of the proposed plan change that is inconsistent with the Waikato Regional Plan.

3.5.2 BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (BOPRPS) AND REGIONAL PLAN

The BoPRPS covers a relatively small portion of the district within the Rangitaiki River catchment only. There are no settlements within this portion of the district. For this reason, lesser evaluation of the BoPRPS has been undertaken, although the imperative to ‘give effect to’ regional policy statements still applies. The BoPRPS itself

recognises that the Taupō District is not solely located within the Bay of Plenty region and it identifies that strong liaison and joint effort on cross-boundary issues is therefore essential. The BoPRPS was made operative on 1 October 2014.

3.5.3 HAWKES BAY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (HBRSP) AND REGIONAL PLAN

The HBRPS covers a relatively small portion of the district within the Mohaka River catchment. There are no settlements within this portion of the district. The Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan contains the HBRPS and the Hawkes Bay Regional Plan combined into one document. The document identifies a range of regional issues and provides policies in response:

The Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan was made operative on 28 August 2006. Given the extent of the District within the Hawkes Bay Region as relative to the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regions, a detailed assessment of the Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan has not been carried out. The RPS has been considered however and, the proposed objectives and policies that make up PC47 generally do give effect to those parts of the RPS considered relevant to the Taupō District.

3.5.4 HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL ONE PLAN

The One Plan has been prepared by Horizons Regional Council (Manawatu-Whanganui region) and is a combined regional policy statement and regional plan. The One Plan was made operative on 25 November 2014. The One Plan covers a relatively small portion of the district only in the southern reaches of the district. There are no settlements within this portion of the district.

Given the extent of the District within the Manawatu-Whanganui region as relative to the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regions, a detailed assessment of the Horizons Regional Council One Plan has not been carried out.

3.5.5 REGIONAL PLANS

In formulating the District Plan, regard is to be had to regional plans applying to parts of the district, with a requirement 'not to be inconsistent' with regional plans. Of note is the Waikato Regional Plan, which sets land use requirements in the Lake Taupō and Waikato River catchments.

Accordingly, regard has also been given to the following documents to the extent that they are relevant to the Strategic Directions chapter of the PDP, in addition to the Waikato Regional Plan:

- The Bay of Plenty Regional Natural Resources Plan
- Horizons One Plan
- Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan

Plan Change 47 gives effect to the Waikato Regional Policy Statement (and proportionally to BOPRC, HBRC, and HRC RPSs) by:

1. Embedding tangata whenua objectives—enabling cultural, social and economic use of Māori land.
2. Maintaining environmental safeguards—MPZ relies on district-wide and regional provisions for biodiversity, freshwater, soil, and hazards, ensuring no weakening of regional outcomes.
3. Aligning with rural settlement policy—scale limits and activity thresholds avoid ad-hoc urban sprawl or loss of productive rural land.

Commentary on Regional Plans (s 75(4) RMA)

- Waikato Regional Plan, BOP Regional Natural Resources Plan, Hawke's Bay Regional Resource Management Plan, and Horizons One Plan all retain jurisdiction over water takes, onsite wastewater, discharges, wetlands, earthworks, and biodiversity.
- Plan Change 47 does not amend or override any of those regional rules. Activities enabled in the MPZ that trigger regional rules must still obtain regional consents.
- No MPZ rule sets performance standards that conflict with, or purport to be less stringent than, any operative regional plan rule.

The proposed provisions are therefore consistent with, and give effect to, the respective regional policy statements, and they are not inconsistent with any regional plan as required by ss 75(3)(c) and 75(4) RMA.

3.6 Taupō District Operative Plan Approach

The ODP does not currently contain a Māori Purpose Zone. Supporting Māori to develop their lands for traditional uses is currently provided for within the Rural Zone through objectives and policy and rules relating to Papakainga. It is proposed to extend this approach to the Residential chapter through plan changes ## and ##. These provisions support the development of Māori land for papakainga. This is done within the context of the underlying zoning. Within the Rural Zones, there is still an underlying expectation that the land is to be used for rural activities. While there are specific provisions that enable papakainga the wider policy framework for those zones has a focus on protecting the amenity and use of the environment for rural land uses.

3.6.1 KEY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Issue One: The ODP provisions have not enabled tangata whenua to develop multiply owned Māori land.

Issue Two: The ODP does not effectively recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands.

Plan Change 47 responds to issues identified in the District Plan Monitoring and Issues Identification Report. This report identified that the Operative District Plan (ODP) provisions have not enabled tangata whenua to develop multiply owned Māori land and does not effectively recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga. Section 6 of the RMA requires that the relationship of Māori, their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga be recognised and provided for as a matter of national importance. In addition, Section 7 states when managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources, particular regard needs to be given to Kaitiakitanga.

The recognition and acceptance that there are different understandings of resource issues between Tangata Whenua and the Council is an important issue involved within resource management.

The report identified that:

- Multiply owned Māori land tenure provides significant challenges for the owners. It is difficult to subdivide land and to sell it which has flow on challenges for raising capital.
- District Plan has tended to treat multiply-owned Māori land much the same as land in general title. This may have inhibited development of that land. For example, some Māori owned land has previously been identified as growth areas (within TD2050 and the District Plan) which in order to be developed

requires all owners to agree on what and how development will occur. Multiple ownership can make this process difficult.

- Council has a requirement under Section 6e of the RMA to recognise and provide for the relationship with Māori and their ancestral lands.

A 2016 plan effectiveness review also identified that the ODP does not effectively recognise and provide for the importance of marae and papakāinga or the importance of ancestral lands.

MPZ specifically identifies and zones Māori land for traditional uses and has a focus on mixed use. As zoned the land is not subject to a policy framework that anticipates a different use, and proposed developments do not need to consider policy that is less relevant to the anticipated land use.

3.6.2 OPERATIVE TAUPŌ DISTRICT PLAN

The proposed plan change needs to be considered against the wider direction within the TDP, specifically Chapter 2 Strategic Directions.

Chapter 2 of the TDP sets out key strategic and significant resource management matters for the Taupō District and includes objectives and policies to guide decision making at a strategic level.

The strategic objectives set the direction for the District Plan and help to implement the Council's community outcomes. They are indicative of the matters which are important to the Taupō District community and reflect the intended outcomes to be achieved through the implementation of the District Plan.

For the purposes of preparing, changing, interpreting and implementing the District Plan all other objectives and policies in the wider Plan are to be developed in a manner consistent with the objectives and policies that form the strategic directions. An assessment of PC47 against the Strategic Directions can be found in Appendix 1.

In addition to the assessment of the MPZ policy the specific sites proposed to be zoned also need to be considered against the provisions of the TDP.

3.7 District Policy/Strategies

The District Plan does not sit in isolation, but rather it operates with Council's wider suite of policies, plans and strategies to provide direction for decision making. In particular, the following documents have been considered:

- Taupō Future Development Strategy
- Long Term Plan 2021 to 2031
- Financial Strategy
- Infrastructure Strategy
- Challenges Paper
- The Demographic Snapshot 2017
- Council vision and values

These plans and policies are all available on the Taupō District Council website and have been considered in preparing this report to the extent that they are relevant to the strategic directions. Further discussion on these documents can also be found in the Background and Engagement Report.

3.7.1 TAUPŌ FUTURE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The Taupō Future Development Strategy (FDS) replaces and updates the 2018 Taupō District 2050 growth-management strategy.

It sets eight Outcomes and a series of spatial and non-spatial Directions for how, where, and at what pace the district should grow over the next 30 years.

Table 3 Assessment of PC47 against the Taupō Future Development Strategy Outcomes

FDS Outcome	Assessment of PC47
1. A district characterised by contained urban communities, bordered by a productive, functional rural environment.	PC47 maintains the integrity of the rural environment by applying the MPZ specifically and exclusively to Māori Land. The zone does not enable general rural subdivision or ad hoc rural sprawl. Development is managed through clear standards and rules, maintaining rural character and scale.
2. A strong, innovative and productive economy that provides opportunities for our people to thrive.	PC47 enables economic development for Māori communities by allowing compatible business, commercial and home-based activities within the MPZ. These activities are required to align with the cultural purpose of the zone and are managed to avoid inappropriate scale or impacts. This supports innovation and local economic self-determination.
3. Vibrant, diverse places and spaces where people thrive and love to live, work and play.	The MPZ allows papakāinga, marae, cultural, community, and recreational activities, enabling Māori to create culturally meaningful places that support social cohesion and identity. This contributes to the creation of vibrant, diverse communities consistent with placemaking principles.
4. Compact walking and cycling friendly urban areas where communities are connected.	Where MPZ land is located within urban areas, development is required to integrate with surrounding neighbourhoods through the recognition of MPZ Urban. The MPZ enables mixed-use development that supports compact, walkable communities aligned with the urban form objectives of the FDS.
5. Urban form in the Taupō District is closely aligned with Tāngata Whenua values and aspirations.	This outcome is directly advanced by PC47. The MPZ recognises and provides for the cultural relationship Māori have with their ancestral land. The objectives and policies embed tikanga Māori, enable kaitiakitanga, and align land use planning with iwi and hapū aspirations. PC47 operationalises Treaty principles in urban and rural development contexts.
6. Infrastructure provision is efficient and effective helping to minimise costs for our communities.	Development within the MPZ is subject to infrastructure performance standards (e.g., stormwater, vehicle movements) and must be serviced by existing or planned infrastructure. PC47 requires development to occur in a coordinated and efficient manner, supporting more cost-effective infrastructure provision.
7. Development is managed to protect and enhance the natural environment.	PC47 retains all relevant district-wide environmental protections, including those for biodiversity, SNAs, and landscape features. MPZ policies also promote activities that enhance the environment, including improved freshwater outcomes. Adverse effects are to be avoided, remedied, or mitigated through rule and policy frameworks.
8. Urban areas will be resilient to the impacts of natural	MPZ provisions (notably MPZ-P4 and MPZ-R2) require assessment of natural hazard risk before development is approved. Development that

FDS Outcome	Assessment of PC47
hazards and the effects of climate change.	increases hazard vulnerability is not supported. The MPZ supports climate-resilient land use through low-impact design requirements and retention of secondary stormwater flow paths.

Plan Change 47 is well aligned with the strategic outcomes of the Taupō District Future Development Strategy. It enables Māori landowners to realise their cultural and development aspirations while supporting compact urban form, efficient infrastructure, resilient communities, and environmental sustainability. The MPZ provides a structured, targeted, and enabling planning framework that complements the long-term growth vision of the district.

3.8 Settlement and Iwi legislation

In addition to the obligations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the Taupō District Council has responsibilities to Mana Whenua under the following legislation:

- Ngāti Tūrangitukua Claims Settlement Act 1999
- Central North Island Forests Land Collective Settlement Act 2008
- Affiliate Te Arawa Iwi and Hapu Claims Settlement Act 2008
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010
- Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012
- Raukawa Claims Settlement Act 2014
- Hineuru Claims Settlement Act 2016
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa Claims Settlement Act 2018

This legislation, and its complementary planning documents, outline values and interests of Mana Whenua, and the matters they seek to address and outcomes sought after, either individually or collectively in partnership with each other, government agencies and/or resource users.

Through engagement and in co-operation with Mana Whenua, the Taupō District Council has identified that the key matter to inform the strategic directions for the Taupō District is to recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi and enable the outcomes that Treaty settlement redress and legislation is intended to achieve.

Key issues that are connected to the matter of recognition of the Treaty include providing for enhanced partnership with, and participation of, Mana Whenua in resource management processes and decision making. The appropriate development and use of ancestral lands and taonga so that Mana Whenua can provide for their economic and social wellbeing has also been recognised as a key issue.

Under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Council is also required to identify resource management issues of concern/significance to iwi authorities (Mana Whenua) and how those issues will be addressed throughout the relevant sections of the District Plan.

The mauri (or holistically the environmental, cultural and spiritual health and wellbeing) of the district's natural environment, and the integrated management of its natural resources, are key resource management issues of concern to Mana Whenua in the Taupō District. The mountainous landscapes, the whenua, and the freshwater and geothermal resources encompass the historical narratives and identity of Mana Whenua. It is in this regard that the importance of mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) and the practice of tikanga Māori by Mana Whenua is acknowledged to inform Council's decision-making processes and implementation of the District Plan. This will ensure the Taupō District Council is meeting its statutory obligations under section 6(e) of the RMA.

3.8.1 NGATI TUWHARETOA, RAUKAWA, AND TE ARAWA RIVER IWI WAIKATO RIVER ACT 2010

The overarching purpose of the legislation is to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River for present and future generations. Amongst several significant features of the legislation, it provides co-management arrangements for the Waikato River. The legislation is being given effect to through joint management agreements with the iwi, and through the statutory importance of Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato – The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.

Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River

Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato – The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River ('the Vision and Strategy') was immediately incorporated into the Waikato Regional Policy Statement and has the status of a national policy statement. The Vision and Strategy is intended by Parliament to be the primary direction-setting document for the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the river. The Vision and Strategy was adopted by the Waikato River Authority ('WRA') as part of the settlement process in accordance with the legislation.

The ultimate vision is: *"the Waikato River will be safe for people to swim in and take food from over its entire length."* The Vision and Strategy then has thirteen objectives that amplify this overall vision:

The PDP is required to 'give effect to' the Vision and Strategy, given its status as a national policy statement.

Overall Consistency Statement

1. Health & Well-being of the River: MPZ controls land-use intensity and storm-water; introduces an enhancement policy – *fully meets the Act's purpose*.
2. Co-management & Rangiratanga: By providing an iwi-specific zoning framework, PC 47 complements formal JMAs and empowers Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa and Te Arawa River Iwi to exercise day-to-day kaitiakitanga.
3. Vision & Strategy Compliance: The plan change was tested against Te Ture Whaimana objectives with no conflicts identified; therefore PC 47 gives effect to the Vision as required by the Act.

Plan Change 47 is consistent with, and advances, the objectives and requirements of the Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010. No amendments are considered necessary to achieve compliance.

3.8.2 NGĀTI MANAWA CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 2012 AND THE NGĀTI WHARE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 2012

The Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012 established the Rangitāiki River Forum, with representation from local authorities (Whakatane District Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Taupō District Council), Ngāti Whare, Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Awa and Ngāti Tuwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) iwi. The Rangitāiki River Forum developed the Rangitāiki River document (Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki – Pathways of the Rangitāiki).

Both settlement Acts establish areas of cultural significance and vest land, sites, and customary associations in Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare respectively. These include statutory acknowledgements and deeds of recognition over rivers, forests, and specific conservation and recreation lands. PC47:

- Recognises and respects cultural connections through its objectives (e.g. MPZ-O1 and O2), which acknowledge the enduring relationship between tangata whenua and their ancestral lands.
- Enables activities that are consistent with tikanga and intergenerational occupation of land, reflecting the intent of cultural redress provisions in the settlement legislation.

PC47 is consistent with and supportive of the cultural redress intent of both settlement Acts.

Both Acts include statutory acknowledgements over areas within or adjacent to the Taupō District, requiring decision-makers to have regard to the relevant iwi's relationship with those areas when considering resource consent and plan-making matters.

PC47:

- Does not override or conflict with statutory acknowledgements.
- Ensures that tangata whenua values are integrated into planning decisions on Māori Freehold and Reservation Land, including where such land is near or overlaps with statutory acknowledgement areas.
- Is likely to enhance the practical implementation of these acknowledgements by enabling iwi/hapū-led land development with strong cultural and environmental safeguards.

PC47 upholds and is compatible with statutory acknowledgement obligations under the Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare settlement legislation.

Both settlement Acts provide for the return of land and establish governance entities (e.g. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare) that manage assets and lead development consistent with their respective Deeds of Settlement.

PC47:

- Aligns with post-settlement aspirations by providing an enabling zone for the development and sustainable use of Māori land, including land held or managed by post-settlement governance entities.
- Supports housing, economic development, cultural expression, and community infrastructure—all key to realising the benefits of Treaty settlements.

Conclusion: PC47 is highly consistent with the settlement Acts' intent to restore autonomy, cultural wellbeing, and economic opportunity to Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare.

Both Acts affirm the importance of kaitiakitanga, co-governance, and iwi-led environmental management, particularly in relation to forests, rivers, and conservation lands.

PC47:

- Embeds kaitiakitanga and environmental responsibility into its objectives and policies (e.g. MPZ-O3, MPZ-P3).
- Ensures environmental effects are appropriately managed through integration with district-wide and regional plan provisions.
- Supports development models that are culturally appropriate and environmentally sustainable.

Conclusion: PC47 supports the kaitiaki role of Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare and reinforces their environmental aspirations as articulated in the settlement Acts.

Plan Change 47 is consistent with the purpose and outcomes of the Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Acts 2012. It provides a culturally grounded, enabling planning framework that supports the use and development of Māori land in ways that are aligned with Treaty settlement objectives, particularly cultural recognition, environmental stewardship, and post-settlement development. The MPZ does not conflict with any settlement provisions and actively supports the implementation of statutory acknowledgements and cultural redress mechanisms.

3.8.3 TE KAUPAPA KAITIAKI

Te Kōpu ā Kānapanapa is a co-governance body for Lake Taupō. Te Kōpu ā Kānapanapa have developed a high-level management plan for the Taupō Catchment with an aim of helping to protect, restore and enhance its environmental, cultural and spiritual health.

The plan, Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki, is underpinned by Ngāti Tūwharetoa tikanga and values and provides governance and direction to those who have a role in or responsibility for the health and wellbeing of the Taupō Catchment.

Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki has the following vision statement:

For a healthy Taupō Catchment that is capable of sustaining the whole community and that is managed in a manner that reflects Ngāti Tūwharetoa tikanga.

This vision establishes the context for a set of objectives, issues and desired outcomes for the Taupō Catchment in order to

1. Promote the sustainable and integrated management of the Taupō Catchment for the benefit of Ngāti Tūwharetoa and all people within the catchment;
2. Provide for the relationship of Ngāti Tūwharetoa and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, geothermal resources, wāhi tapu, and other taonga; and,
3. Respect Ngāti Tūwharetoa tikanga in the management of the Taupō Catchment.

The objective of Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki is to support Ngāti Tūwharetoa hapū to exercise their mana and kaitiakitanga of the Taupō Catchment while enabling local authorities to understand the issues of significance to tāngata whenua, and how they can be resolved in a manner consistent with Ngāti Tūwharetoa tikanga and values.

The plan is required to recognise and provide for Te Kaupapa.

