

ECO - Ecosystems & Indigenous Biodiversity

Objectives	
ECO-O1	Significant Natural Areas
Significant Natural Areas are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development and where appropriate, restored.	
ECO-O2	Plantation Forestry
Plantation forestry activities do not have adverse effects on Significant Natural Areas.	

Policies	
ECO-P1	Identification of Significant Natural Areas
Identify and list within <i>Schedule A</i> and <i>Schedule B</i> all areas with significant indigenous biodiversity values in accordance with the criteria in Policy 23 of the Regional Policy Statement.	
ECO-P2	Protection of Significant Natural Areas - Effects Management Hierarchy
Protect the biodiversity values of Significant Natural Areas identified within <i>Schedule A</i> and <i>Schedule B</i> by requiring subdivision, use and development to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Avoid adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values where possible; 2. Minimise adverse effects on the identified biodiversity values where avoidance is not possible; 3. Remedy adverse effects on the identified biodiversity values where they cannot be avoided or minimised; 4. Only consider <i>biodiversity offsetting</i> for any residual adverse effects that cannot otherwise be avoided, minimised or remedied and where the principles of <i>Appendix 1</i> (Biodiversity Offsetting) are met; and 5. Only consider biodiversity compensation after first considering biodiversity offsetting and where the principles of <i>Appendix 2</i> (Biodiversity Compensation) are met. 	
ECO-P3	Indigenous vegetation removal within Significant Natural Areas
Enable minor indigenous vegetation removal within Significant Natural Areas identified within <i>Schedule A</i> and <i>Schedule B</i> where it is of a scale and nature that maintains the identified biodiversity values, including to provide for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The safe operation of existing roads, tracks and access ways; 2. Maintenance around existing buildings; 3. Restoration and conservation activities; 4. Natural hazard and fire mitigation and management activities; and 	

Policies	
5. Opportunities to enable tangata whenua to exercise traditional use and customary harvesting practices (excluding commercial use).	
ECO-P4	Subdivision, use and development in Significant Natural Areas
Only provide for subdivision, use and development in Significant Natural Areas listed in <i>Schedule A</i> and <i>Schedule B</i> where it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applies the effects management hierarchy approach in ECO-P2; and 2. Demonstrates that it is appropriate by taking into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The findings of an ecological assessment from a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist that determines the significance of the indigenous biodiversity values and the impact of the activity on the identified values in order to support the application of the effects management hierarchy in ECO-P2; b. The provision of any protective covenants on the Significant Natural Area as part of the subdivision, use or development; c. Whether any fragmentation of the Significant Natural Area is minimised, and connectivity with other Significant Natural Areas is maintained or enhanced; d. The extent to which building platforms and vehicle accessways are proposed to be located outside the Significant Natural Area; e. The extent to which the trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation avoids the loss, damage or disruption to the ecological processes, functions, and integrity of the Significant Natural Area; f. The extent to which earthworks are minimised within Significant Natural Areas; and g. The potential cumulative effects of activities and the extent to which any adverse effect on the values of the Significant Natural Area are minimised. 	
ECO-P5	Protection and restoration initiatives
Encourage the protection and restoration of indigenous biodiversity by supporting initiatives by landowners, community groups and others to protect, restore and maintain areas of indigenous vegetation.	
ECO-P6	Earthworks within significant natural areas
Provide for earthworks within a significant natural area where it can be demonstrated that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values within Significant Natural Area are addressed in accordance with ECO-P2 and the matters in ECO-P4. 	
ECO-P7	Development of Existing Vacant lots
Provide for the development of existing vacant, serviced residential lots established prior to the notification of Plan Change 48 where there is no suitable building platform available outside of a Significant Natural Area identified in <i>Schedule A</i> and <i>Schedule B</i> , having regard to:	

Policies	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The location of the building platform and the extent of associated vegetation removal; 2. The avoidance of adverse effects on the highest identified biodiversity values in <i>Schedule A</i> and <i>Schedule B</i>; 3. Location of the access or driveway to the building platform to reduce further loss of vegetation or fragmentation of the Significant Natural Area; and 4. The location of lateral service connections to public wastewater, sewer and water supply network, electricity and telephone cables. 	
ECO-P8	Existing plantation forestry
Provide for existing plantation forestry and associated activities where these maintain or restore the identified biodiversity values of Significant Natural Areas.	
ECO-P9	New plantation forestry
Avoid the establishment of new plantation forestry within identified Significant Natural Areas.	