The plan is structured with reference to 'Ngā Pou e Toru' which are the three pou or pillars which, when combined reflects the aspirations for redress of ngā hapū o Ngāti Tūwharetoa. The three pou are:

- Tongariro te Maunga
- Te Mātāpuna o te Wai, Te Ahi Tāmou
- Tūwharetoa te Iwi, Tūwharetoa te Hapū

The issues, objectives and outcomes in the plan are structured under these pou as follows:

1. Tongariro Te Maunga
 - a. Mana whakahaere | Authority and control
 - b. Te whanake | Sustainable development
 - c. Torowhanui | Holistic approach
 - d. Kaitiakitanga | Intergenerational sustainable guardianship
2. Te Mātāpuna o te Wai, te Ahi Tāmou
 - a. Te orange me nga hua o te taiao | health and benefits of the environment
 - b. Nga taonga tuku iho | treasures handed down from generation to generation
 - c. Taurima | To treat with care, to tend, to foster
 - d. Te waiora me ngā mahinga kai | Life giving waters and customary food gathering
 - e. Kia whakariti | Arrange, adjust, organise, balance, fulfil, perform
3. Tūwharetoa te iwi, Tūwharetoa te hapū
 - a. Te oranga o te tangata | Community health and wellbeing

- b. Ngā mahi a te rēhia me te ahumahi tāpoi | Recreation and tourism
- c. Kia mōhio | To know, understand, realise, comprehend, recognise

The issues, objectives and outcomes that sit under each of these pou have been considered in the development of the Strategic Directions chapter. Key concepts and outcomes have been reflected in the proposed objectives and policies, specifically in the following sections:

Table 4 Assessment of PC47 against Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki

TKK Framework & Key Outcomes	Relevant MPZ Provisions	Consistency Assessment
Vision – “A healthy Taupō Catchment capable of sustaining the whole community and managed in a manner that reflects Ngāti Tūwharetoa tikanga.”	MPZ-O1 recognises Māori relationship with ancestral land MPZ-O3 embeds kaitiakitanga & tikanga MPZ-P1, P2, P7 enable culturally-aligned land use and environmental enhancement	Fully consistent. PC 47 is expressly founded on tikanga, enables papakāinga, marae, customary activities and overtly supports environmental restoration.
POU 1 Tongariro te Maunga (Mana whakahaere, partnership, kaitiaki participation)	MPZ-O3 (kaitiakitanga, mana whenua) MPZ-O4 (co-ordinated, comprehensive development) MPZ-P4 RDIS matters include cultural effects & infrastructure tests	Implements. The MPZ zone is a tangible mechanism for Ngāti Tūwharetoa to exercise mana whakahaere over Māori land and participate directly in consenting. No conflict.
Kaitiakitanga Outcomes – protect taonga tuku iho, recognise rāhui, spiritual connection, respect taniwha/kaitiaki	MPZ-P4 discretion on cultural effects allows conditions to protect wāhi tapu, taniwha habitats District-wide SNA/archaeology overlays remain; MPZ does not exempt them	Consistent. Traditional practices (e.g. rāhui) can be conditions on RDIS consents. Opportunity: include advisory note referencing rāhui processes (enhancement).
Te Whanake (Sustainable development) – balance economic use and protection; infrastructure meets community needs without compromising mauri	Coverage (S1–S4) and EVM (S8) caps manage intensification MPZ-S9 onsite stormwater disposal retains mauri of water Infrastructure sufficiency requirement in P4	Consistent & efficient. Standards constrain scale and demand; cultural/environmental tests protect mauri while allowing economic use (home business, tourism).
Torowhānui (Holistic management) – integrated “ki uta ki tai” approach	MPZ does not override regional water/land rules; its low-impact standards plus environmental enhancement clause (P7) support integrated outcomes.	Consistent / neutral. District responsibilities honoured; regional rules remain primary for nutrient, abstraction & discharge management.

TKK Framework & Key Outcomes	Relevant MPZ Provisions	Consistency Assessment
POU 2 Te Mātāpuna o te Wai / Te Ahi Tāmou (Water & Geothermal)		
Life-giving waters / Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy	MPZ-S9 (stormwater infiltration, retention of flow paths) P7 encourages riparian & wetland restoration Regional NES-F rules unaffected	Partially addressed – generally consistent. MPZ avoids new discharges and manages stormwater, but could include an explicit reference to Te Mana o te Wai in guidance text (enhancement, not mandatory).
Iconic taonga status of Lake Taupō & geothermal resources	MPZ applies to Māori land parcels; where geothermal or foreshore areas occur, activity is limited by coverage and by district-wide setbacks; any discharge/geothermal take remains regional jurisdiction.	Consistent. MPZ does not weaken existing lakefront/geothermal protections; cultural oversight through kaitiaki criteria strengthened.
Indigenous biodiversity decline; pest pressures	MPZ provisions do not override SNA rules. P7 promotes restoration & pest control initiatives. Permitted planting/eco-projects on Māori land allowed.	Supports outcomes.
Natural-hazard & climate-change resilience	Hazard test in P4; building setbacks & height limits. Papakāinga/live-work layout reduces emissions. Battery/EPS systems (through building design) improve resilience.	Consistent.
POU 3 Tūwharetoa te Iwi, te Hapū (Community wellbeing, knowledge, tourism)		
Community health & economic opportunities	MPZ-P1 permits papakāinga, small business, visitor accommodation. MPZ-S6/7 allow defined commercial/community floor-space.	Strong alignment. Directly creates housing, employment and enterprise opportunities for whānau/hapū.

TKK Framework & Key Outcomes	Relevant MPZ Provisions	Consistency Assessment
	No minimum lot size barrier within MPZ.	
Research, monitoring, mātauranga integration	RDIS matters allow iwi monitoring frameworks; P7 encourages environmental projects driven by hapū. PC 47 development process involved iwi working group – template for ongoing collaboration.	Consistent, with pathway for enhanced monitoring partnerships.
Recreation & tourism while protecting environment	Visitor accommodation and tourism ventures are permitted only if scale standards met and cultural/environmental effects acceptable (P4). Any activity exceeding thresholds triggers RDIS.	Balanced and consistent with TKK call for tourism that protects natural values.

Table 5 Summary of Alignment of PC47 with Kaupapa Kaitiaki

Statutory Test (s 181–182 Settlement Act)	PC 47 Performance
Recognise TKK vision, values, objectives	Embedded in MPZ objectives O1–O4 and policies
Provide for desired outcomes (housing, kaitiakitanga, environmental enhancement, economic opportunity)	Development of Māori land is facilitated, enhancement clause; home-business limits protect mauri; coverage standards etc. safeguard environment
Avoid inconsistency with TKK priorities for water quality, biodiversity and integrated management	Stormwater standard, retention of district-wide SNA, hazard and infrastructure tests; no provisions conflict with regional controls.

Plan Change 47 *recognises and provides for* the vision, objectives, values and desired outcomes of Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki. Most elements are fully implemented; minor enhancements—such as explicitly citing Te Mana o te Wai and rāhui processes in supporting text—could strengthen the expression of alignment but are not required to satisfy the statutory obligation.

3.8.4 TE TURE WHAIMANA - THE VISION AND STRATEGY

Te Ture Whaimana emerged from an agreement reached between the Crown and Waikato-Tainui in March 2008 for the settlement of the historical claims of Waikato-Tainui in relation to the Waikato River. The agreement focused on ways in which the health and wellbeing of the river could be restored and set up the Guardians Establishment Committee to begin work on a vision and strategy for the river. The Guardians Establishment Committee was launched in 2008 and the Vision and Strategy was adopted in mid-2008.

The vision is to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River, and there are 13 objectives which describe how the vision should be achieved.

How has PC47 given effect to the Vision and Strategy?

A significant focus of the Vision and Strategy is the improvement of water quality in the catchment. There are limited aspects that Taupo District Council has the jurisdiction to address such matters. PC47 has a focus on supporting the development of Māori land for traditional uses and as such there is little direct reference to water quality within PC47. MPZ-P7 recognises and provides for activities that will enhance the natural environment including freshwater quality. MPZ are also subject to setbacks etc under the foreshore protection rules to support access to freshwater bodies. PC47 supports the exercise of rights of kaitiakitanga by Māori on their lands.

Te Ture Whaimana Objective / Strategy	Relevance to PC 47	How PC 47 Implements or Is Consistent
Objective a – Restore and protect the health & wellbeing of the Waikato River	Māori Purpose Zones provide for the development of land in the upper Waikato catchment.	MPZ-S9 requires on-site storm-water retention (10-yr event) and secondary-flow protection, limiting contaminant runoff. MPZ-P7 incentivises enhancement activities (riparian planting, wetland creation).
Objective b–d – Restore and protect relationships of Waikato-Tainui, other river iwi, and local communities with the River.	Direct – MPZ is explicitly designed to enable Maori to live on, manage and connect with ancestral land.	MPZ-O1 recognises Māori relationship with ancestral lands. Permitted papakāinga, marae, customary activities (P1) allow daily interaction with waterways where sites are adjacent to the river or its tributaries.
Objective e / Strategy 9 – Integrated, holistic management; “whole of river” approach	Partially relevant – PC 47 is a district-plan tool; integrated catchment rules remain at regional level.	MPZ provisions do not override regional rules; they oblige applicants to demonstrate infrastructure capacity and avoid natural-hazard areas (O4, P4) – an integrated-management contribution.
Objective f / Strategy 1–4 – Precautionary approach; avoid cumulative degradation; establish targets & programmes	Relevant – small developments could contribute cumulatively.	Building-coverage standards etc. manage intensification of land. • Any activity breaching standards is RDIS, enabling assessment of effects.
Objective i – Protect & enhance significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna	MPZ sites are of importance to Māori owners and may host culturally significant sites	Cultural effects are a matter of discretion (R2) via consideration of MPZ policy. P7 encourages enhancement projects. District-wide SNA rules remain operative.
Objectives k–m / Strategy 5, 11 – Restore swimmability, improve access, use mātauranga Māori	Indirect	MPZ supports access and use of Māori land.

3.8.5 TE ARA WHĀNUI O RANGITĀIKI - PATHWAYS OF THE RANGITAIKI RIVER

Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River is required under the Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012 and Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012. Planning documents under the Resource Management Act 1991 which relate to the Rangitāiki catchment are required to give effect to the document.

Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River's vision is 'A healthy Rangitāiki River, valued by the community, protected for future generations. Tihei Mauri Ora.

A significant focus of Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitaiki River is the improvement of water quality in the catchment. There are limited aspects that Taupo District Council has the jurisdiction to address such matters. PC47 has a focus on supporting the development of Māori land for traditional uses and as such there is little direct reference to water quality within PC47. MPZ-P7 recognises and provides for activities that will enhance the natural environment including freshwater quality. MPZ are also subject to setbacks etc under the foreshore protection rules to support access to freshwater bodies. PC47 supports the exercise of rights of kaitiakitanga by Māori on their lands.

No MPZ are currently proposed within the Rangitāiki catchment.

Where PC 47 applies within the Rangitāiki catchment, it **supports and is consistent** with the Pathways document by restoring tangata whenua presence, protecting water quality through performance standards, and explicitly encouraging river-margin restoration. No inconsistency identified.

3.9 Iwi Management Plans

Within the Taupō District, four iwi hold mana whenua status across different territories:

- Ngāti Tūwharetoa
- Turangitukua
- Ngāti Tahu / Ngāti Whaoa
- Raukawa

Each iwi is connected to the whenua through occupation and whakapapa, and plays a critical role as kaitiaki (guardians) of:

- Natural resources,
- Cultural sites, and
- Waahi tapu.

These tangata whenua groupings play a vital role as kaitiaki (guardians) of natural resources, cultural sites of significance and waahi tapu. Hapu and iwi are connected to the whenua (land) through occupation and whakapapa (genealogy).

These four iwi hold mana whenua status for different parts of the Taupō District's land area and beyond. They also collaborate with other neighbouring iwi on matters of shared interest. Below is an overview of the various environmental management plans that have been developed by these iwi – either individually, or in partnership with others.

Council has sought to understand mana whenua perspectives on rural issues as part of formulating the Rural Environment. During preparation of the Rural Chapter, a process of evaluation of the iwi environmental management plans covering portions of the district plan was carried out to understand how they relate to key topics within the district's rural areas. This process of evaluation was in addition to direct engagement with mana whenua, as described in Section 6.

Clause 4A of Schedule 1 of the RMA establishes a process of consultation with iwi authorities before notifying a proposed plan or policy statement, then draft plans and policy statements are provided to iwi within the district/region, with a requirement for Council to have particular regard to any advice received. At the time of writing this report this process is ongoing.

Where iwi have produced iwi environmental management plans ('IEMPs'), these have been considered in formulating the Strategic Directions chapter of the ODP. These IEMPs are:

- Central North Island Forests Iwi Collective (CNI): He Mahere Pūtahitanga (2018);
- Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) Environmental Management Plan (2015);
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa Environmental Iwi Management Plan (EIMP) (2003);
- Ngati Tahu - Ngati Whaoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan (IEMP): Rising above the mist - Te aranga ake i te taimahatanga (2019);
- Raukawa Environmental Management Plan: Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa (2015).

In summary the key focus areas within each of the IEMP's are as described below.

Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) Environmental Management Plan (2015)

This Environmental Management Plan is a high-level guidance document detailing priority issues and actions to support Te Arawa River iwi in their aspirations. The TARIT area of interest extends from the Upper Waikato River Catchment area at Huka Falls to Pōhaturoa, and policies and actions in the plan pertain to the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.

In particular, TARIT considers itself an affected party for any activity that affects, or potentially affects, the Waikato River as regards the following:

1. Water Permits: To dam, divert, take and use from or in the Waikato River as well as surface water activities
2. Discharge Permits: To discharge contaminants into water or onto land where it may enter water
3. Land Use Consents: For riverbed disturbance – structures, drilling, plant introduction or removal, plant or animal habitat disturbance.

Table 6 Assessment of PC47 against the Te Arawa River Iwi Trust Environmental Management Plan

TARIT Kaupapa / Priority Outcome ¹	MPZ Provision(s) – How PC 47 Responds	Consistency Rating
1. Ki Uta ki Tai / Integrated Catchment Management Support Te Ture Whaimana as primary framework for the Waikato River. Require holistic assessment of cumulative effects.	MPZ standards (stormwater, coverage limits) minimise contaminant loads. RDIS matters require assessment of effects. PC 47 explicitly defers to regional rules that implement Te Ture Whaimana.	MPZ is a low-impact, site-specific tool that complements catchment-scale management.
2. Wai Māori – Protect health and mauri of Awa o Waikato and	S9 on-site infiltration, retention of secondary flow paths.	Provides operative land-use controls that protect water;

TARIT Kaupapa / Priority Outcome1	MPZ Provision(s) – How PC 47 Responds	Consistency Rating
tributaries; maintain Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy.	P7 encourages riparian planting & wetland enhancement. Any wastewater discharges remain subject to regional consents; MPZ does not enable new point discharges.	could add explicit reference to Te Mana o te Wai (enhancement).
3. Mahinga Kai & Fisheries – Restore tuna, koura, kōura and whitebait habitat; ensure customary harvest is sustained.	Papakāinga and marae rules facilitate tangata-whenua access to river margins. Enhancement policy supports habitat restoration projects.	Supports restoration objectives; no conflicts.
4. Ngā Wāhi Tapu / Cultural Heritage – Protect, map and manage wāhi tapu, tauranga waka, urupā, waahi kōrero.	MPZ-R2 matters of discretion include effects protection, maintenance and promotion of ngā taonga tuku iho. Activity status shifts to RDIS if standards breached. District-wide archaeological rules (Heritage NZ Act) still apply.	Consistent – Provides stronger cultural-site protection than general rural rules.
5. Kaitiakitanga & Rangatiratanga Participation – TARIT to be actively involved in resource-consent and policy processes; reinforce mātauranga Māori.	O3 embeds kaitiakitanga; P4 requires cultural-effect assessment and iwi engagement for RDIS activities. Zone rules were developed with iwi, hapu and Māori landowners.	Implements – Elevates mana whakahaere for landowners.
6. Papakāinga & Marae – Remove planning barriers; enable safe, healthy, serviced papakāinga along the river.	Core of MPZ: papakāinga, marae expansion and visitor facilities are Permitted subject to performance standards; S5 density controls removed on Māori land.	Direct Implementation – PC 47 translates TARIT housing objective into district-plan rules.
7. Whai Rawa / Sustainable Economic Development – Promote Māori-led enterprises (eco-tourism, cultural education, horticulture) that uphold Te Ture Waimana.	P1 permits small-scale business service & visitor-accommodation activities run by resident whānau; S6 floor-area thresholds allow growth without compromising environment. RDIS pathway for larger ventures includes cultural and water-quality checks.	Provides regulatory certainty for Māori enterprises while safeguarding river values.

TARIT Kaupapa / Priority Outcome ¹	MPZ Provision(s) – How PC 47 Responds	Consistency Rating
8. Climate Resilience & Natural Hazards – Avoid new development in flood-prone margins of Waikato River; build self-reliant energy systems.	P4 requires hazard assessment; district-wide flood overlays prevail.	Hazard management embedded in policy.
9. Waste & Contaminants – Discourage on-site wastewater unless land application is proven; prevent solid-waste dumping near river.	MPZ relies on regional discharge rules; any on-site systems must meet regional standards.	No provisions enabling non-compliant discharges.
10. Monitoring & Reporting – Promote iwi-led monitoring, cultural health indicators, Mātauranga-based reporting.	RDIS consents can impose monitoring conditions; P7 supports iwi-driven restoration activities in MPZ	Partially addressed

Plan Change 47 **recognises and provides for** the goals and policy directions of the TARIT Environmental Management Plan:

- **Water & mauri protection:** Storm-water and scale controls, plus enhancement incentives, avoid additional load on the Waikato River.
- **Cultural relationships & kaitiakitanga:** Objectives O1–O3 and RDIS cultural-effect matters put TARIT values at the heart of consent decision-making.
- **Papakāinga & economic enablement:** MPZ makes papakāinga, marae, small Māori businesses and eco-tourism permitted activities—directly delivering TARIT development aspirations.
- **Hazard avoidance & resilience:** Infrastructure and hazard filters align with TARIT climate-resilience provisions.

No provisions conflict with TARIT EMP objectives.

3.9.1 INDIVIDUAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Ngāti Tūwharetoa Environmental Iwi Management Plan (EIMP) (2003)

Ngāti Tūwharetoa's EIMP is a high-level document that articulates issues of significance to the iwi, objectives, policies and actions to support them in their desire to participate as a partner in resource management decision making processes over their rohe. The aims of the plan are to:

1. Exercise kaitiakitanga in accordance with the kawa and tikanga of ngā hapū o Ngāti Tūwharetoa.
2. Promote and protect the mātauranga held by kaitiaki for the benefit of current ngā hapū o Ngāti Tūwharetoa.
3. Have external parties recognise the ownership that Ngāti Tūwharetoa have e.g. ownership of Lake Taupo-nui-ā-Tia and tributaries.

The EIMP details Ngāti Tūwharetoa's goals, issues and policies on a range of environmental issues that cover water, land, fisheries, sacred spaces, indigenous biodiversity and geothermal / mineral extraction.

Table 7 Assessment of PC47 against the Ngāti Tūwharetoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan

EIMP Priority (condensed)	PC 47 Provision(s) & Response	Consistency
Kaitiakitanga – exercise active guardianship according to kawa & tikanga of hapū	MPZ-03 embeds kaitiakitanga and mana whenua decision-making. P4 requires cultural-effects assessment for any RDIS activity; customary activities are permitted.	MPZ enable greater use of Māori land by owners in a manner more consistent with traditional uses.
Recognition of proprietary interests – acknowledge ownership of Lake Taupō, waterways, geothermal resources	MPZ applies only to Māori freehold land; rules/standards (S9) protect water quality; geothermal activities remain under regional control and any use would trigger RDIS + iwi engagement.	MPZ does not diminish proprietary interests of Lake Taupō.
Protection & enhancement of water (wai) including tributaries	S9 stormwater infiltration & flow-path retention. P7 encourages riparian restoration projects.	PC47 includes practical methods for protecting tributaries and promotes enhancement of waterways.
Safeguard sacred spaces & wāhi tapu	Cultural effects is a mandatory RDIS matter through consideration of P4. District-wide archaeological/SNA overlays remain. Permitted customary use includes cultural protocols (e.g., rāhui).	Consent pathway protects wāhi tapu.
Encourage economic self-determination on ancestral land	P1 permits home-business, visitor accommodation, community facilities. S6/7 set scalable floor-area caps to enable commercial activity without losing mixed use focus.	Delivers economic tools sought in EIMP.

Ngati Tahu - Ngati Whaoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan (IEMP): Rising above the mist - Te aranga ake i te taimahatanga (2019)

The IEMP is a comprehensive three-part document and an update to an earlier version of the same. Part one sets out the background, vision and overarching ethos for environmental management. Part two compares the historical and current state of the natural environment, as well as setting out principles for environmental management and iwi goals for each environmental resource. Part three is a collation of various action plans and associated implementation strategies.

The iwi has had customary lands returned and mana whenua established through various Treaty Settlements, making Ngāti Tahu - Ngāti Whāoa iwi one of the largest land holders in the Waikato River catchment. All of these have great cultural significance to the iwi and the IEMP details out at length the current state of the environment, iwi issues and proposed strategies for remedying the same over these areas. In particular, the IEMP sets out how Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whāoa will exercise kaitiakitanga over the following aspects of their rohe:

1. The waters of the Waikato River from Huka Falls to Pohaturoa at Atiamuri
2. Extensive forest areas in Tutukau and the Paeroa ranges
3. The geothermal fields of Rotokawa (Tauhara North), Broadlands (Kaingaroa No.2), Ohaki (Tahorakuri), Nga Tamariki (Tahorakuri), Reporoa (Paeroa East), Waiotapu (Paeroa East), Waikite (Rotomahana Parekarangi), Te Kopia (Rotomahana Parekarangi), Orakei Korako (Tutukau) and Atiamuri (Tatua West). In some of these fields, Iwi Trusts continue to be landowners and joint venture partners. The geothermal habitats also harbour some of the rarest plants in the country.
4. Various wahi tapu and historic sites of significance that dot the landscape, especially alongside rivers and waterways, on high hilltops and in areas of native forest and pine forestry.

Plan Change 47 is aligned with the aspirations and resource management directions of the Ngāti Tahu–Ngāti Whāoa Environmental Management Plan. The introduction of MPZ represents a meaningful response to the planning barriers experienced by Māori landowners, particularly those seeking to develop their land in ways that reflect cultural identity, support community wellbeing, and fulfil kaitiaki responsibilities.

The EMP calls for planning frameworks that enable tangata whenua to live on and utilise their whenua, while ensuring that natural, cultural, and spiritual values are upheld. PC47 gives effect to these goals through zone specific objectives and policies that support papakāinga, marae-based development, and whānau-led economic activity. It provides a culturally resonant planning tool that facilitates intergenerational wellbeing and self-determination for Māori.

Furthermore, PC47 reinforces the kaitiakitanga role of Ngāti Tahu–Ngāti Whāoa by ensuring environmental effects are managed appropriately. It retains key district-wide provisions for natural features, biodiversity, and landscape values, while also supporting water quality and freshwater protection through integration with regional and national instruments such as the Waikato Regional Plan and NES-Freshwater.

Crucially, PC47 respects the iwi's call for partnership, responsiveness to iwi-led planning documents, and an enabling approach to Māori land use.

In summary, PC47 supports the exercise of rangatiratanga, strengthens cultural resilience, and facilitates sustainable land development aligned with the values of Ngāti Tahu–Ngāti Whāoa.

Raukawa Environmental Management Plan: Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa (2015)

Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa is a statement of the iwi's issues, aspirations, and priorities in relation to the environment. It provides not just a statement of Raukawa values and aspirations for environmental management, but also serves as a toolkit to guide and shape both policymaking and resource management decisions.

The plan is a wide-ranging document that touches on a diverse range of activities and environmental phenomena that impact on the iwi and the exercising of manaakitanga, whānaungatanga, mana whenua and ahi kā roa status over their rohe. Of particular relevance are the following sections of the plan:

1. Section 2.1: Water (Wai) - the health and wellbeing of the Waikato, Te Waihou, and the Upper Waipā River and their catchments are restored and protected for present and future generations.
2. Section 2.2: Land (Whenua): while acknowledging that the local economy is heavily dependent on the productive capabilities of the land, progressive intensification of these activities also negatively impacts on waterbodies and the indigenous biodiversity. As kaitiaki, Raukawa iwi's focus is to ensure these land activities are balanced within the environmental capacity of the whenua, to provide for the needs and wellbeing of current and future communities.
3. Section 2.4: Wetlands (Ngā Repo): ongoing loss of wetlands because of intensification of land uses and the conversion of large areas from plantation forestry to dairy production, with insufficient consideration given to the ecological importance and function of wetlands within broader natural systems.
4. Section 2.6 - Indigenous Plants and Animals (Ngā Tamariki a Tāne Whakapiripiri): several factors including the removal of indigenous vegetation; the changing nature and intensification of land use; and the ongoing modification of waterbodies and water systems have had profound impacts on indigenous biodiversity.
5. Section 2.7: Marae and Papakāinga: actualizing aspirations to provide quality housing and infrastructure and overcoming regulatory frameworks that can be a barrier to enabling the development of papakāinga.
6. Section 2.11: Infrastructure: which has resulted in ongoing adverse effects on the cultural and natural landscape through significant earthworking and damming of rivers.
7. Section 2.13: Geothermal (Ngā Wāhi Ngāwhā): geothermal resources within the rohe extend in a broad linear field from Wairākei in the south to Mangakino in the west to Okoroire in the north and Horohoro to the east. Electricity generation currently occurs at Wairākei and Mōkai, with the spa and thermal bathing facilities present at Ōkoroire. However, Raukawa iwi do not have strong relationships and understandings with major operators and landowners working within this sector, except for Tuaropaki Trust at Mōkai.

Table 8 PC47 Assessment against the Raukawa Environmental Management Plan

REMP Focus Section	MPZ Response	Consistency
2.1 Wai – Restore health of the Waikato, Te Waihou & upper Waipā	P7 restoration + S9 stormwater protections; low-coverage standards reduce contaminant run-off. Regional rules re wastewater still apply.	Consistent.
2.2 Whenua – Balance productive land use with environmental capacity	MPZ manages building coverage and promotes a mixed use for the sites.	Consistent.
2.4 Repo (Wetlands) – Halt further loss; support creation	Permitted enhancement/restoration works under P7 and RDIS criteria facilitate wetland creation on MPZ sites. SNA and regional rules still apply.	Supports outcome.

REMP Focus Section	MPZ Response	Consistency
2.6 Indigenous Biodiversity – Reverse decline	District-wide SNA rules retained; MPZ adds proactive enhancement clause.	Consistent, with additional positive effect.
2.7 Marae & Papakāinga – Remove regulatory barriers	Core of PC 47: papakāinga permitted, marae expansion streamlined, subdivision standard prevents alienation.	Specifically implements.
2.11 Infrastructure – Mitigate effects on cultural landscapes	MPZ-P4 demands compatibility tests for major infrastructure; reverse-sensitivity managed.	Consistent.
2.13 Geothermal – Strengthen iwi role in geothermal development	Not directly relevant	Neutral.

Plan Change 47 *recognises and provides for* the objectives, policies and priority actions in all three iwi management plans. It is therefore consistent with s 74(2A) RMA obligations to take those plans into account and enhances iwi aspirations for kaitiakitanga, housing, economic development and environmental restoration on Māori land.

3.10 Joint Management Plans

3.10.1 CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND FORESTS IWI COLLECTIVE (CNI): HE MAHERE PŪTAHITANGA (2018)

He Mahere Pūtahitanga is a pan tribal planning document articulating the collective aspirations of member iwi as they exercise kaitiakitanga over their Treaty Settlement Lands. The land that the plan covers specifically relates to the 176,000 hectares deeded to iwi as part of the Central North Island Forests Land Collective Settlement Act 2008.

He Mahere Pūtahitanga has been conceived as a modular, living, working document which will be added to in time. It does not supersede or replace planning documents developed by affiliate iwi but articulates CNI's desire to use their lands in a holistic manner that is mindful of the need for intergenerational equity.

4 Engagement

Please refer to the Background and Engagement Report for the full summary of engagement.

The development of Plan Change 47 has been underpinned by an extensive engagement and co-design process with iwi, hapū, and Māori landowners. This began in early 2024, with Taupō District Council engaging directly with mana whenua and Māori trusts to explore interest in and the potential benefits of a MPZ framework. Feedback from these initial engagements confirmed support for a zone that enabled culturally grounded development without the constraints of general residential or rural zoning.

In response, the Council developed draft policy and rule frameworks, including example provisions, to facilitate further discussion. Draft provisions were subsequently reviewed and refined through workshops and consultation sessions held in mid-to-late 2024, including the distribution of information sheets and targeted outreach to identified Māori landowners.

A series of scenario-based assessments were also developed to test how the MPZ provisions would apply in practice to typical Māori land development proposals, such as papakāinga, kura, marae upgrades, and kaumātua housing. These scenarios demonstrated that the MPZ framework would reduce consenting barriers and better support Māori-led land development.

By late 2024, the draft provisions were finalised and prepared for public discussion. Formal feedback was then sought in early 2025 through a public consultation process, including written submissions, hui, and direct correspondence with affected and interested parties. The process has been iterative and collaborative, with a strong emphasis on co-design, flexibility, and respect for the unique character of Māori land across the district.

4.1 Timeline of Engagement on PC47

1. November 2023

Initial discussions on the MPZ concept began with a presentation to mana whenua and other stakeholders. Issues and options papers were shared with key iwi, hapu and trust contacts. A series of face to face and online hui were held with representatives of several hui and trusts (including Ngāti Tahu Ngāti Whaoa, Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust and Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa) who responded to the initial contact.

2. February 2024

Discussion Document One (DD1) was distributed widely, including to iwi entities and trusts, outlining the purpose and potential benefits of the MPZ. The objective of this was to seek feedback on the initial concept of MPZ.

3. March 2024

Online hui with key iwi representatives within the Taupō District. Hui was organized by David Rameka to present early policy ideas and seek feedback on barriers and opportunities.

Presentation to the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe Committee to introduce MPZ concepts and discuss implementation challenges.

4. April 2024

Presentation to the Kaimanawa and Matapuna Hapu Clusters to discuss MPZ principles and seek input from local hapū and email follow-ups with hui attendees to confirm actions and next steps for the MPZ development process.

5. May 2024

Presentation to the Hikuwai and Hauauru hapu Clusters emphasising the alignment of MPZs with strategic objectives for Māori land use. The MPZ Other Council Review Report was distributed to iwi and trust groups to provide insights into how MPZs have been implemented in other districts.

6. June 2024

Hui with specific trusts to discuss specific land parcels and the potential application of MPZ provisions. Presentation to the Hauauru Cluster Hui to provide updates and address questions on MPZ development.

7. August 2024

Distribution of Discussion Document 2 (DD2) to iwi entities and key stakeholders. Follow-up emails sent to individuals. Meeting with TKNT to discuss their active support for MPZ and plans to facilitate further hui with hapū.

8. November 2024

Presentation at a housing wānanga held in Waitahanui. Approximately 30 attendees discussed opportunities for developing Māori land under the MPZ framework.

Email correspondence with potential MPZ landowners confirming their interest in designating Kohineheke as an MPZ.

9. December 2024

Continued engagement with individual landowners and trustees to refine MPZ provisions and identify suitable land parcels. Discussions included exploring setbacks, building coverage, and activities permissible within MPZs.

10. February 2025

Draft Plan Change 47 and Discussion Document Three (DD3) made available online and sent out to engagement parties and key consultation groups.

Hui on phone, online and directly with parties who responded to the draft PC.

11. March 2025

Hui at Hirangi Marae and with representatives from Waitotoko Marae who expressed an interest in MPZ.

12. April 2025

Presentation at housing wananga at Nukuhau Pā organised by TST and discussions online and via emails with landowners interested in MPZ.

13. May 2025

Submissions on draft PC47 received from Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa Runanga Trust, Taupo 2B2L41, Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust, Sharon Fletcher, New Zealand Defense Force, Telecom, Paenoa Te Akau, Transpower, Ministry of Education, Te Runanga o Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Kurauia.

4.2 Engagement documents

As part of this engagement process several documents were developed to support conversations and also respond to specific queries raised during engagement. These documents are attached as Appendix 3 and are summarised here:

1. A review of MPZ in New Zealand District Plans was undertaken in April 2024 in response to queries at iwi hui. The review provides an overview of how MPZ are applied across second-generation district plans in Aotearoa New Zealand. It highlights that most councils have adopted MPZs to better support Māori aspirations for the development of ancestral land, including papakāinga, marae, urupā, cultural facilities, and home-based businesses. The plans generally aim to reflect tikanga and mātauranga Māori, with many referencing iwi-endorsed masterplans or development frameworks. Activity statuses and bulk/location standards vary between districts, with rural MPZs often more enabling. Public feedback on MPZs has generally been supportive, although some concerns have arisen around rural character and reverse sensitivity. The report notes that many of the activities typically provided for within MPZs are already permitted within the Taupō District Plan (TDP) under its existing zoning framework. However, integrated or larger-scale Māori developments may still require resource consent under the current plan. Comparisons with other districts suggest that an explicit MPZ framework could provide a more enabling and culturally aligned planning pathway for Māori landowners in Taupō. The review supports refining the TDP to reflect the more enabling approaches found elsewhere, balancing cultural development with appropriate environmental safeguards.
2. MPZ Discussion Document One: Released in January 2024, this document provides a concise overview of the proposed Māori Purpose Zone being considered for the Taupō District Plan. It outlines the purpose of the zone—to better enable the development and use of Māori land by Māori landowners—and introduces key principles guiding its design, such as enabling papakāinga, supporting marae development, and applying site-specific standards. The document invites feedback from iwi, hapū, and Māori landowners, and sets out the intention to work in partnership to shape the MPZ through the formal plan change process.
3. MPZ Discussion Document Two: Released in August 2024 this document outlines the initial thinking behind the MPZ and seeks feedback from Māori landowners and iwi across Taupō District. It explains that the MPZ aims to enable the cultural, residential, and commercial development of Māori land through more flexible zoning provisions. The paper introduces draft objectives, principles, rules, and standards tailored to either rural or residential settings. It includes practical scenarios illustrating how the proposed provisions would work and how they compare with existing rules. Key features include non-notified consents, site-specific standards, and the provision for traditional land uses. The paper also outlines indicative timeframes for consultation and plan development, and invites further input from landowners and mana whenua.
4. MPZ Discussion Document Three: Released in February 2025 this document presents initial provisions for the MPZ as part of the Taupō District Plan review. It outlines a dual-zoning structure (MPZ-1 for rural and MPZ-2 for residential settings), identifies specific land uses and standards (e.g., for papakāinga, marae, and commercial activities), and compares these with existing district plan provisions. The sheet shows that MPZ provisions are generally more enabling for Māori land development and highlights the permissive approach to papakāinga and community uses. It emphasizes the importance of supporting Māori aspirations for their land, while ensuring consistency with other district-wide and regional rules.

5 Governance

Taupō District Councillors have been involved in the development of the Plan Changes through regular workshops since 2018.

Please refer to the Background and Engagement Report for the full summary of governance engagement.

6 Scale and Significance

PC47 introduces a new zoning into the ODP. Zoned areas can occur on Māori land throughout the District where requested by the owners of that land. PC47 sets out Objectives, Policies and Methods to support and manage the development of zoned lands for traditional purposes.

Pursuant to section 32(1)(c), an evaluation report must contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the proposal (section 32(1)(c)). This means that the scale and significance of the effects of the proposal is the key factor influencing the level of detail required for a section 32 evaluation.

Considerations and criteria for determining scale and significance		Ranking High/Medium/Low
1. Reasons for the change	To introduce a new zone that better enables the use and development of Māori Land for traditional uses. It replaces a more generic approach where Māori land is considered under wider zoning provisions. The change responds to national and regional policy directives and aims to support kaupapa Māori land development and associated social and cultural outcomes.	Medium
2. Degree of shift from the status quo (current approach)	PC47 introduces a new planning framework tailored specifically for Māori land. This is a shift from the current framework which treats Māori land under general zoning provisions that do not reflect its unique tenure, values or intended use. However, the change is geographically limited and opt-in only.	Medium
3.Environmental effects	Environmental effects are expected to be limited and managed. The MPZ does not override district-wide natural hazard, SNA, or infrastructure provisions. Zone-specific standards (e.g., stormwater, coverage, height) ensure sustainable development. Development remains subject to regional plan rules.	Low
4. Economic effects	Positive for Māori landowners. PC47 enables a wider range of economic uses (e.g. papakāinga, tourism ventures, home businesses) than current zones. This supports intergenerational wealth-building and aligns with the economic aspirations of Māori landowners.	Medium
5.Cultural effects	The plan change has substantial positive cultural effects. It recognises and enables Māori to reconnect with ancestral land, exercise kaitiakitanga, and undertake development consistent with tikanga. The provisions give effect to section 6(e) RMA and numerous Treaty settlement outcomes.	High

Considerations and criteria for determining scale and significance		Ranking High/Medium/Low
6.Social effects	The MPZ supports social well-being through the provision of housing (including kaumātua and multi-generational housing), community facilities, and marae development. It enables self-determined community living on Māori land.	Medium
7. Who and how many will be affected?	Direct effects are limited to Māori landowners who have opted into the zone. The general public is not directly affected. However, there are indirect benefits for the wider district through increased housing, cultural visibility, and economic activity.	Medium
8. Degree of impact on, or interest from Iwi/Māori	High interest and impact. PC47 was developed in direct response to Māori landowner aspirations and with significant engagement. It is a key opportunity for to support Māori landowners in realising goals for use of their ancestral lands.	High

On this basis, the proposed provisions are significant as they will influence planning and decision making across the Taupō District.

7 Evaluation of Proposed Plan Change 47 – Māori Purpose Zones

7.1 Evaluation of the introduction of MPZ Chapter

In considering the option to introduce Māori Purpose Zones into the District Plan, it is necessary to consider the alternatives to do so. In addition to the proposed plan change, an alternative of reliance on the TDP, i.e. no change, is considered. This option would be applying the existing objectives, policies and rules, i.e. papakainga provisions, that support the development of Māori land within the District.

1. Do not introduce MPZ into the TDP and instead rely on existing provisions (Papakainga etc) in the TDP.
2. Adopted set of provisions (as further evaluated in the tables that follow).

Table 9 Assessment of Provision Options

Option	Description and Evaluation of Alternative
Option 1: Reliance on the current approach in the ODP	Supporting Māori to develop their lands for traditional uses is currently provided for within the Rural Zone through objectives and policy and rules relating to papakāinga. It is proposed to extend this approach to the Residential chapter through plan changes ## and ##. These provisions support the development of Māori land for papakāinga however they are silent on other uses such as marae. This is done within the context of the underlying zoning. Within the Rural Zones, there is still an underlying expectation that the land is to be used for rural activities. While there are specific provisions that enable papakāinga the wider policy framework for those zones has a focus on protecting the amenity and use of the environment for rural land uses. Rural standards still apply, albeit with papakāinga specific exceptions. Existing objectives and policies that relate to supporting the development of Māori land, within the rural chapter of the TDP, still need to be considered alongside those provisions which seek to protect the rural use and amenity of that zone. Recommendation - reject
Option 2: Introducing MPZ into the TDP.	This option entails a more direct approach to enabling the traditional use of Māori land. The Council, through the District Plan, is required to take into account the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This is to be done at all levels of planning and decision making under the Plan. A comparatively high proportion of the district is Māori freehold or multiple-owned land. There is a strong desire for Māori to return to their ancestral land, with a range of aspirations for changed land use, land development and settlement, whilst exercising kaitiakitanga and protecting sites of cultural significance. The District Plan has an important role to play in supporting Mana Whenua in achieving these aspirations. The Council is also required, in partnership with Mana Whenua, to recognise and provide for the Māori values in resource management and decision making. These include the important relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga and to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.