Rules	
ECO-R1	Removal of indigenous vegetation within a Significant Natural Area
All Zones	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity status: Permitted Where: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation is to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. ensure the safe operation of any formed public road or rail corridor, private access way, driveway or existing right of way where removal of vegetation is limited to within the formed width of the road, rail corridor or access; or ii. enable the maintenance of buildings where the removal of indigenous vegetation is limited to within 3m from the external wall or roof of a building; or iii. enable necessary flood protection or natural hazard control where undertaken by a Regional or Territorial Authority or agents on their behalf as part of natural hazard mitigation works; or iv. comply with Section 43 or 64 of the Fire and Emergency Act 2017; or v. maintain an existing firebreak up to 20m wide in the rural zone; or vi. enable tangata whenua to exercise traditional use and customary harvesting (excluding commercial use). b. The trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation is to:

Rules	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. address an imminent threat to people or property represented by deadwood, diseased or dying vegetation and ECO-S1 is complied with; or ii. maintain, upgrade or create new public walking or cycling tracks undertaken by Upper Hutt City Council or its approved contractor in accordance with ECO-S2.
Rural Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Permitted</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. construct new perimeter fences for stock or pest animal exclusion from areas or maintenance of existing fences provided the trimming or removal of any vegetation does not exceed 2m in width; or ii. maintain, upgrade or create a new access track for agricultural (including beekeeping), pastoral or horticultural activities in accordance with ECO-S3.
All Zones	<p>3. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compliance is not achieved with ECO-R1.1.a. <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The matters in ECO-P2; and (2) The matters in ECO-P3; and (3) The matters in ECO-P4. <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential impacts from the proposal; and (ii) Demonstrating that effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
All Zones	<p>4. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compliance is not achieved with ECO-R1.1.b <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p>

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	<p>(1) The matters of discretion of the infringed standard.</p> <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and (ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
Rural Zones	<p>5. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compliance is not achieved with ECO-R1-2.a <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The matters in ECO-P3; and (2) The matters in ECO-P4; and (3) The matters of discretion of the infringed standard. <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and (ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
All Zones	<p>6. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The removal of indigenous vegetation is for any other activity or development than those covered under ECO-R1-1, ECO-R1-2 or ECO-R6. <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The matters in ECO-P2; and (2) The matters in ECO-P4. <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and

Rules	
	(ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
ECO-R2	Collection of Manuka and Kanuka for Firewood within an SNA
Rural Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Permitted</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Any recovery or removal is:</p> <p>i. limited to windfall or deadwood manuka or kanuka only; and</p> <p>ii. only for on-site domestic firewood use; and</p> <p>iii. limited to a maximum quantity of 5m³ per site per annum.</p>
Rural Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance is not achieved with ECO-R2-1.a</p> <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <p>(1) The extent to which the removal of manuka and kanuka avoids the loss, damage or disruption to the ecological processes, functions and integrity of the Significant Natural Area; and</p> <p>(2) The effect of the vegetation removal on the identified biodiversity values in <i>Schedule A - Significant Natural Areas</i> or <i>Schedule B – Urban Environment Allotments</i>.</p> <p>(3) The matters in ECO-P2; and</p> <p>(4) The matters in ECO-P3; and</p> <p>(5) The matters in ECO-P4</p> <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <p>(i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.</p>
ECO-R3	Removal of Non-Indigenous (Exotic) Vegetation within a Significant Natural Area
All Zones	1. Activity status: Permitted
ECO-R4	Restoration and Maintenance of a Significant Natural Area
All Zones	1. Activity Status: Permitted

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	<p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The works are for the purpose of restoring or maintaining the identified values of a Significant Natural Area by; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. planting eco-sourced local indigenous vegetation or; ii. carrying out pest animal or pest plant control activities; or iii. carrying out activities in accordance with a registered protective covenant under the Reserves Act 1977, Conservation Act 1987 or Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust Act 1977; or iv. carrying out activities in accordance with a Reserve Management Plan approved under the Reserves Act 1977.
All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compliance is not achieved with ECO-R4-1.a <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The matters in ECO-P2; and (2) The matters in ECO-P4; and (3) The matters in ECO-P5. <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and (ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
ECO-R5	Earthworks within a significant natural area
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Permitted</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The earthworks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Do not involve the removal of any indigenous vegetation; or ii. Are for the maintenance of existing public access tracks, as carried out by Upper Hutt City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council or their approved contractor; or

Rules	
	<p>iii. Are associated with new access tracks in accordance with ECO-R1-1.b.ii or ECO-R1-2.a.ii and the underlying zone standards for earthworks are complied with.</p>
All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance is not achieved with ECO-R5-1.a.</p> <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <p>(1) The matters in ECO-P6.</p> <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <p>(i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.</p>
ECO-R6	Construction of a residential unit on a vacant allotment within a Significant Natural Area.
All Residential Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Controlled</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. The lot must:</p> <p>i. Be held in a freehold title that existed at <i>[insert the time of notification of Plan Change 48]</i>;</p> <p>ii. Be vacant and not contain any residential unit or other building; and</p> <p>iii. Have existing service connections to the public wastewater, sewer and water supply network.</p> <p>b. The proposed residential unit and any associated vegetation clearance:</p> <p>i. complies with the permitted building coverage standard and earthworks standards for the underlying zone and is unable to locate outside the Significant Natural Area within the site.</p> <p>Matters of control are restricted to:</p> <p>(1) The matters in ECO-P7.</p>
All Residential Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance is not achieved with standards ECO-R6-1.a or ECO-R6-1.b</p>