	This is to happen not just through recognition and incorporation of these matters into the Plan but also through the wider decision making and Plan implementation process. These values should not be considered as a separate matter to the wider Plan but are expected to be applied throughout all aspects of planning and decision making within the Taupō District. The District Plan Issues and Monitoring Report identified that the District Plan does not effectively recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga. The following issues were identified to be addressed through the District Plan Review: • Involve iwi partners through a collaborative process from the start of the review • Incorporate the Māori world view throughout the Plan • Review and where possible improve the papakainga provisions • Ensure improved understanding and knowledge of the papakainga provisions. The proposed objectives establish this direction in the plan to enable a more comprehensive approach to ensure that Māori and Māori values are reflected in planning and decision making within the Taupō District. These provisions were developed with Mana Whenua and also reflect key direction from iwi planning documents which Council is required to take into account when reviewing their District Plan. Recommendation – take forward for further evaluation below.
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7.2 Evaluation of the Proposed Objectives against the Purpose of the Act:

Section 32(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act requires the Council to examine the extent to which the objectives are the most appropriate way to achieve the sustainable management purpose of the Resource Management Act.

Any proposed objective and policy framework must give effect to higher order statutory directions.¹ The objective and policy approach for the Māori Purpose Zone is therefore directed by, and must give effect to, the relevant regional policy statements.

The proposed objectives for each strategic direction have been developed in a manner where they collectively implement the direction in question. In most cases the objectives should not be considered in isolation of each other and need to be applied collectively. Where this is the case, the objectives have been evaluated against the Act and higher order statutory directions collectively. Where there is an objective that is distinct from others and / or addresses distinct elements of a direction, they are evaluated separately.

¹ Resource Management Act 1991, section 75(3)(c).

Table 10 Assessment of Objective MPZ-01

Objective MPZ-01 <i>Māori Purpose Zones recognise the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions, and ancestral lands by providing for activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including social, cultural, and economic development.</i>	
Social wellbeing (Section 5)	The objective explicitly enables papakāinga housing, marae activities and other supportive facilities on ancestral whenua, facilitating inter-generational housing security, whānau cohesion and social interaction, thereby advancing social well-being.
Economic Wellbeing (Section 5)	By removing historic regulatory barriers and permitting small-scale Māori enterprises, the objective unlocks economic potential and retains wealth within hapū economies, supporting economic well-being and efficient use of resources.
Cultural Wellbeing (Section 5)	Recognition of ancestral relationships directly provides for cultural well-being and satisfies section 6(e) by embedding tikanga and ahi kā.
Health and Safety (Section 5)	Improved housing and marae infrastructure raise living standards and support public health and safety outcomes.
Section 6	The objective contributes to protection of cultural landscapes (s 6(e)), biodiversity (s 6(c)), and hazard management (s 6(h)).
Section 7	It recognises kaitiakitanga and stewardship (ss 7(a) & 7(aa)), promotes efficient use (s 7(b)), and maintains amenity and environmental quality (ss 7(c) & 7(f)).
Section 8	The objective is consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by affirming mana whenua decision-making authority and promoting active partnership and rangatiratanga over ancestral land, thereby meeting section 8 obligations.
Summary	
Directly promotes enabling people & communities (whānau and hapū) to provide for their social, cultural and economic well-being (s 5(2)). Sustainability & Māori Interests – Responds to ss 6(e) & 8 by recognising and providing for the relationship of Māori with ancestral land and giving practical effect to Treaty principles through zoning that removes barriers to customary land use. Efficiency / Effectiveness – A zone-based approach avoids repeated consent costs and uncertainty, allowing efficient use of Māori land while internal standards manage effects. Risks – Without such recognition, Māori land may remain under-utilised, undermining intergenerational kaitiakitanga; objective mitigates this risk.	

Table 11 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-01

Advantages of relying on existing zones	Disadvantages of relying on existing zones	Reason alternative discarded
No additional plan change required; development continues under existing and proposed Rural/Residential provisions. Avoids up-front district-plan drafting costs and maintains flexibility for non-Māori adjoining owners.	Generic zones do not recognise and specifically support the special ancestral relationship and provide effectively for mixed use outcomes; high consent costs and uncertainty may discourage traditional uses of land.	Discarded because it fails to give effect to s 6(e) and Treaty principles and perpetuates inequitable consent burdens. Inconsistent with direction in the Strategic Direction chapter of the ODP.

Table 12 Assessment of Objective MPZ-02

Objective MPZ-02 <i>Activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs can occur in the Māori Purpose Zone in a manner that maintains and promotes the spiritual, cultural, social, economic and environmental interests and associations of tangata whenua with their ancestral lands.</i>	
Social wellbeing (Section 5)	Requiring activities to maintain or promote social interests of tangata whenua preserves communal networks that underpin social well-being.
Economic Wellbeing (Section 5)	Certainty for culturally aligned commercial activities sustains long-term economic well-being without compromising other values.
Cultural Wellbeing (Section 5)	Explicit reference to spiritual and cultural interests embeds these matters, fulfilling section 6(e) and cultural well-being.
Health and Safety (Section 5)	Protecting environmental interests indirectly delivers safe water and hazard-free living, enhancing health and safety.
Section 6	The objective contributes to protection of cultural landscapes (s 6(e)), biodiversity (s 6(c)), and hazard management (s 6(h)).
Section 7	It recognises kaitiakitanga and stewardship (ss 7(a) & 7(aa)), promotes efficient use (s 7(b)), and maintains amenity and environmental quality (ss 7(c) & 7(f)).
Section 8	The objective is consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by affirming mana whenua decision-making authority and promoting active partnership and rangatiratanga over ancestral land, thereby meeting section 8 obligations.
Explicit priority to tangible and intangible values of land for tangata whenua; aligns with s 5(2)(c) (avoiding, remedying, mitigating effects) by requiring activities be undertaken “in a manner that maintains and promotes” those interests. S 6(e) & 7(a) – Actively protects the Māori relationship with ancestral land and embodies kaitiakitanga.	

Effectiveness – Sets a clear message about anticipated use of Māori land which is supported by a rule framework aligned to that use.
Efficiency – Provides certainty for applicants and decision-makers, reducing transaction costs compared with ad-hoc cultural assessments across multiple zones.

Table 13 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-02

Advantages of relying on existing zones	Disadvantages of relying on existing zones	Reason alternative discarded
No additional plan change required; development continues under existing and proposed Rural/Residential provisions. Avoids up-front district-plan drafting costs and maintains flexibility for non-Māori adjoining owners.	Existing provisions lack explicit protection of Māori associations with land and associated needs.	Discarded because it does not guarantee maintenance of cultural, spiritual and environmental interests across multiple consents.

Table 14 Assessment of Objective MPZ-03

Objective MPZ-03 <i>Tangata whenua can exercise their responsibilities as mana whenua in the Māori Purpose Zone, including exercising kaitiakitanga and avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects of activities.</i>	
Social wellbeing (Section 5)	Enabling mana whenua decision-making strengthens community identity and social empowerment.
Economic Wellbeing (Section 5)	Kaitiaki-led management supports sustainable economic outcomes and resource-use efficiency.
Cultural Wellbeing (Section 5)	Embedding kaitiakitanga gives practical effect to sections 7(a) and 8, reinforcing cultural well-being.
Health and Safety (Section 5)	Avoiding or mitigating adverse effects, including hazards, protects the health and safety of land users.
Section 6	The objective contributes to protection of cultural landscapes (s 6(e)), biodiversity (s 6(c)), and hazard management (s 6(h)).
Section 7	It recognises kaitiakitanga and stewardship (ss 7(a) & 7(aa)), promotes efficient use (s 7(b)), and maintains amenity and environmental quality (ss 7(c) & 7(f)).
Section 8	The objective is consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by affirming mana whenua decision-making authority and promoting active partnership and rangatiratanga over ancestral land, thereby meeting section 8 obligations.

Explicitly enables kaitiakitanga (s 7(a)) and stewardship (s7(aa)); integrates sustainable management principles by embedding avoidance / mitigation of adverse effects (s 5(2)(c)). S 6(h) – Anticipates and manages natural hazards through the requirement to avoid or mitigate adverse effects. Achievable through MPZ performance standards (e.g., earthworks, stormwater) and iwi-led management plans; responsibilities sit with tangata whenua who best understand cultural effects. Does not grant unfettered rights; requires environmentally responsible exercise of mana whenua responsibilities.

Table 15 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-03

Advantages of relying on existing zones	Disadvantages of relying on existing zones	Reason alternative discarded
No additional plan change required; development continues under familiar Rural/Residential provisions. Avoids up-front district-plan drafting costs and maintains flexibility for non-Māori adjoining owners.	Reliance on consent pathway limits proactive exercise of kaitiakitanga and leaves cultural conditions to case-by-case negotiation.	Discarded because it undermines mana whenua self-determination and creates inconsistent environmental outcomes.

Table 16 Assessment of Objective MPZ-04

Objective MPZ-04	
<i>Māori purpose activities and the comprehensive, co-ordinated and efficient development of ancestral land are enabled in the Māori Purpose Zone while ensuring actual or potential adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</i>	
Social wellbeing (Section 5)	Comprehensive and co-ordinated development fosters socially cohesive, serviced settlements.
Economic Wellbeing (Section 5)	Efficient infrastructure lowers costs and boosts economic viability, supporting economic well-being and s 7(b).
Cultural Wellbeing (Section 5)	Development framed around marae and cultural narratives reinforces cultural well-being and satisfies s 6(e).
Health and Safety (Section 5)	Integrated planning includes hazard checks and safeguards, directly supporting health and safety.
Section 6	The objective contributes to protection of cultural landscapes (s 6(e)), biodiversity (s 6(c)), and hazard management (s 6(h)).
Section 7	It recognises kaitiakitanga and stewardship (ss 7(a) & 7(aa)), promotes efficient use (s 7(b)), and maintains amenity and environmental quality (ss 7(c) & 7(f)).
Section 8	The objective is consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by affirming mana whenua decision-making authority and promoting active

	partnership and rangatiratanga over ancestral land, thereby meeting section 8 obligations.
Gives effect to s 7(b) by prioritising coordinated, efficient development instead of fragmented, ad-hoc consents. Environmental Safeguards – Restates the s 5(2)(c) duty to manage adverse effects, ensuring ecological and amenity considerations are not lost in pursuit of development. Supports Māori economic development, aligning with s 5(2) and NPS-UD principles of capacity while respecting NPS-HPL avoidance of further fragmentation of highly productive land (implemented through specific MPZ standards). Effectiveness – Use of zone-specific bulk/location standards and scheduled site-specific rules provides a practical mechanism to “enable” while controlling effects.	

Table 17 Assessment of Alternatives Objective MPZ-04

Advantages of relying on existing zones	Disadvantages of relying on existing zones	Reason alternative discarded
No additional plan change required; development continues under familiar Rural/Residential provisions. Avoids up-front district-plan drafting costs and maintains flexibility for non-Māori adjoining owners.	Fragmented consenting under generic zones undermines coordinated development and infrastructure efficiency, increasing cumulative effects risk.	Discarded because it impedes comprehensive planning, leading to inefficient land use contrary to s 7(b).

In summary the assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the proposed Māori Purpose Zone provisions, as set out in the evaluation tables above, demonstrates that the provisions are generally the most appropriate means of achieving the objectives of the zone.

The provisions provide a planning framework that enables the development and use of Māori land in a manner that reflects the aspirations of landowners, while appropriately managing effects on the environment and infrastructure. The evaluation shows that the anticipated benefits of the proposed provisions outweigh the associated costs, and that the provisions are sufficiently certain and implementable through the Taupō District Plan framework.

The analysis identifies that the objectives (MPZ-O1 to MPZ-O4) are suitable and relevant responses to the identified issues, and appropriately implement Part II of the RMA, especially in recognising the relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, as required under section 6(e). These objectives provide a clear and culturally grounded foundation for enabling the development of Māori land.

On this basis, the provisions are considered to be an appropriate method for achieving the objectives of the Māori Purpose Zone and give effect to higher order planning documents.

7.3 Assessment of the Provisions

It has been established that the Objectives are the most appropriate way of achieving the purpose of the Act. This section will consider whether, having regard to their efficiency and effectiveness, the proposed provisions

are the most appropriate way to achieve the Objectives. See also the provision cascade attached to this report as Appendix 2, to understand how the provisions relate to the various objectives.

The evaluation tables below consider whether, having regard to their efficiency and effectiveness, the proposed provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives identified in the previous section. In this case, the provisions in question are the policies only. This reflects the nature of the strategic directions chapter to provide high level guidance and direction to the wider Plan. Similarly, the subsequent effects assessment will also be at a high level, reflecting that there is less certainty about the actual costs and benefits as they will be reliant on the specific application of these provisions. The evaluation tables are arranged based on the various objectives and corresponding policies for achieving those objectives within the Strategic Directions chapter. As the Plan review process continues, it is anticipated that there will be additional provisions developed which will further implement the proposed objectives.

<i>MPZ-O1 Māori Purpose Zones recognise the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions and ancestral lands by providing for activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including social, cultural and economic development, and allows whānau to better establish and maintain an ongoing relationship with their ancestral lands.</i>	
Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives: MPZ Policies P1, P2, P3, P4, P6 MPZ Rules R1 and R2 MPZ Standards S1 – S9 Rule SUB-RX	
Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
Enhanced stewardship and provides for a better inclusion of iwi values and tikanga into planning and decision making. This includes better recognising the role of iwi as kaitiaki and supporting them in this role.	Minor intensification risks mitigated by existing rules.
Economic	
Unlocks investment; reduced consent costs. Supports culturally aligned development that enables economic wellbeing through small-scale enterprise, visitor accommodation, and educational facilities.	Council plan change costs
Social	
Reinforces intergenerational links with ancestral lands and supports whānau cohesion and wellbeing. Supports the wellbeing of whānau and hapū through increased housing and land use opportunities. Enhances social cohesion and self-determination.	Perceived inequity by neighbours; temporary construction effects.
Cultural	
Provides direct recognition of ancestral connection and supports tikanga and kaitiakitanga.	None identified

Provides for tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga. Recognises the relationship Māori have with their land.	
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
Supports economic development and employment by supporting the development of Māori land for productive use, including housing, commercial ventures, and social infrastructure. Potential to unlock economic development and employment in areas of limited opportunity.	
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))	
Efficiency: This objective is efficient as it allows for a targeted planning response that reduces barriers to development while maintaining appropriate environmental and cultural safeguards. It avoids a one-size-fits-all approach and ensures planning responses are proportionate to the unique status and aspirations associated with Māori land.	
Effectiveness: Strongly supports the re-establishment of whānau on ancestral land through a variety of uses that are appropriate in character and intent. The objective is effective as it clearly sets out the outcome sought in enabling Māori cultural needs and fostering the reconnection with ancestral lands. It will guide the development of policies and rules that support papakāinga, marae development, and related activities. The relevant policies are effective in achieving MPZ-O1 by directly addressing the unique status of Māori land and the aspirations of tangata whenua. MPZ-P1 ensures that the cultural significance and relationships between Māori and their land are considered in all development decisions, effectively aligning with the intent of the objective. MPZ-P2 and P3 prioritise tikanga Māori and provide for appropriate forms of development, recognising that Māori development may differ from conventional land use. MPZ-P4 and P6 establish a clear expectation that development will be guided by Māori values, promoting sustainable outcomes that reflect mana whenua priorities. Together, these policies ensure the Plan provides practical support for Māori-led development on Māori land. By embedding tikanga, acknowledging cultural relationships, and enabling appropriate land use, the policies give effect to MPZ-O1. The alignment between provisions and objective supports an enabling planning framework. Permitted Activity Rules MPZ-R1 have been developed to permit and manage a mix of activities that are appropriate for specifically meet Māori cultural needs. These rules provide clear and enabling provisions that reflect Māori aspirations for the use of their land. Rule MPZ-R1 enables a permitted baseline for landuse within MPZ where larger-scale or more intensive development are managed through a restricted discretionary regime, ensuring that development can proceed where appropriate safeguards are met. The non-notification rule aligns with the objective by encouraging development confidence and reducing potential barriers and costs to associated with the development of ancestral lands. The accompanying standards MPZ-S1 to MPZ-S9 (covering height, yard setbacks, site coverage and activity types etc.) provide necessary environmental safeguards without being unnecessarily onerous. They have been calibrated to ensure the practical feasibility of development on Māori land, particularly where access to services may be constrained.	
Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))	

There is sufficient information to support this objective from engagement with mana whenua and experience with existing plan provisions. The risk of not acting is that land remains underutilised and cultural needs unmet.

Appropriateness

This objective is considered appropriate as it directly aligns with the purpose of the RMA (s5) and gives effect to s6(e), s7(a), and s8. It recognises and provides for Māori cultural needs and ancestral connections in a positive and enabling manner.

Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))

The objective is necessary to address historical barriers to Māori land development and enables a responsive and integrated planning approach. It will support greater use and development of MFL in a way that reflects Māori values and aspirations.

MPZ-O2 Activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs can take place within Māori Purpose Zones in a manner that maintains and promotes the spiritual, cultural, social, economic and environmental interests and associations of tangata whenua with their ancestral lands.

Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives:

MPZ Policies P1, P3, P4, P5

MPZ Rules R1 and R2

MPZ Standards S1 – S9

Rule SUB-RX

Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
Promotes sustainable development that is aligned with tikanga and kaitiakitanga. Mixed-use design reduces travel; sustainability practices embedded.	Minor risks of incompatible activities if not properly managed but mitigated by rule framework. Potential stormwater and wastewater impacts—managed by standards.
Economic	
Stimulates Māori entrepreneurship and investment on their lands. Reduces consenting costs for development of Māori land through a more permissive consenting process.	
Social	
Enhances social wellbeing through culturally appropriate residential and community activities.	Traffic, noise; managed by EVM caps and noise limits.
Cultural	

Strong alignment with the preservation and promotion of Māori cultural values.	None identified
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
Encourages development of use of Māori land by owners, including home based businesses, small scale commercial uses and creating employment aligned with Māori identity and use of ancestral lands.	
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))	
Efficiency: Enables a range of outcomes and land uses on Māori land while providing criteria to assess their appropriateness on a case by case basis.	
Effectiveness: Supports the comprehensive intent of the MPZ by linking use of land with broader wellbeing goals. It provides a framework for decision-making and ensures outcomes are aligned with Māori cultural frameworks. The relevant policies under Objective MPZ-O2 have been developed to support diverse development outcomes that reflect a more mixed use outcome for Māori land. MPZ-P1 acknowledges that customary practices and kaitiakitanga may influence land use, allowing for social and cultural values to drive decision-making. MPZ-P3 and P4 explicitly provide for papakāinga, community, commercial, and marae-based activities, recognising the diverse ways in which tangata whenua may seek to derive social and economic benefits from their land. MPZ-P5 ensures development remains connected to the whenua, retaining its Māori character. These provisions are effective in delivering the objective as they encourage a range of activities while preserving cultural integrity. The inclusion of economic opportunities ensures that tangata whenua can pursue development that supports employment and self-determination. The framework is sufficiently flexible to enable adaptive use of land, and the clarity of policy direction will support consistent and transparent decision-making. Objective MPZ-O2 is supported through the activity framework that spans from permitted activities (MPZ-R1) and restricted discretionary activities (MPZ-R2, SUB-RX). This cascade approach allows Māori landowners to undertake a range of development types with a degree of certainty and flexibility. In particular, MPZ-S6 and S7 enables low-scale commercial and community activities that are directly tied to whānau and hapū wellbeing, including hauora clinics, kura and home based businesses. The standards MPZ-S1 to S9 are effective in maintaining minimum expectations for development while not being overly prescriptive. This balance provides for multi-purpose development aligned with whānau aspirations.	
Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))	
There is limited risk in acting. The risk of not acting includes missed opportunities to support kaitiakitanga and intergenerational wellbeing.	
Appropriateness	
Highly appropriate. Reflects an integrated approach to enabling land use that upholds the multifaceted values of tangata whenua.	
Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))	

Ensures that development reflects a Māori-centric approach to land use, ensuring alignment with community values

MPZ-03 Tangata whenua can exercise their responsibilities as mana whenua in the Māori Purpose Zone to:

- *exercise their rights of kaitiakitanga, self-determination over their ancestral lands, water, sites and wāhi tapu;*
- *provide a safe, nurturing environment for ngā uri (descendants), whānau (family), hapū (extended family), iwi me ngā manuhiri (tribe and visitors);*
- *ensure the protection, maintenance and promotion of ngā taonga tuku iho (treasures); and*
- *avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of activities*

Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives:

MPZ Policies P1, P4, P5, P6, P7

MPZ Rules R1 and R2

MPZ Standards S1 – S9

Rule SUB-RX

Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
Indigenous biodiversity restoration; waterway protection and strengthens kaitiakitanga.	None identified
Economic	
Facilities development of Māori land.	None identified
Social	
Rangatahi engagement; cultural pride. The non-notification provision and activity status will ensure that consents are considered in a manner that reflects the importance of providing for the development of Māori land.	None identified
Cultural	
Upholds mana, promotes customary practices, supports the restoration of ahi ka.	None identified
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	
Fosters Māori economic participation and job creation through development, commercial activity, and housing.	
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))	
Efficiency: Reinforces intrinsic values while providing for development.	
Effectiveness: Ensures tangata whenua retain leadership and oversight over development on their land. This objective is supported by policies that integrate infrastructure planning and risk management into Māori land development. MPZ-P1 establishes the need for development to be planned in a coordinated	

way, including infrastructure considerations. MPZ-P4 promotes engagement with infrastructure providers and agencies to support resilient development. MPZ-P5 ensures that infrastructure is appropriate in scale and does not compromise the cultural values associated with the land. MPZ-P6 encourages design responses that consider natural hazard risks, and MPZ-P7 ensures that servicing needs do not become a barrier to development. The policies are effective because they identify and respond to known barriers to Māori land development. By addressing infrastructure constraints and hazard resilience early in the planning process, the policies enable practical outcomes and reduce the risk of delays. The coordinated and proactive approach supports the development of long-term, sustainable Māori communities.
Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))
Failure to act would compromise the ability of tangata whenua to exercise customary responsibilities. Acting provides a framework for Māori self-determination. Not acting risks perpetuating disconnection from land.
Appropriateness
Clear articulation of the role of tangata whenua within the MPZ context. Highly appropriate and integral to the purpose and outcomes sought by the plan change.
Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))
Supports Māori leadership in development and environmental stewardship consistent with Treaty principles.

<i>MPZ -04 Māori purpose activities and the comprehensive, coordinated and efficient development of ancestral land is enabled in the Māori Purpose Zone, whilst ensuring actual or potential adverse effects of activities are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</i>	
Provisions that are the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives: MPZ Policies P3, P4, P5, P6, P7 MPZ Rules R1 and R2 MPZ Standards S1 – S9 Rule SUB-RX	
Benefits	Costs
Environmental	
Balances development with environmental sustainability in that effects are to be avoided, remedied or mitigated.	
Economic	
Encourages efficient and coordinated development, minimising costs.	
Social	
Supports whānau-led growth in a way that maintains community cohesion and protects cultural values and greater ability to use land in a meaningful way.	
Cultural	
Supports whānau-led growth in a way that maintains community cohesion and protects cultural values.	
Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities (s32(2)(a)(i)(ii))	

Supports sustainable development by maintaining environmental foundations. Opportunities in eco-tourism and regenerative land use.
The efficiency and effectiveness of provisions (s 32(1)(b)(ii))
Efficiency: Encourages strategic and structured development that minimises negative effects.
Effectiveness: Supports good development practice while enabling tangata whenua aspirations. Ensures tangata whenua retain leadership and oversight over development on their land and promotes coordinated and sustainable development aligned with tangata whenua aspirations. This objective is underpinned by policies that embed tikanga Māori into the planning and development process. MPZ-P3 and P4 provide for development that supports cultural practices, including marae and customary use. MPZ-P5 recognises the importance of land-based identity and the relationship tangata whenua maintain with their whenua. MPZ-P6 and P7 support self-determination and the transmission of tikanga across generations through enabling appropriate land use. The policies are effective as they allow tangata whenua to retain and strengthen cultural identity through development. Importantly, the policies avoid prescriptive criteria, instead favouring principles that reflect Māori worldviews. This flexibility allows the planning framework to accommodate different hapū and iwi approaches. The consistency and alignment across these policy sets with each respective objective ensures that the proposed MPZ framework is robust, flexible, and provides for the development of Māori land by its owners.
Risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information (s32(2)(c))
No significant risk in acting. Not acting may result in piecemeal development and diminished potential for economic and cultural outcomes.
Appropriateness
Well aligned with sustainable management. Ensures a pragmatic balance between enabling use and managing effects. Appropriately supports the intent of PC47.
Reasons for deciding on the provisions (s32(1)(b)(iii))
Ensures ancestral land is developed in a coordinated way that upholds cultural values and resource management best practice.

As concluded in the above evaluation tables, the policies, methods and rule provisions included in PC47 are considered to be the most appropriate way to achieve the above objectives, for the reasons given above.

The assessment undertaken demonstrates that the proposed MPZ provisions are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives of PC47. The policies and rules proposed for the MPZ have been developed to enable Māori landowners to develop and use their land in a manner that reflects their aspirations while managing potential effects on the environment. The provisions are considered effective and efficient, with benefits across cultural, economic, social, and environmental outcomes.

The accompanying policies (MPZ-P1 to P7) provide guidance for implementing the objectives and enable a comprehensive range of outcomes, including housing, economic use, kaitiakitanga, and cultural expression. The

assessment of individual policies against the objectives confirms a strong alignment between the intent of the MPZ and the outcomes sought. Policies provide a clear framework to guide development that is responsive to the values of Māori land and the unique characteristics of such areas. They also respond to the need for flexibility, recognising the constraints and opportunities associated with Māori freehold land and ensuring that the District Plan provides a pathway for appropriate use and development. The policies strike an effective balance between enabling development and managing effects, while also integrating key matters such as infrastructure capacity, hazard avoidance, and tikanga Māori.

The rules and activity statuses have been developed to reflect the underlying context of the land (rural or residential), allowing for both permissive and (restricted) discretionary pathways depending on the scale and nature of development. These rules are effective in enabling appropriate development on Māori land while requiring further assessment where necessary to manage environmental, infrastructure, or other effects.

The zone-specific standards (MPZ-S1 to MPZ-S9) provide clear parameters that reflect the unique context of Māori land and support consistent implementation of the objectives and policies. They enable a flexible yet structured approach, particularly in relation to site coverage, building setbacks, height, infrastructure servicing, and the scale of commercial and community activities. Importantly, the standards reinforce the broader policy intent without undermining district-wide environmental or infrastructure controls.

In conclusion, the proposed provisions of PC47 are an efficient and effective response to the resource management issues identified. They give effect to the strategic and statutory obligations of the Council, including the recognition of Māori rights and interests under the RMA. The rules and standards are appropriately calibrated to ensure that development is enabled in a culturally responsive, environmentally sustainable, and infrastructure-aligned manner.

In summary, the proposed MPZ provisions are consistent with the purpose of the RMA, give effect to higher order planning instruments, and are the most appropriate method for achieving the identified objectives. The evaluation supports the inclusion of the MPZ chapter as notified.

8 CONCLUSION

This Section 32 evaluation has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991, in particular Section 32(1), (2), and (4). The evaluation considers whether Plan Change 47 (PC47) is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA.

As required by Section 32(1)(a), the report has identified and examined the extent to which the proposed objectives of PC47 are the most appropriate means of achieving the purpose of the RMA. The evaluation concludes that the objectives (MPZ-O1 to MPZ-O4) respond effectively to the resource management issues facing Māori landowners in the district. The objectives recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands (section 6(e)), the protection of cultural values (section 7(a)), and the need to enable the social, economic, and cultural well-being of people and communities (section 5).

In accordance with Section 32(1)(b) and (2), the report has examined whether the provisions (policies, rules, and standards) are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives. This has included an assessment of their efficiency and effectiveness, and the identification of reasonably practicable options for achieving the objectives. The evaluation included four detailed assessment tables, which set out the costs, benefits, risks of acting or not acting, and overall appropriateness of each provision.

The policies (MPZ-P1 to MPZ-P7) were found to be aligned with the objectives and provide an appropriate balance between enabling development and managing potential adverse effects. The rules and activity statuses allow for appropriate flexibility while managing risk and supporting infrastructure planning. The MPZ-specific standards (MPZ-S1 to S9) reinforce desired development outcomes, reflect the unique characteristics of Māori land, and remain consistent with district-wide expectations.

The assessment also meets the requirement of Section 32(4) by considering the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter. This has been particularly relevant in relation to development capacity and infrastructure constraints, where the proposed policy framework provides for further assessment and integration with existing planning processes.

Overall, the evaluation concludes that PC47 is the most appropriate means of achieving the sustainable management purpose of the RMA. It introduces a new planning framework that better enables Māori to realise the potential of their ancestral lands in a manner that is culturally appropriate, environmentally sustainable, and aligned with the wider policy framework of the District Plan. The proposed provisions are supported by robust evidence, stakeholder engagement, and statutory alignment with higher-order planning instruments.

The MPZ provisions, as evaluated, will provide a durable and responsive planning framework for Māori land in the Taupō District. Accordingly, Plan Change 47 is recommended for adoption.

Appendix 1. Assessment against Taupō District Plan Strategic Directions

This appraisal considers the Objectives and Policy in the Strategic Directions chapter of the TDP with the operative provisions of Plan Change 47. Where relevant, direct linkages are mapped to MPZ objectives and policies.

1. Tangata Whenua

SD-TW-O1 Mana whenua exercise rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga over ancestral resources — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-O3 explicitly enables mana whenua responsibilities; RDIS criteria require consideration of traditional uses. PC 47 replaces generic rural/residential controls with a Māori-led framework.

SD-TW-O2 Māori are supported to develop and live on their ancestral lands — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-O1 recognises the relationship; MPZ-P1 lists papakāinga, marae, education, business as permitted; MPZ-S5 allows up to 15 dwellings without density limit.

SD-TW-P1 Enable use and development of Māori land that supports cultural, social & economic wellbeing — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - All core MPZ provisions deliver this. Compared with status quo they remove notification barriers and lower consenting costs.

SD-TW-P2 / P3 Embed mātauranga Māori and protect wāhi tapu / cultural landscapes — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-P4 matters of discretion include effects on mātauranga and cultural sites; district-wide rules still apply.

SD-TW-P5 Ensure papakāinga are integrated with infrastructure — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-P4 requires evidence of adequate infrastructure before establishing higher-intensity uses.

SD-TW-P6 (Treaty settlement co-management mechanisms) – addressed via separate JMA legislation, not by zoning.

Tangata Whenua direction is implemented by PC 47

2. Freshwater Quality / Te Mana o te Wai

SD-FW-O1 Mauri and health of freshwater bodies are protected — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-S9 requires on-site stormwater disposal; PC 47 leaves regional discharge rules intact. Land-use intensity of MPZ is low-risk.

SD-FW-P1 Prioritise Te Mana o te Wai in decision-making — *PARTLY ADDRESSED* – Although not named, effects-management criteria in MPZ-P4 align with Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy.

SD-FW-P4 Encourage restoration / enhancement of wetlands & riparian margins — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-P7 explicitly incentivises enhancement projects on Māori land, allowing greater uptake of iwi-led restoration.

Non-relevant: Policies on farm nutrient limits (SD-FW-P6-P8) – MPZ does not provide for intensive farming.

PC 47 is consistent; minor wording addition could strengthen explicit Te Mana o te Wai link.

3. Urban Form & Development

SD-UF-O2 Efficient, well-serviced growth pattern — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* MPZ-O4 requires coordinated development; RDIS triggers for infrastructure sufficiency satisfy this objective.

SD-UF-P3 Recognise and enable papakāinga within urban and rural settings — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - Permitted papakāinga under MPZ-P1 directly implements policy.

SD-UF-P6 Consolidate growth within nodes; avoid isolated sprawl — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ parcels are pre-existing Māori blocks. Coverage limits and infrastructure tests lower risk of sporadic sprawl. FDS remains primary tool; PC 47 does not conflict.

Non-relevant: Policies on industrial land supply, commercial centres hierarchy – MPZ enables only small-scale business tied to resident whānau.

PC 47 aligns with urban form goals; no conflicts.

4. Climate Change

SD-CC-O1 Communities are resilient to climate impacts — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - hazard avoidance embedded in standards.

SD-CC-P2 Avoid locating new development in high-hazard areas — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-P4 requires natural-hazard assessment; district-wide hazard overlays prevail. Note that land with hazard coverage can be zoned as it is not anticipated (for Rural MPZ) that the whole block will be developed and hazards can be considered through the consent process.

SD-CC-P4 Promote low-emission transport and energy — *NEUTRAL / NOT APPLICABLE* - MPZ supports live-work outcomes but lacks explicit renewable-energy policy

PC 47 generally consistent; could explicitly mention onsite renewables to strengthen alignment.

5. National & Local Infrastructure

SD-INF-O1 Protect effective operation of significant infrastructure — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-P4 lists compatibility with infrastructure as consent matter; National Grid yard setbacks unaffected.

SD-INF-P3 Manage reverse-sensitivity from new sensitive activities — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - Sensitive activities within MPZ (dwellings, kura) are subject to infrastructure compatibility test.

Non-relevant: Policies on airport noise contours apply only near Taupō Airport – none of the proposed MPZ sites intersect the contour.

6. Natural Environment Values

SD-NE-O1 Significant indigenous vegetation and habitats are protected — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ does not override SNA/ONL overlays; any clearance triggers district-wide rules.

SD-NE-P3 Promote restoration and enhancement — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - MPZ-P7 provides explicit encouragement, enabling iwi-led biodiversity projects.

SD-NE-P5 Maintain natural landscape values — *CONSISTENT / IMPLEMENTED* - ONL rules remain; MPZ coverage/height standards help maintain landscape integrity.

Finding: PC 47 consistent and in places gives effect by adding proactive enhancement policy.

Overall Conclusion

The assessment demonstrates that Plan Change 47 is either implementing or compatible with all Strategic Direction objectives and policies relevant to Māori land development.

Appendix 2. Policy Cascade

Objective	Policies	Methods
MPZ-O1 Māori Purpose Zones recognise the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions and ancestral lands by providing for activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including social, cultural and economic development, and allows whānau to better establish and maintain an ongoing relationship with their ancestral lands.	MPZ-P1 Provide for activities that meet Māori cultural needs. MPZ-P2 Recognise and provide for the role, character and function of different Māori Purpose Zones.	MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (1) MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (2) MPZ -R2 – RDIS activities (1) MPZ-R3 - Standards
MPZ-O2 Activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs can take place within Māori Purpose Zones in a manner that maintains and promotes the spiritual, cultural, social, economic and environmental interests and associations of tangata whenua with their ancestral lands.	MPZ-P1 Provide for activities that meet Māori cultural needs. MPZ-P2 Recognise and provide for the role, character and function of different Māori Purpose Zones. MPZ-P3 Manage the scale, type and intensity of activities within a MPZ. MPZ-P4 Manage activities that are potentially compatible with the purpose, function and predominant character of the MPZ. MPZ-P6 Subdivision of MPZ will not alienate Māori from their customary lands. MPZ-P7 Recognise and provide for those activities in MPZ which will result in an enhancement of the natural environment.	MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (1) MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (2) MPZ -R2 – RDIS activities (1) MPZ-R3 - Standards
MPZ-O3 Tangata whenua can exercise their responsibilities as mana whenua in the Māori Purpose Zone to: 1. exercise their rights of kaitiakitanga, self-determination over their	MPZ-P1 Provide for activities that meet Māori cultural needs. MPZ-P3 Manage the scale, type and intensity of activities within a MPZ.	MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (1) MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (2) MPZ -R2 – RDIS activities (1)

Objective	Policies	Methods
ancestral lands, water, sites and wāhi tapu; 2. provide a safe, nurturing environment for ngā uri (descendants), whānau (family), hapū (extended family), iwi me ngā manuhiri (tribe and visitors); 3. ensure the protection, maintenance and promotion of ngā taonga tuku iho (treasures); and 4. avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of activities.	MPZ-P4 Manage activities that are potentially compatible with the purpose, function and predominant character of the MPZ. MPZ-P5 Avoid land use and development which is incompatible with the purpose, function and character of the MPZ. MPZ-P7 Recognise and provide for those activities in MPZ which will result in an enhancement of the natural environment.	
PZ-O4 Māori purpose activities and the comprehensive, coordinated and efficient development of ancestral land is enabled in the Māori Purpose Zone, whilst ensuring actual or potential adverse effects of activities are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	MPZ-P1 Provide for activities that meet Māori cultural needs. MPZ-P2 Recognise and provide for the role, character and function of different Māori Purpose Zones. MPZ-P3 Manage the scale, type and intensity of activities within a MPZ. MPZ-P4 Manage activities that are potentially compatible with the purpose, function and predominant character of the MPZ. MPZ-P5 Avoid land use and development which is incompatible with the purpose, function and character of the MPZ. MPZ-P6 Subdivision of MPZ will not alienate Māori from their customary lands.	MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (1) MPZ-R1 – PER Activities (2) MPZ -R2 – RDIS activities (1) MPZ-R3 - Standards

Appendix 3. MPZ Engagement Documents

Māori Purpose Zone (MPZ)

The Taupō District Council (TDC) is currently in the process of reviewing and revising the Taupō District Plan (District Plan) to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. The District Plan serves as a rule book that governs development, activities, and environmental management within the Taupō District.

As part of the review process, TDC is considering introducing Māori Purpose Zones (MPZ) into the District Plan.

What are Māori Purpose Zones?

Māori Purpose Zones (MPZ) are defined in the National Planning Standards as:

Areas used predominantly for a range of activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including but not limited to residential and commercial activities.

The intent of MPZ is to recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture and traditions. MPZ seek to enable settlement patterns, activities and development in accordance with kaupapa Māori and tikanga.

MPZ would provide for various activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including but not limited to marae, residential, and commercial activities.

MPZ acknowledge existing land development while facilitating the introduction of various new land uses. This strategy aims to provide greater certainty regarding the utilisation and development of Māori land.

The details of the MPZ have yet to be determined. It is anticipated that they will be developed in a collaborative manner with iwi.

Our initial thoughts on some of the details that could be included are as follows:

- *MPZ would introduce a new zone to the District Plan with its own set of Objectives, Policies, and Rules.*
- *MPZ could be located within rural and urban parts of the District.*
- *MPZ would only be located on Māori land within the meaning of Section 129 (1) (a, b or c) of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Land Act 1993.*
- *A schedule could be used to identify distinct features of each whenua so we are not using a one size fits all approach.*

How can I be part of this process?

If you have land that you think should be a Māori Purpose Zone, and/or would like to be involved in the development of this plan change, please get in touch with Rowan Sapsford (on behalf of Taupō District Council):

PH: 021 744 957

Email:
rowan@roamconsulting.co.nz

How will MPZ be identified?

Taupō District Council (TDC) is working together with iwi and iwi entities to identify suitable whenua that could be zoned as MPZ. It is important to note that land will only be zoned as MPZ if the landowners support that decision. TDC is currently inviting landowners to express their interest in having their land considered for MPZ zoning.

Changing the zoning of land in the Taupō District Plan (TDP) requires a formal plan change process. This process allows for public input, where individuals can submit in support or opposition on all or any part of the proposed plan change. Submissions are reviewed by an independent hearing panel.

How do MPZ work with Papakāinga Provisions in the Taupō District Plan?

The TDP currently includes policies and rules that promote the development of Papakāinga on rural Māori land. These rules have recently been updated as part of Plan Change 42 to make them more enabling. Similar changes to the residential rules are also planned.

In many cases, Papakāinga rules may provide similar results to the MPZ. This will depend, however, on the final design of the MPZ provisions and also the landowners' aspirations for their whenua. It is anticipated that the MPZ will also support the development of Papakāinga on Māori land designated as MPZ.

What are the timeframes for this process?

Taupō District Council has identified the following timeframe for the MPZ plan change process:

1. **January to May 2024** – TDC meets with iwi, trusts etc to identify potential whenua that could be designated as MPZ.
2. **March to April 2024** – An iwi working group is developed to support and guide the development of the MPZ Plan Change.
3. **Mid 2024** – potential MPZ are reviewed and draft District Plan provisions are developed with the working group.
4. **Mid to late 2024** – Draft provisions are tested with landowners and the wider community.
5. **Late 2024** – Draft provisions are finalised into a proposed plan change which is ready for public notification.
6. **End of 2024** – MPZ plan change is notified for public consultation.

Māori Purpose Zone (MPZ)

As part of the review of the Taupō District Plan (TDP), Taupō District Council is considering introducing Māori Purpose Zones (MPZ) to support the development of Māori land by tangata whenua.

This discussion paper sets out Taupō District Council (TDC) staff's initial thinking on what a Māori Purpose Zone (MPZ) in the Taupō District Plan could look like. TDC is interested in your feedback.

TDC started engagement on Māori Purpose Zones with mana whenua in late 2023. During these initial discussions, a number of parties asked what benefits there would be in having their whenua zoned as MPZ. To respond to these queries, an initial/example MPZ policy has been developed to better focus discussion on the development of a MPZ in the Taupō District.

This initial policy is not adopted Council policy and will be subject to change based on feedback and discussion with iwi, hapu, and Māori landowners.

The initial framework has been developed with guidance from the following:

- The results of initial engagement with iwi, hapu, Māori landowners and trusts.
- Direction in the National Planning Standards on MPZ as: *Areas used predominantly for a range of activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs including but not limited to residential and commercial activities.*
- The direction in the Proposed Strategic Direction Chapter of the TDP, specifically supporting development of Māori land to meet the needs of landowners.
- The existing and proposed rural and residential provisions in the Taupō District Plan.

Māori Purpose Zone Principles

The following principles have been identified to inform the development of the initial framework:

- Māori land will **only** be zoned as MPZ if the owners choose for it to be through this process.
- The focus of MPZ will be on enabling use and development of māori land.
- MPZ will still be subject to wider rules such as natural hazards.
- A different approach will be taken according to whether the whenua is in a rural or residential setting to reflect the surrounding infrastructure and wider setting.
- MPZ will include specific recognition of marae and will provide for their development and ongoing use and expansion.
- Provide for traditional land uses in a mixed use environment that supports residential, community and commercial uses of land.
- Use site specific standards to recognise the unique qualities of a site.

***Do these principles sound right?
Is there anything else that needs to be considered?***

Initial Rule Framework

Similar to the wider Taupō District Plan, there will be a set of rules that govern activities and use of a zoned site. Some of these will be reliant on a set of effects based performance standards.

The preliminary thinking around these rules is as follows:

- MPZ, in contrast to Rural or Residential zones, will have an underlying objective of enabling the development of Māori.
- be Land Use Activities that meet MPZ performance standards and rules and District Wide Rules are **permitted** – no resource consent required.
- Development and operation of **Marae** and associated structures will generally be **permitted**.
- Activities that do not meet MPZ performance standards are **restricted discretionary**, whereby resource consent is required but consideration will only be given to matters of non-compliance.
- **Industrial and retail activities are non-complying** activities. Resource consent will be required for these activities but is not anticipated to be granted. These activities have been identified as not consistent with the intent of MPZ.
- **Subdivision will be restricted discretionary** with new lots expected to stay in Māori ownership and in ongoing traditional use.
- **Resource consents will not be notified** so there will not be any third party (neighbouring) input or consultation on any MPZ consent applications.
- There will be two sets of standards for MPZ; one applying to those within rural areas (MPZ 1) and one for those within residential areas (MPZ 2).

In addition to the rules and standards for Māori Purpose Zones, all district wide rules will also apply to Māori Purpose Zones. These include rules relating to Foreshore Protection, Natural Hazards, Contaminated Sites, Parking, etc. The impact of these rules will depend on the location of the site and the activities proposed.

Rules in regional plans will also apply, such as onsite wastewater discharge rules.

***What are your thoughts on this approach?
Do these initial rules sound about right?
Should there be two sets of standards or one for all MPZ?***

Māori Purpose Zone | Taupō District Plan: Comparison of Rules

The following tables set out the suggested performance standards for Māori Purpose Zones and compare each standard against the relevant existing Taupō District Plan provisions. The green boxes indicate the more permissive standard.

MPZ 1 - Rural Setting

Land Use / Activity	MPZ Standards (initial)	Current Rural Standards
Papakāinga	Permitted	Permitted. Lower development thresholds.
Minor dwellings	No limit	One minor dwelling per main dwelling.
Maximum density of dwellings	No maximum, however more than 15 dwellings on a site will require geotechnical assessments.	One dwelling per 10ha.
Maximum building size	No limit	5,000m ²
Marae and associated structures (wharenuī, wharekai, wharepaku, etc) and use	Permitted	No specific recognition, with structures governed by wider standards such as coverage.
Maximum building coverage	15% of the site or Marae + 15% where a Marae is present on site. Exception* - Marae buildings.	10% of the site.
Maximum building height	15m	15m
Minimum building setbacks	15m from all boundaries	30m from front boundary and 15m from all other boundaries.
Daily maximum vehicle movements	200, or 24 per dwelling, whichever is higher. Exception - Marae.	200 equivalent vehicle movements.
Commercial activities, home business and community uses (includes education, spiritual and health facilities)	10% of site area for indoor and 10% of site area for outdoor.	Maximum of 100m ² for indoor or 100m ² for outdoor.
Industrial or retail activities	Non Complying	Maximum of 100m ² for indoor or 100m ² for outdoor.
Subdivision	Restricted Discretionary, provided the ownership is Māori land and uses are in line with the zoning.	10ha or larger are controlled. Less than 10ha are non-complying.

* An exception means this standard would not apply to the identified activity, i.e. there is no maximum building coverage for a Marae.

MPZ 2 - Residential Setting

Land Use / Activity	MPZ Standards (initial)	Current Residential Standards*
Papakāinga	Permitted	No recognition with structures governed by wider standards.
Marae and associated structures (wharenui and wharekai, etc) and use	Permitted	No specific recognition, structures governed by standards such as coverage.
Maximum site coverage	55%, or Marae + 35% of site where a Marae is present on site. Exception - Marae buildings.	35%
Maximum total coverage	75% or Marae + 50% of site where a Marae is present on site. Exception - Marae buildings.	50%
Maximum building height	8m Exceptions to allow Pou etc etc.	8m
Daily vehicle movements	150, or 24 per dwelling, whichever is higher. Exception - Marae.	24 equivalent vehicle movements.
Setbacks	5m from front boundary and 1.5m from all other boundaries.	5m from front boundary and 1.5m from all other boundaries.
Commercial activities, home business and community uses (includes education, spiritual and health facilities)	The maximum gross area of this use shall not exceed 100m ² (indoor and outdoor) or 15% of the site, whichever is the larger. Exceptions - Marae.	The maximum gross floor area of buildings shall not exceed 50m ² and the number of vehicle trips per site shall not exceed 100 maximum.
Industrial or retail activities	None	None
Subdivision	Restricted Discretionary, provided the ownership is Māori land and uses are in line with the zoning.	Controlled Activity

* The current residential standards are under review and are likely to change, including the addition of rules providing for Papakāinga.

What do you think about these initial standards?

How would they work in practice for your whenua and any developments you may be thinking about?

Do we have the mixed use approach about right?

SCENARIOS

The following scenarios have been developed to support an understanding of how these initial provisions could work in practice. In all scenarios, all sites are in Māori ownership and would comply with the tenure requirements for a MPZ.

SCENARIO 1: Marae Upgrade

The trust for a rurally located marae is proposing to upgrade their whare kai to be able to accommodate more manuhiri. The area of the buildings that make up the existing marae complex is 1,200 m² and they are situated on a 3,000 m² site. The proposed upgrade would see the marae complex increase to an area of 1,300 m².

Under the rural rules, the proposed upgrade would not comply with the 10% building coverage standard and would therefore require a Discretionary Activity resource consent. Under the initial MPZ-1 provisions, the proposed marae upgrade would be a permitted activity and no resource consent would be required.

SCENARIO 2: Papakāinga

A whanau is wanting to build a papakāinga on their currently undeveloped rural land. The area of their whenua is 2 Ha (20,000 m²) and they would like to build six whare, a communal building and two utility buildings which would have a total area of 1,850 m².

The proposed papakāinga would be permitted under both the initial MPZ-1 rules and the TDP Rural Rules, meaning no resource consent is required. If, however, an additional whare was proposed to be built at a later stage, the initial MPZ-1 rules would not require a resource consent, but if the site was zoned Rural a Restricted Discretionary consent would be required.

SCENARIO 3: Kura

The owners of a residential site with three 150 m² dwellings on it are proposing to develop an 80 m² kura on the site. The proposed development would increase the building coverage on the site to 44%.

Under the current TDC residential rules, the kura would be permitted as it is less than 550m², but because the site would not meet coverage rules and would most likely exceed permitted vehicle movements, it would require a Discretionary Activity resource consent that is likely to be notified if neighbours have not provided written approvals. Under the initial MPZ-2 rules, the development would meet the coverage rules and also the community use standards. It is also more likely to meet the vehicle movement standards and be a permitted activity. If it does not meet the vehicle movement standards it will be a Restricted Discretionary activity with no requirement for neighbour consent.

SCENARIO 4: Kaumātua Housing

Six 80m² kaumātua units are proposed to be developed on a partially developed piece of rural land. The site is 2.2 Ha (22,000 m²) in size and has an assortment of existing dwellings and utility buildings on site with a combined area of 1,800 m² (10.4% of site).

Under the current rural rules, the kaumātua housing and existing dwellings could be considered as a papakāinga development so that it would not be subject to the rules restricting the maximum number of dwellings on site. However, as the proposed building coverage would be over 10%, a Restricted Discretionary consent would be required. The proposed kaumātua housing would be a Permitted activity under the initial MPZ-1 rules as more than one dwelling is permitted on a site and there is a maximum building coverage of 15%.

Note that Scenarios 2 and 4 would likely also require a resource consent from the Regional Council for wastewater discharges.

Feedback

TDC would like to hear from Iwi, hapū, Māori landowners, trusts, etc within the district about MPZ. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or have land that you think should be a Māori Purpose Zone, please get in touch with Rowan Sapsford (on behalf of Taupō District Council).

Ph: 021 744 957

Email: rowan@roamconsulting.co.nz

Please get in touch before 1 November 2024.

What are the timeframes for this process?

Taupō District Council has identified the following timeframes for the MPZ plan change process:

January to June 2024 – TDC meets with iwi, trusts, etc to identify potential whenua that could be designated as MPZ.

May to June 2024 – An iwi working group is developed to support and guide the development of the MPZ Plan Change.

Mid 2024 – Potential MPZ are reviewed and draft District Plan provisions are developed.

Late 2024 – Draft provisions are tested with landowners and the wider community.

End 2024 – Draft provisions are finalised into a proposed plan change that is ready for public notification.

Early 2025 – MPZ plan change is notified for public consultation and the formal plan change process starts.

Please note, these timeframes are indicative only. MPZ can only be introduced into the District Plan via a formal plan change process which do not happen often so please get in touch if interested.

Māori Purpose Zone (MPZ)

As part of the review of the Taupō District Plan, Taupō District Council is introducing Māori Purpose Zones (MPZ) to support the development of Māori land by Māori owners.

This is your opportunity to shape the MPZ and ensure it works for you and your whānau. Contact us today to provide feedback on the draft plan change or learn more about how your land could benefit from this new zoning.

The Taupō District Council (TDC) is currently in the process of reviewing and revising the Taupō District Plan (District Plan) to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. The District Plan serves as a rule book that governs development, activities, and environmental management within the Taupō District.

As part of the review process, TDC will be introducing Maori Purpose Zones into the District Plan.

TDC is now seeking feedback on the draft Objectives, Policies and Rules for this zone.

TDC are also wanting to hear from those whānau who would like their land to be zoned as MPZ in the District Plan.

What are Māori Purpose Zones?

The intent of Māori Purpose Zones (MPZ) is to recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori with their culture and traditions. MPZ is a proposed District Plan zone that supports the use and development of Māori land in alignment with cultural, social, and economic needs. MPZ recognise the unique relationship Māori have with their ancestral lands and aim to empower landowners to develop their whenua in a way that reflects kaupapa Māori and tikanga.

Māori Purpose Zones better enable activities such as:

- Papakāinga (communal housing)
- Marae upgrades and associated facilities
- Kaumātua housing
- Small-scale commercial and agricultural ventures
- Cultural, educational and community activities

Consultation and Feedback

For the past 18 months, Taupō District Council (TDC) has been talking to iwi, hapu and Māori landowners about MPZ. Feedback has been sought on the types of activities that should occur in this zone. Landowners have also been asked whether they would like their lands zoned as MPZ in the upcoming plan change.

TDC has now drafted the MPZ Plan Change (Plan Change 47) and are seeking feedback on this. TDC would also like to hear from those who are interested in having their land zoned as a MPZ by **02 May 2025**. The full plan change document can be viewed on the Taupō District Council website.

The following principles have been used to inform the development of Plan Change 47:

- Māori land will only be zoned as MPZ if the owners choose for it to be zoned through this process.
- The focus of MPZ will be on enabling use and development of the land.
- MPZ will still be subject to district wide rules such as natural hazard rules.
- A different approach will be taken depending on whether the whenua is in a rural or residential setting, to reflect the context and infrastructure of that setting.
- MPZ will include specific recognition of marae and will support their development, ongoing use and expansion.
- MPZ will have a focus on enabling traditional land uses and provide for a mixed use supporting residential, community and commercial uses of land.

What Does the Draft Māori Purpose Zone Plan Change Include?

The MPZ plan change introduces objectives, policies and rules to support the development of Māori land (zoned as MPZ) in both rural and urban areas. The aim of the provisions is to provide more flexibility for the development of Māori land than the existing Rural or Residential Zones.

The thinking behind these provisions is as follows:

- Land Use Activities that meet MPZ performance standards and rules and District Wide Rules are permitted – no resource consent will be required from TDC.
- Development, expansion and operation of Marae and associated structures will generally be permitted.
- Activities that do not meet MPZ performance standards are restricted discretionary, whereby resource consent is required but consideration will only be given to specified matters.
- Subdivision will be restricted discretionary with new lots expected to stay in Māori ownership and in ongoing traditional use.
- Resource consents will not be notified so there will not be any third party (neighbouring) input or consultation on any MPZ resource consent applications.
- Standards such as coverage and setback will apply to the zone as a whole, and not to separate lots within it which is the case for the wider district. This means greater development opportunities.

Standards for Development

The draft Māori Purpose Zone Plan includes specific rules and standards to guide development. Key standards include:

Building Coverage:

- MPZ-Rural: Maximum of 15% coverage of the total zone area
- MPZ-Urban: Up to 55% of the zone area can be covered

Additional flexibility will be applied for marae buildings.

Building Height:

- MPZ-Rural: Maximum height of 12m
- MPZ-Urban: Maximum height of 8m, with exceptions for pouwhenua

Setbacks:

- MPZ-Rural: 15m setback from zone boundaries
- MPZ-Urban: 1.5m setback from zone boundaries

Dwellings:

- MPZ-Rural: 15 dwellings are permitted with restricted discretionary resource consent required for more
- MPZ- Urban: no limit

Business and Community Activities:

- MPZ-Rural: 15% of the total area of that zone for indoor and 15% of that zone for outdoor
- MPZ- Urban: Community, Commercial and Home Business activities shall not exceed 100m² (indoor and outdoor) or 15% of the total area of that zone, whichever is the larger

Subdivision:

- Land can be subdivided but must remain in Māori ownership to maintain cultural and ancestral connections.

There is also an opportunity for each MPZ to have specific standards that better reflect the nature of that specific zone and the owner's aspirations. In addition to the MPZ rules and standards, all district wide rules will apply to Māori Purpose Zones including Foreshore Protection, Natural Hazard, Noise, etc. The impact of these rules will depend on the location of the site and the activities proposed.

Rules in regional plans will also apply in rural areas, such as onsite wastewater discharge rules where multiple dwellings are proposed.



SCENARIOS

The following scenarios have been developed to support an understanding of how these MPZ provisions could work in practice. In all scenarios, all sites are in Māori ownership and would comply with the tenure requirements for a MPZ.

SCENARIO 1: Marae Upgrade

The trust of a rurally located Marae is proposing to upgrade their whare kai to accommodate more manuhiri. The area of the buildings that make up the existing marae complex is 1,200 m² and they are situated on a 3,000 m² site. The proposed upgrade would see the marae complex increase to an area of 1,300 m².

Under the rural rules, the proposed upgrade would not comply with the 10% building coverage standard and would therefore require a Discretionary Activity resource consent. Under the initial MPZ-1 provisions, the proposed marae upgrade would be a **permitted activity** and no resource consent would be required. If the MPZ for the Marae included multiple lots then the permitted development rights will be increased further.

SCENARIO 2: Papakāinga

A whanau is wanting to build a papakāinga on their currently undeveloped rural land. The area of their whenua is 2 Ha (20,000 m²) and they would like to build six whare, a communal building and two utility buildings which would have a total area of 1,850 m². A couple of whanau members also want to operate businesses and the whanau wants to sell produce from their mara kai on a separate part of the site.

The proposed papakāinga would be permitted under both the initial MPZ-1 rules and the TDP Rural Rules, meaning no resource consent is required. If, however, an additional whare was proposed to be built at a later stage, the initial MPZ-1 rules would mean that it would still be a **permitted activity** (not require a resource consent). If the site was zoned Rural, a Restricted Discretionary consent would be required. Up to 3,000m² of the site could be used for business activities on a permitted basis, whereas only 100m² is permitted if the site is zoned Rural.

SCENARIO 3: Kura

The owners of a residential site with three 150 m² dwellings on it are proposing to develop an 80 m² kura on the site. The proposed development would increase the building coverage on the site to 44%.

Under the current TDC residential rules, the kura would be permitted as it is less than 550m², but because the site would not meet coverage rules and would most likely exceed permitted vehicle movements, it would require a Discretionary Activity resource consent that is likely to be notified if neighbours have not provided written approvals.

Under the draft MPZ-2 rules, the development would meet the coverage rules and also the community use standards. It is also more likely to meet the vehicle movement standards and be a **permitted activity**. If it does not meet the vehicle movement standards it will be a Restricted Discretionary activity with no requirement for neighbour consent.

Why is Your Feedback Important?

Why does your input matter?

The Taupō District Council is committed to ensuring the MPZ provisions are developed with input from mana whenua and reflect the aspirations and needs of Māori landowners. Your feedback will help shape the plan change to ensure it aligns with your needs and vision for your land.

Key questions for feedback:

- Do the proposed rules and standards work for your whenua? If not, what needs to change?
- Are there other activities or uses you would like included in the MPZ?
- Do you want your land considered for MPZ zoning?

Your feedback will help:

- Finalise the MPZ Plan Change (including rules and standards) for notification
- Identify land in the Taupō District suitable for MPZ zoning
- Ensure the MPZ provisions reflect the needs of Māori landowners in the Taupō District.

Timeframes and Process

Timeline and Process:

- January – 2 May 2025: Pre-notification engagement and feedback period
- May 2025: Council reviews feedback and finalises the MPZ provisions
- June 2025: Formal plan change notification and submission process begins.

Ways to Participate:

- Get in touch with us before 02 May 2025 through the contacts below.
- Visit the Council's website to read the full Plan Change and share your thoughts and suggestions at <https://www.taupodc.govt.nz/property-and-rates/district-plan>
- Express Interest in MPZ Zoning - let us know if you'd like your land included in the MPZ.

Contact Us:

For more information or to provide feedback:

Rowan Sapsford (on behalf of Taupō District Council)

Phone: 021 744 957

Email: rowan@roamconsulting.co.nz

Full Plan Change 47 Document:

The full draft MPZ Plan Change document, including detailed standards and rules, is available on the Taupō District Council website at <https://www.taupodc.govt.nz/property-and-rates/district-plan>

This is your opportunity to shape the Māori Purpose Zone and ensure it works for you and your whānau. Contact us today to provide feedback or learn more about how you could benefit from this zoning.



Date: 30 April 2024
To: Hilary Samuel, Taupō District Council
From: Rowan Sapsford, ROAM Consulting
Subject: Māori Purpose Zones – Assessment of other District Plans

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to set out a summary and associated discussion on the approach taken by other local authorities in using Māori Purpose Zones in their District Plans. The assessment has been requested by Ngāti Turangatukua and other hapū. There was also a request to understand how MPZ had been received in other Districts based on the type of public feedback received.

Assessment

Attached to this memo is a table that summarises the key aspects of MPZ from eight District Plans throughout the Country. The table includes the following for each plan considered:

- The definition or description of the MPZ
- The number or types of zones used
- Objectives
- Rule framework
- Notes and a review of the nature of the submissions if possible.

In undertaking the assessment, key matters that were looked at were the nature and types of permitted activities, the consideration of the surrounding environment both from an effects but also amenity perspective. All of the plans considered were second generation plans that were structured as per the National Planning Standards. The assessment was undertaken conscious of the approach taken by the Taupō District Plan (TDP) specifically the Rural Environment provisions being introduced through PC42, as they represent the new approach likely to be seen in the wider plan. As to be expected, while the format for the MPZ chapters was consistent, the types of activities regulated varied widely. This reflects the rule framework of the wider plan and those activities considered to be of importance to that District. There were a wide number of activities which are permitted under the TDP but not specifically listed, such as urupa or recreation activities. For efficiency sake, the focus of the assessment was on the MPZ chapters and not the wider plans within which they sit. The default activity status for some plans varies between discretionary or non-complying while the TDP has a default of permitted (within the Rural Environment). This also will inform the nature of activities specified in a plan.



Observations

The intent of the MPZ throughout the plan was fairly standard. All had a general desire to provide for māori to develop their ancestral lands and undertake traditional activities on those lands. For most plans this intent was reflected in the objectives that guided the MPZ chapter. A number of plans do have reference to surrounding land uses with a stated desire to ensure that activities on MPZ will not affect neighbouring properties or surrounding activities.

Most have a single zone that was applied throughout the district. A number of plans did have types of MPZ or differentiated whether they were in a rural (or unserved) or urban setting. The Matamata plan used precincts for rural vs urban MPZ.

The extent of most MPZ were on specific parcels of land under the same ownership. The west coast included non-māori land within their MPZ but these were excluded from the MPZ rules and defaulted to the surrounding rural zone. This approach did get an adverse response from submitters, especially those non māori landowners (and some māori landowners) within the zone. The West Coast approach was more akin to identifying broad areas as MPZ rather than the spot zoning approach favoured by most.

The nature and type of activities varied amongst the plans, as noted above, these generally reflected the wider plan.

Most MPZ chapters were developed as standalone chapters that sought to manage all potential activities within the zone. Some did include reference or defer to other chapters in an effort to be more efficient in their contents.

A number of plans identified māori customary activities which were permitted within a MPZ. The list of activities generally included the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| a. whare (household unit); | j. community facilities; |
| b. Papakāinga | k. kōhanga reo (preschool); |
| c. home businesses; | l. kura kaupapa (education activity and facilities); |
| d. marae complexes; | m. whare hauora (health care facilities); |
| e. manuhiri noho; | n. Māori cultural activities, including art and wānanga, |
| f. Whare taonga; | o. Hākinakina (recreation activities and facilities, excluding commercial recreation and motorised sports), |
| g. urupā; | |
| h. pouwhenua; | |
| i. mahinga kai; | |

In most cases these activities were permitted but were also subject to bulk and location standards that reflected the environment where MPZ were located. Some plans included a threshold on the number of Kainga allowed on site.

Most plans anticipated mixed use of MPZ with specific reference to residential, community small business and education activities

The standards applied to these permitted activities varied, with some having quite low thresholds which would require either RDA or DA consent for land uses or activities which are not likely to lead to more than minor effects – i.e. home based education with more than four students.

Those plans which had objectives that considered effects on neighbours often had more restrictive controls on permitted activities.

Two plans included reference to iwi management plans or iwi endorsed master plans where activities consistent with those plans were permitted. Standards and wider plan rules still applied over and above these plans however.

There were no rules within any MPZ chapter that specified whether any consents would be notified or not.

In respect to the public feedback on MPZ's submissions on are either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests, i.e. recognition of state highways etc. Of all the plans reviewed there was only a handful of submissions in opposition for reasons associated with race etc.

Overall, it is my view that the application of MPZ's in the plans reviewed will remove some consenting requirements for activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs. The ability to which they ease process does vary and does relate to the context of the wider plan in question.

Taupō District Plan

This assessment gives us useful insight into how MPZ are applied within the wider country. Of particular use is the identification of the types of activities which are identified by other plans which should be reasonably anticipated to occur within a MPZ. To take this assessment a step further I have considered these activities generally against the current TDP rules and standards which are likely to apply, namely the current Residential Environment and Proposed Rural Environment¹ provisions. I consider this to be a useful exercise as it provides an indication on how the TDP without MPZ considers these activities.

The following table provides a brief summary of how various māori cultural activities would be considered by the TDP.

Activity	Plan Change 42 – General Rural	Residential Environment
Whare	A single whare in an allotment is Permitted provided that it meets all relevant standards (i.e. bulk and location). One minor dwelling is also permitted. Natural hazard and wider rules will also apply.	Whare are permitted activities provided that they meet all relevant standards. There is no limit to the number of dwellings permitted on site however standards such as vehicle movements and coverage will manage the level of development on site.

¹ As anticipated to be revised through PC42.

Activity	Plan Change 42 – General Rural	Residential Environment
Papakāinga	Permitted with conditions and non-notified. Provides for mixed use outcomes as either permitted or RDA.	As with whare, these can occur on site provided they meet with wider standards. Could be non-complying if it breaches multiple bulk and location standards.
Home Business	Permitted if it complies with the standards otherwise RDA. Can be done as part of a Papakāinga application too.	Permitted if small scale (i.e. no more than 50m ² and 2 FTE) otherwise discretionary. Multiple home business on the same site would be discretionary.
Marae Complexes	Marae are not identified as a specific activity however new marae and alterations to existing would be permitted provided it meets the bulk and location requirements for the site. These include max floor area of 5,000m ² or building coverage of up to 10%. Setbacks etc may not allow for buildings close to boundaries such as waharoa etc.	Marae are not identified as a specific activity but due to the degree of development on site, they would most probably require a resource consent due to bulk and location controls.
Manuhiri noho	Permitted if it complies with the standards otherwise RDA. Can be done as part of a Papakāinga application too.	Permitted if small scale (i.e. no more than 50m ² and 2 FTE) otherwise discretionary. Multiple home business on the same site would be discretionary.
Whare Taonga	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures.
Urupa	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures and vehicle movements.
Pouwhenua	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures – namely height and setbacks.	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures – namely height and setbacks.
Mahinga Kai	Permitted	Permitted
Community Facilities	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures	Permitted provided it complies with bulk and location standards for structures and vehicle movements.

Activity	Plan Change 42 – General Rural	Residential Environment
Kohanga and Kura	Permitted if it complies with the standards otherwise RDA. Can be done as part of a Papakāinga application too.	Permitted provided that it complies with specific standards including floor area, vehicle movements and hours of operation and landscaping etc.
Whare Haora	Permitted if it complies with the standards otherwise RDA. Can be done as part of a Papakāinga application too.	Permitted provided that it complies with specific standards including floor area, vehicle movements and hours of operation and landscaping etc.
Māori cultural activities	Permitted – not regulated	Permitted – not regulated
Hakinakina	Permitted – not regulated	Permitted – not regulated

The majority of māori cultural activities can be developed within the Taupō District on a permitted basis provided they meet the relevant performance standards. Activities are more likely to be permitted if they are small scale discrete activities. If there is a number of activities proposed on a site (i.e. kainga, kura and community) a resource consent will be a likely requirement. Within the Rural Environment the Papakāinga provisions will however permit multi use papakāinga development which can include a range of land use activities on one site.

Māori Purpose Zones Comparison Table

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
Matamata Piako – Draft				
(Precinct 1) have Māori Freehold status under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. Include existing marae, and directly adjoining land that has the potential to be developed for papakāinga. Sites generally located within rural areas, where infrastructure and services are limited. (Precinct 2) have existing papakāinga. These sites are connected to Council services and can therefore provide for further housing.	Precinct 1 and Precinct 2	1. Enable Māori to maintain and enhance their traditional and cultural relationship with their ancestral land and enhance their social, economic and cultural wellbeing. 2. Enable settlement patterns, activities and development in accordance with kaupapa Māori and tikanga. 3. Manage adverse effects of buildings, structures and activities on the amenity values, character and quality of the surrounding environment.	Precinct 1: Permitted activities: • Demolition and alteration of buildings with exceptions • Relocatable buildings • Marae and marae related activities • Up to 10 kainga per site (need papakāinga development plan) • Home business (one per site) • Community and education facilities where no greater than 150m² and are adjoining marae and papakāinga. • Earthworks less than 1000m³ • Other Rural PA. RDIS Activities where the PA does not comply with 1–2 performance standards – standards are general rural standards for setbacks and buildings etc. Discretionary activities: • Does not comply with three or more performance standards. • Does not comply with a specific condition. • More than 10 Kainga. Non-Complying activities: • Those activities not provided for in the wider rules within the MPZ. Precinct 2: Permitted activities: • One kainga per record of title • One kainga per 500m² site area (provided it is on Māori freehold land and will legally stay that way) • Relocatable buildings • Earthworks.	Strong focus on not adversely affecting neighbouring properties. Recognises specific activities, such as marae and papakāinga but has restrictions on them including wider rules in the plan. The two precincts are a useful approach for those MPZ in a rural setting (Prec 1) vs and urban one (Prec 2) by enabling a dual approach to the application of rules and standards which recognise the location and character of the location of the MPZ. Submissions in support and opposition, those in opposition concerned with rural amenity, urbanisation and reverse sensitivity issues.

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
			Restricted Discretionary activities: Does not comply with one or more performance standards where the performance standards are of an urban nature. Includes reference to complying with other rules in the plan including hazards, signage, noise, etc.	
Timaru District Plan				
The purpose of the Māori Purpose Zone is to provide for the social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing of mana whenua, and ensure a thriving and self-sustaining Māori community. The zone recognises and provides for the relationship of māori with the land. The MPZ is applied to areas of land originally granted as Native Reserve for Māori occupation or use. Has an aspiration to create an enabling planning regime to not only encourage the development and use of the existing Māori land, but to create a place for mana whenua to return to. Māori should benefit from these provisions and enjoy the additional activities that can be undertaken within the Zone. Māori Land is defined as that within the original Māori Reserves, that is: - Owned by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu or Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua; or - Māori communal land gazetted as Māori reservation under s338 Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993; or - Māori customary land and Māori freehold land as defined in s4 and s129 Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993; or	Single zone used which includes areas of non-Māori land. Note that non-Māori land parcels default to rural but are still identified as MPZ in the plan.	- The occupation of ancestral land by mana whenua is recognised and provided for within the Māori Purpose Zone. - The Māori Purpose Zone specifically provides for mana whenua needs and activities, including papakāinga, to achieve a thriving, sustainable and self-sufficient Māori community. All submissions on MPZ are either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests or the identification of additional areas of land.	Permitted activities: Has a range of permitted activities including papakāinga, visitor accommodation, primary production, home business, retail, domestic pig production, keeping of poultry, public amenity buildings and conservation activities if they meet specified size or other limits or standards. Those activities not meeting the specified standards etc will be RDA, discretionary and in a few cases Non-Complying. Discretionary activities: The following activities have been specifically identified as Discretionary Activities within MPZ – industrial and rural industrial activities, urupa and seasonal workers accommodation. Non-Complying activities: A range of activities are identified as non-complying activities including quarrying, plantation forestry, intensive primary production, effluent ponds, brothels, airstrips etc. The plan also includes a list of standards relating to setbacks, building height, outdoor storage and servicing. Papakāinga has a smaller setback (3-5m) than other structures.	The plan includes the regulation of several activities which are not regulated in the TDP. These include farming and conservation activities. The rules in the plan only apply to Māori land within MPZ. All other lands default to rural. No limit to the number of Kainga within a papakāinga, and papakāinga has a very broad definition that includes the following activities: - whare (household unit); - home businesses; <u>marae complexes</u>; <u>manuhiri noho</u>; - whare <u>taoka</u>; <u>urupā</u>; <u>pouwhenua</u>; <u>mahika kai</u>; <u>community facilities</u>; - kōhanga reo (<u>preschool</u>); - kura kaupapa (education activity and facilities); - whare hauora (<u>health care facilities</u>); - Māori <u>cultural activities</u>, including art and wānanga;

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
4. Owned by a person or persons with evidence of whakapapa connection to the land (where documentary evidence of whakapapa connection is provided from either the Māori Land Court or the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Whakapapa Unit), or 5. Is vested in a Trust of Māori Incorporation under the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. For other land within the Māori Purpose Zone the General Rural Zone provisions apply.				n. Hākinakina (<u>recreation activities and facilities</u>, excluding commercial recreation and motorised sports), and o. ahuwhehua (<u>primary production</u>). If considered next to the current rural provisions in the TDP it would be more enabling, specifically as it applies to community and education facilities. There was significant opposition to the introduction of MPZ in the plan. It appears to be from other landowners who are either within or adjacent to the proposed MPZ.
Auckland Unitary Plan				
Māori Purpose Zones are those with existing or proposed marae development or other Māori cultural institutions such as marae and papakāinga-style development to be established in specific areas of Auckland, on general or Māori land.	Single Zone	1. Recognise the continued occupation by Māori of the Auckland area over many centuries and the holistic nature of traditional Māori village settlement. 2. The unique social and cultural needs of Auckland’s Māori communities are met in both rural and urban settings including in coastal areas and outside the Rural Urban Boundary. 3. Areas are sustainably developed and used in accordance with mātauranga and tikanga Māori. 4. The quality of the local environment, including the amenity values of adjoining properties, the natural environment and local landscape values, is protected. 5. Opportunities to establish supporting economic activities of an appropriate scale are provided.	Permitted Activities: • Home occupations • Up to three dwellings per site • Care centres and community, healthcare and education facilities up to 250m² • Māori cultural activities • Marae and urupa • Markets, produce stalls and retail up to 100m² • New structures or buildings associated with Māori cultural activities and the alteration and addition to buildings. Restricted Discretionary: • More than four dwellings per site • Care centres and community, healthcare and education facilities greater than 250m² • Organised sport and recreation • Retail greater than 100m². Discretionary Activities: • Visitor accommodation • Offices • ‘Integrated Māori development’, which includes a mix of development types (marae, residential	Provides for a mixed-use environment with a base level of development permitted. Use of RDA allows for activities with a greater intensity to be considered based on the specific effects of the increased level of development. Standards relating to setbacks etc and objectives relating to neighbouring properties do recognise effects on neighbours and the wider environment. Reference to ‘Integrated Māori Development’ essentially allows for a master planning approach under a Discretionary Activity status. Includes some activities that are not regulated in the TDP such as farming and sport and recreation.

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
			and healthcare etc.) considered as a single application. Farming. Non-complying – all other activities: There is also a range of other standards relating to bulk and location etc, including specific structure exceptions for Marae and Pou haki.	
Waitomo District Plan				
The zone recognises and provides for the relationship of Māori with Māori land as defined in the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. The zone also acknowledges that the nature of multi-ownership tenure can be problematic when trying to align with the current legislation pertaining to land. To allow mana whenua to utilise land resources sustainably and to contribute to restoring customary activities on Māori whenua, the zone allows marae complexes and papakāinga as a permitted activity.	Single zone	1. Enable mana whenua to use, manage and enjoy their traditional resources and maintain their relationship with ancestral lands in accordance with tikanga Māori and matauranga Māori. 2. Support the aspirations of mana whenua to create prosperous, healthy, innovative communities that offer opportunities for growth while managing the adverse effects on the environment. 3. Ensure new development or re-development does not exceed available capacities for servicing and infrastructure and is co-ordinated with infrastructure provision. 4. Ensure the potential for reverse sensitivity effects to arise is minimised.	The following activities are permitted within MPZ: - Marae complex and up to 10 papakāinga units per each individual zone - Urupa under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 and private cemeteries under the Burial and Cremation Act 1964 - Tanks and silos - Accessory buildings ancillary to any permitted activity - Construction, additions and alteration of buildings for any permitted activity - Healthcare facilities, educational facilities, community facilities, arts and cultural centres less than 250m² in size - Boarding houses - Retail activities - Tourism activities - Home business and agricultural, pastoral and horticultural activities. All such activities are subject to a range of exceptions and performance standards. Those activities specified which are unable to meet the permitted activity rules generally default to Restricted Discretionary Activities. The following activities are specifically identified as Discretionary Activities: - More than 10 Papakāinga units per zone - Visitor accommodation and camping grounds - Retirement villages - Industrial villages - Rural industry.	Covers a range of activities, many of which are not currently regulated in the TDP. Is a consistent zone across all parts of the District and uses performance standards to manage the scale of development on a site. All submissions on MPZ are either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests.

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
			There is a set of performance standards which include minimum setbacks, height to boundary, noise insulation, servicing and building coverage (35%). The setback requirements differ depending on the adjacent zone while the coverage is standard for all MPZ.	
New Plymouth District Plan				
The purpose of the Māori Purpose Zone is: - To enable Pā/marae, papakāinga_and associated activities on land owned by tangata whenua_and to assist Māori communities to provide for their unique social, cultural, environmental and economic needs within the district. - Recognises and provides for the relationship of Māori with Māori land as defined in the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. - Also applies to some areas of land granted as Native Reserve for Māori occupation or use. - Some MPZ apply beyond Māori land or Native Reserve land, to ancestral land owned by iwi or hapū. - Enables tangata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as kaitiaki and mana whenua and to undertake activities that reflect Māori customs and values. - Pā/marae_provide an important community focal point for social gatherings and cultural activities. - Papakāinga provides another housing choice for Māori and enables tangata whenua to maintain or re-establish connections to their Māori identity, culture, whānau and whenua.	Single zone approach.	- Tangata whenua_are able to exercise their responsibilities as kaitiaki in the Māori Purpose Zone to protect, maintain and promote their spiritual, cultural, social, economic and environmental interests and associations. - Tangata whenua are able to exercise their responsibilities as mana whenua in the Māori Purpose Zone to: - provide a safe, nurturing environment for ngā uri (descendants), whānau (family), hapū (extended family), iwi me ngā manuhiri (tribe and visitors); - ensure the protection, maintenance and promotion of ngā taonga tuku iho (treasures); and - avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of activities. Māori purpose activities and the comprehensive, co-ordinated and efficient development of ancestral land is enabled in the Māori Purpose Zone, whilst ensuring actual or potential adverse effects of activities are avoided, remedied or mitigated.	The following land use activities are identified as being permitted within an MPZ: - Māori purpose activities (marae, pa, papakāinga, urupa, home business, childcare etc) - Māori cultural activities - Living activities (residential activities and units, rest homes, supported residential care and boarding houses) - General retail - Business service activities - Educational facilities - Visitor accommodation - Agricultural, pastoral, and horticultural activities - Community activities. The plan also has permitted building activities that relate to building standards (such as setbacks and heights etc). It also recognises the presence of iwi or hapū development plans. Such plans are identified as a plan developed by whanau, hapū or iwi that provides guidance to the Council when administering activities located within the Māori Purpose Zone or other areas of iwi or hapū influence. They may reflect iwi or hapū aspirations or highlight important locational resources. Building activities in accordance with such plans are permitted. Discretionary activities: - industrial activities - primary production - rural industry - commercial - supermarkets - entertainment and hospitality activities.	The approach of the plan is to allow activities which are compatible with the role, function and predominant character of the MPZ. A single zone approach is used whereby the MPZ could be within urban and rural areas. The list of permitted land use activities is quite broad (and therefore permissive) relative to other plans. All submissions on MPZ either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests.

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
Other activities that support and are compatible with Māori Purpose Activities are anticipated in this zone, such as small scale offices and general retail activities.			Building standards such as setbacks vary depending on the adjacent zone.	
Gore District Plan				
Māori Purpose Zones recognise and further enable whānau Māori within the Gore District to provide for their cultural, social, environmental, and economic wellbeing in ways that reflect their unique rights and interests as mana whenua and tangata whenua. This zone provides for a range of activities to be undertaken, such as Māori cultural hubs (including marae complexes), papakāinga, community-focused activities, and environmental and economic activities which support Māori values and aspirations. These provisions recognise that there are some activities that should be permitted across all Māori Purpose Zones (such as cultural activities), whilst other activities (such as residential activities or commercial activities) may be appropriate only in specific zones, depending on the constraints of the site.	There are four Māori Purpose Zones included in the Gore District Plan. They are: - Hokonui Rūnanga (Charlton Road, Gore) - Mataura Marae (Dorset Street, Mataura) - Te Ika Rama Marae (McKinnon Road, McNab) - Hokonui Marae (Hyde Street, Gore)	- Enable a range of social, cultural, environmental, and economic development opportunities that support the occupation, use, development, and ongoing relationship between mana whenua and tangata whenua, and both their ancestral lands and the natural environment. - Mana whenua and tangata whenua are able to exercise rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga to the fullest extent practicable within a Māori Purpose Zone. Use and development in the Māori Purpose Zone is enabled where adverse effects on the health and safety of people and the environment are avoided or mitigated.	The following activities are permitted: - Māori customary activities - Conservation activities - Marae or papatipu rūnanga complex - Emergency services - Primary production - Cluster housing - Residential activities - Community facility - Commercial activity - Visitor accommodation - Urupa. Activities that do not meet the associated standards are restricted discretionary. All other activities are discretionary activities. Performance standards such as setbacks etc are more aligned with rural than urban standards. This includes restricting permitted building coverage to 1,000m² per site. Wider district plan rules may also apply.	The provisions provide for a range of activities to occur within a MPZ. These are relative to the wider plan and establish an anticipated list of activities within the zone. Most submissions on MPZ are either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests. Those in opposition are either seeking reference to flood risk or recognition that MPZ are not the only parts of the district where cultural values and activities can occur.
West Coast Combined Plan				
The purpose of the MPZ is to enable tino rangatiratanga for Poutini Ngāi Tahu in relation to their own lands, and allow for their unique social, cultural, environmental and economic needs to be met within Te Tai o Poutini/the West Coast. A key element of the rules in the zone is the development of Iwi/Papatipu	Single zone used which includes areas of non-Māori land. Note that non-Māori land parcels are not subject to MPZ rules.	- The use and possession of ancestral land by Poutini Ngāi Tahu and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu is recognised and provided for within the MPZ - Māori Purpose Zone, within which Ngāi Tahu are able to exercise tino rangatiratanga. - The MPZ - Māori Purpose Zone specifically provides for Poutini Ngāi Tahu needs and activities, including residential, social,	The following activities are permitted within MPZ: - Māori Purpose Activities subject to bulk and location standards (max. building area is 500M² per building, 10m ht, and coverage of 40%). There is also a density standard which differs depending on whether in a serviced area or not. - Agricultural, pastoral or horticultural activities or buildings - Conservation and recreation standards	Reference to Māori Purpose Activities does provide for a permissive approach to development within MPZ. Bulk and location standards are also reasonably permissive and responsive to the wider environment. The standards are relative to the wider plan approach and include some activities which are not regulated within the TDP.

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
Rūnanga Management Plans. These plans will be developed by Poutini Ngāi Tahu and endorsed by the relevant rūnanga - Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae or Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio. In areas where their takiwa overlaps, the plan(s) will need to be endorsed by both rūnanga. These Iwi/Papatipu Rūnanga Management Plans will enable Poutini Ngāi Tahu to undertake activities on specific sites that reflect the unique identities and values of the sites, while managing the effects of the activities. Once the Iwi/Papatipu Rūnanga Management Plan is lodged with the Council, many activities become Permitted. Prior to that, the zone still provides for a wide range of Permitted Activities which enable Poutini Ngāi Tahu to use and develop the land within a cultural framework.		cultural, environmental and economic use and development to: - Provide a safe, nurturing environment for ngāuri (descendants), whānau (family), hapū (extended family), iwi me ngā manuhiri (tribe and visitors); - Ensure the whenua is managed in accordance with tikanga Māori; and - Ensure the protection and maintenance of ngā taonga tuku iho (treasures). 3. The significant coverage of identified natural environment overlays across some parts of the MPZ - Māori Purpose Zone and the contribution their values make to the wider community is recognised, and the appropriate use and development of the Zone is provided for.	- Residential activities (standards the same as Māori Purpose Activities) - Minor Structures - Fences, Walls and Retaining Walls - Relocated Buildings - Visitor Accommodation that is not in a marae complex - Community facilities - Buildings and Other Activities in Accordance with an Iwi/Papatipu Rūnanga Management Plan not provided for in another Permitted Activity Rule. Activities that do not meet the associated standards are either Restricted Discretionary or Discretionary activities. Māori Purpose Activities include: - marae/pā; - visitor accommodation for manuhiri; - papakāinga; - urupā; - wānanga; - mahinga kai; - customary activities; - pou whenua; - home business; - sale of produce, mahi toi and other products grown or manufactured on site; - arts and cultural centres; - health and medical centres; - cultural education and research facilities; - Māori cultural activities; - cultural tourism activities; - pounamu and aotea mining, processing, polishing and carving; - childcare services, kohanga reo; - events, markets and festivals; - education and kura (schools); - whare karakia (Māori church). The plan includes non-complying activities which are those not provided for in another rule in the Zone.	Most submissions on MPZ are either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests. No submissions in opposition but some seeking amendments to include additional regulations such as the protection of indigenous biodiversity.

DEFINITION	ZONINGS	OBJECTIVES	RULES	NOTES
			The MPZ are subject to additional overlays and district wide rules.	
Far North District Plan				
The Māori Purpose zone provides for the use and development of Māori land that can support the social, cultural and economic aspirations of tangata whenua. MPZ also enable a range of activities to be undertaken, such as marae, papakāinga, and economic activities that reflect Māori customs and values, while enabling tangata whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga.	Māori land is categorised into either: - Māori Purpose Zone - Urban, where the land adjoins the General Residential zone and is residential in character. - Māori Purpose zone - Rural, where the land adjoins Rural zones, is rural in character and surrounded by a working rural environment with a wide range of productive activities.	- The viability of the Māori Purpose zone is ensured for future generations. - The Māori Purpose zone enables a range of social, cultural and economic development opportunities that support the occupation, use, development and ongoing relationship with ancestral land. - Use and development in the Māori Purpose zone reflects the sustainable carrying capacity of the land and surrounding environment.	The following activities are permitted within MPZ: - New buildings or structures, and extensions or alterations to existing buildings or structures - Impermeable surfaces less than 50% of site - Farming (inoffensive) - Residential activity (except for papakāinga) on sites greater than 600m² for urban and 40ha for rural - Papakāinga on sites greater than 600m² for urban and 40ha for rural - Visitor accommodation where occupancy is no more than 6 guests per night - Marae - Community facility - Customary activity - Urupa - Home Business where it is undertaken within a residential unit - Conservation, recreation and education activities. Education activities to be undertaken in a residential unit and no more than four people in attendance. - Commercial and rural tourism activity that does not exceed 250m². In most cases, where these rules and associated standards are not met, the activity defaults to discretionary. The Plan contains a list of discretionary activities which are generally associated with industrial and quarrying activities. Non-complying activities include heavier industry activities. There is a set of associated bulk and location standards. These standards vary depending on whether the site is located within a rural or urban setting.	Reference to Māori Purpose Activities does provide for a permissive approach to development within MPZ. Bulk and location standards are also reasonably permissive and responsive to the wider environment. The standards are relative to the wider plan approach and include some activities which are not regulated within the TDP. Most submissions on MPZ are either in support or support in part seeking tweaks to the rules to reflect specific interests.

Appendix 4. Draft Provisions Consulted on in February to May 2025

MPZ – Māori Purpose Zones

The purpose of the Māori Purpose Zone is to enable a range of activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs on land owned by tangata whenua and to assist Māori communities to provide for their unique social, cultural, environmental and economic needs within the Taupō District.

This zone recognises and provides for the relationship of Māori with Māori land.

The zone enables tangata whenua to exercise their customary responsibilities as kaitiaki and mana whenua and to undertake activities that reflect Māori customs and values. Pā/marae provide an important community focal point for social gatherings and cultural activities. Papakāinga and other activities that support and are compatible with, Māori Purpose Activities are anticipated in this zone. These include small scale business activities, community and educational activities.

District-wide chapters may also contain provisions that may be relevant for activities in the Māori Purpose Zone.

Māori Purpose Zones are mapped on district planning maps and listed in MPZ – Schedule01 – Māori Purpose Zones at the end of this chapter.

MPZ - Objectives

MPZ-O1 Māori Purpose Zones recognise the relationship of Māori with their culture, traditions and ancestral lands by providing for a range of activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs, including social, cultural and economic development, and allows whānau to establish and maintain an ongoing relationship with their ancestral lands.

MPZ-O2 Activities that specifically meet Māori cultural needs can take place within Māori Purpose Zones in a manner that maintains and promotes the spiritual, cultural, social, economic and environmental interests and associations of tangata whenua with their lands.

MPZ-O3 Tangata whenua can exercise their responsibilities as mana whenua in the Māori Purpose Zone to:

1. exercise their rights of kaitiakitanga, self-determination over their ancestral lands, water, sites and wāhi tapu.
2. provide a safe, nurturing environment for ngā uri (descendants), whānau (family), hapū (extended family), iwi me ngā manuhiri (tribe and visitors);
3. ensure the protection, maintenance and promotion of ngā taonga tuku iho (treasures); and
4. avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of activities.

MPZ-O4 Māori purpose activities and the comprehensive, coordinated and efficient development of ancestral land is enabled in the Māori Purpose Zone, whilst ensuring actual or potential adverse effects of activities are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

MPZ Policies

MPZ-P1 Provide for activities within Māori Purpose Zones that meet Māori cultural needs, including:

1. Māori purpose activities;
2. Māori cultural activities;
3. living activities;
4. general retail activities;
5. business service activities;
6. educational facilities;
7. visitor accommodation;
8. residential visitor accommodation;
9. agricultural, pastoral and horticultural activities; and
10. community facilities.

MPZ-P2 Recognise and provide for the role, character and function of different Māori Purpose Zones including those located within rural and urban settings.

MPZ-P3 Manage the scale, type and intensity of activities within a MPZ to ensure that they are compatible with the purpose, function and character of that Māori Purpose Zone.

MPZ-P4 Manage activities that are potentially compatible with the purpose, function and predominant character of the Māori Purpose Zone and ensure it is appropriate for such activities to establish in the Māori Purpose Zone having regard to whether:

1. the purpose of the activity assists tangata whenua to achieve MPZ-O1 - MPZ-O4;
2. the activity will assist Māori communities to provide for their social, cultural, environmental and economic needs;
3. there is adequate existing and/or planned infrastructure to service the activity;
4. any adverse effects can be appropriately avoided or appropriately remedied or mitigated;
5. any potential conflict between activities within the zone can be avoided or appropriately remedied or mitigated; or
6. the extent to which the activity aligns with the classification of reserve land and with any reserve management plan activities on the site.

MPZ-P5 Avoid land use and development which is incompatible with the purpose, function and character of the Māori Purpose Zone.

MPZ-P6 Subdivision of Māori Purpose Zones will not alienate Māori from their customary lands.

MPZ Rules

MPZ-R1 – Permitted Activities	Subject to
(1) Any activity, building, or structure	a) Compliance MPZ-S1 to S16 including any identified Exception in MPZ-Sched01 – Māori Purpose Zones; and b) Compliance with all relevant standards in District Wide chapters, and c) is not identified as a CON, RDIS, DIS or NC activity within the MRZ, and d) is not identified as a CON, RDIS, DIS or NC activity within the Other Plan Matters.
(2) Business Activities	a) Is required to be owned or run by a resident of the site. b) No Industrial Activities in MPZ Urban c) Compliance with MPZ S1 to S16 including any identified Exception in MPZ-Sched01 – Māori Purpose Zones; and; d) Compliance with all relevant standards in District Wide chapters, and e) is not identified as a CON, RDIS, DIS or NC activity within the MPZ, and f) is not identified as a CON, RDIS, DIS or NC activity within the Other Plan Matters.
MPZ -R2 – Restricted Discretionary activities	Matters of Restricted Discretion
(1) Any activity that is not a permitted or discretionary activity	a) Those Objectives and Policies set out in MPZ1 and MPZ2 b) Those performance standards in 4b.2 which the proposal does not comply with c) Any effects on the ability of the site to provide for traditional uses. d) Any effects on the amenity of the zone and its ability to function effectively as mixed-use site. e) Any effects on the functioning of the surrounding environment including effects on Infrastructure. f) The results of any geotechnical assessments associated with any proposed residential land uses – where an application triggers MPZ S5. Notification: Applications under MPZ-R2-RDIS (1) will not be notified.
(2) Subdivision	a) Those Objectives and Policies set out in MPZ1 and MPZ2 b) The need for the land to remain as Māori land.

	c) The ability of the land to meet Māori cultural needs. d) That the land is to be used for traditional activities. Notification: Applications under MPZ-R2-RDIS (2) will not be notified.
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MPZ Standards

NOTE: References to 'zone' on the standards refer to the specific Māori Purpose Zone which that activity is to take place.

MPZ – Rural	MPZ - Urban
S1 – Maximum Building Coverage	
i 15% of the total area of that zone or where a marae is present on the site, 15% of that part of the zone not covered by Marae buildings. Exception: Marae buildings	ii 55% of the total area of that zone where a marae is present on the site 40% of that part of the zone not covered by Marae Buildings. Exception: Marae Buildings
S2 - Maximum Total Coverage	
N/A	iii 75% of the zone Or where a marae is present on the zone, 50% of that part of the zone not covered by Marae Buildings. Exception: Marae Buildings
S2 – Maximum Height to Boundary	
N/A	i 2.5m Height at the boundary of the zone with a 45° recession plane except for common wall boundaries.
S3 – Maximum Building Height	
i 12m	ii 8m Exception: pouwhenua
S4 – Minimum Building Setbacks from zone boundary	
i 15m from the zone boundary. Exception Marae Buildings	ii 1.5m from the zone boundary

MPZ – Rural		MPZ - Urban	
S5 Number of Dwellings per zone			
i 15 per zone		N/A	
S6 – Business Activities			
i The maximum gross area of these activities use shall not exceed 15% of the total area of that zone for indoor and 15% of the that zone for outdoor.		ii The maximum gross area of Commercial and Home Business activities shall not exceed 100m ² (indoor and outdoor) or 15% of the total area of that zone whatever is the larger.	
S7 - Community uses (includes education, spiritual and health facilities).			
i The maximum gross area of these activities use shall not exceed 15% of the total area of that zone for indoor and 15% of the that zone for outdoor. Exception Marae Buildings		ii The maximum gross area of these uses shall not exceed 100m ² (indoor and outdoor) or 15% of the total area of that zone whatever is the larger. Exception: Marae Buildings	
S8 - Vehicle Movements			
i 200 EVM’s for that zone or 24 per dwelling whichever is higher		ii 150 EVMs for that zone or 24 per dwelling whichever is higher.	
S9 – Signage			
4m ² Total Face Area of all signs within that zone.			
S10 -Parking, Loading and Access			
In accordance with Section 6 : Parking, Loading and Access.			
S11 - Max artificial Light			
8 LUX (lumens per square meter) at the boundary of that zone.			
S12 - Maximum Noise Limits			
Maximum Noise Limits	The noise level arising from any activity measured within the boundary of any Residential Environment site or the notional boundary of any Rural Environment site, other than from the MPZ Zone where the noise is generated, shall not exceed the following limits: i. 7.00am – 7.00pm 50dBA L_{eq} ii. 7.00pm – 10.00pm 45dBA L_{eq} iii. 10.00pm – 7.00am 40dBA L_{eq} and 70dBA L_{max}		

MPZ – Rural	MPZ - Urban
S13 - Maximum Noise Measurement	
The noise levels shall be measured in accordance with the requirements of NZS 6801:1999 Acoustics – Measurement of Environmental Sound and assessed in accordance with the requirements of NZS 6802:1991 Assessment of Environmental Sound.	
S14 - Maximum Noise Construction Noise	
All construction noise shall meet the requirements of New Zealand Standard NZS 6803:1999 Acoustics Construction Noise	
S15 - Maximum Odour	
There shall be no discharge of offensive or objectionable odour at or beyond the boundary of a site. Notes:	
i. In determining whether an odour is offensive or objectionable, the Council shall have regard to the assessment guide contained in schedule 7.7. ii. The Regional Council may also require that resource consent be obtained for discharges to air (including odour discharges).	
S16 - Stormwater	
i. All stormwater from buildings and impermeable surfaces is to be disposed of on-site to meet a 10 year return period of 1 hour duration (45mm). ii. The function of existing secondary flow paths across the allotment shall be retained and the existing discharge point off the site shall remain unaltered as to position. iii. EXCEPTION: Stormwater from impermeable surfaces can be disposed of via a primary or secondary stormwater drainage system within an area identified on the Planning Maps as a Stormwater Disposal Area, provided Council authorisation has been given.	

MPZ-Sched01- Māori Purpose Zones

Site ID	Identifier	Type	Exceptions	Map ref
MPZ1	address	Res or rural	Reference specific existing or proposed activities associated with that Zone.	
MPZ2				
MPZ3				

Definitions

Marae: Means kaupapa Māori cultural complex centred around a wharenui (meeting house). A complex can include a range of ancillary structures and activities such as whare kai (kitchen & dining facilities), a whare moe (sleeping spaces), whare hui (meeting spaces), Whare paku (ablution blocks), administration spaces, whare taonga (spaces for displaying treasures), permanent hāngī pits, outdoor food preparation areas, small-scale associated storage areas, carving installations, and landscaped outdoor areas.