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	<p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The matters in ECO-P2; and (2) The matters in ECO-P4; and (3) The matters in ECO-P7. <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and (ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
SUB-R7	Subdivision of a lot containing a Significant Natural Area
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A future building platform to contain a residential unit is identified for each new undeveloped lot that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Complies with the underlying zone provisions; and ii. Is located outside of the Significant Natural Area. <p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The matters in ECO-P2; and (2) The matters in ECO-P4.
All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Compliance is not achieved with SUB-R7-1.a. <p><u>Section 88 information requirements for applications:</u></p> <p>Applications for activities within an identified Significant Natural Area must provide, in addition to the standard information requirements, an Ecological Assessment provided by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identifying the biodiversity values and potential effects of the proposal; and (ii) Demonstrating that the effects management hierarchy at ECO-P2 has been applied.
ECO-R8	New plantation forestry within a Significant Natural Area.
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Non-complying</p>

Standards:

Activity Standards		
ECO-S1	Trimming, pruning or removal where there is the imminent threat to the safety of people or property	
All Zones	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The works are essential due to imminent threat to the safety of people or property and Council is advised of this threat as soon as practicable; and 2. All trimming or pruning must be undertaken to a growth point or branch union and in accordance with the New Zealand Arboricultural Association Incorporated Best Practice Guideline 'Amenity Tree Pruning' Version 3 dated April 2011 to avoid irreversible damage to the health of the tree; and 3. Any removal is undertaken or supervised by a suitably qualified arboricultural expert. 	<p>Matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The extent to which the trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation avoids the loss, damage or disruption to the ecological processes, functions, and integrity of the Significant Natural Area; and (2) The effect of the vegetation removal on the identified biodiversity values in <i>Schedule A - Significant Natural Areas</i> or <i>Schedule B – Urban Environment Allotments</i>.
ECO-S2	Indigenous vegetation removal associated with public walking or cycling tracks	
All Zones	<p>Vegetation removal must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be no greater than 1.5m in width to accommodate the track; and 2. Not involve the removal of any tree with a trunk diameter exceeding that in <i>Schedule C – Indigenous Tree Sizes</i> as measured 1.4m above ground. 	<p>The matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The extent to which the trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation avoids the loss, damage or disruption to the ecological processes, functions and integrity of the Significant Natural Area; and (2) The effect of the vegetation removal on the identified biodiversity values in <i>Schedule A - Significant Natural Areas</i> or <i>Schedule B – Urban Environment Allotments</i>.

Activity Standards		
ECO-S3	Indigenous vegetation removal associated with farm access tracks	
Rural Zones	<p>Vegetation removal must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be no greater than 2.5m in width to accommodate the track; and 2. Not involve the removal of any tree with a trunk diameter exceeding that in <i>Schedule C – Indigenous Tree Sizes</i> as measured 1.4m above ground.; and 3. Be solely for the purpose of providing farm vehicle access directly related to farming and primary production activities. 	<p>The matters of discretion are restricted to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The extent to which the trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation avoids the loss, damage or disruption to the ecological processes, functions, and integrity of the Significant Natural Area; and (2) The effect of the vegetation removal on the identified biodiversity values in <i>Schedule A - Significant Natural Areas</i> or <i>Schedule B – Urban Environment Allotments</i>.

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SCHEDULE A: Significant Natural Areas

See all draft overlays on the UHCC webmap [here](#).

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SCHEDULE B: Urban Environment Allotments

Under Section 76 (4A) and (4B) of the Resource Management Act 1991, a rule within a District Plan may only restrict the felling, damage or removal of one or more trees or groups of trees within a urban property (defined as an urban environment allotment at s76(4C)) if a schedule in the plan identifies the relevant tree or group and the allotment is described by street address or legal description. This schedule is included to comply with section 76.

A schedule will be included here to identify indigenous trees within an SNA that are within an urban environment allotment.

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SCHEDULE C: Indigenous tree sizes

Common Name	Species	Maori Name	Dimensions that relate to rules	
			Diameter (circumference in cm)	Height (m)
Akeake	<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	Akeake	15.0 (47)	3
Black maire	<i>Nestegis cunninghamii</i>	Maire rau nui	15.0 (47)	4
Black pine	<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>	Matai	15.0 (47)	4
Broadleaf	<i>Griselinia lucida</i>	Puka	15.0 (47)	4
Brown pine	<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	Miro	15.0 (47)	4
Cabbage Tree	<i>Cordyline australis</i>	Tī kōuka	15.0 (47)	4
Cork Tree	<i>Entelea arborescens</i>	Whau	15.0 (47)	4
Hīnau	<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>	Hīnau	15.0 (47)	4
Kaikōmako	<i>Pennantia corymbosa</i>	Kaikōmako	15.0 (47)	3
Kāmahi	<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	Kāmahi	15.0 (47)	4
Kātote	<i>Cyathea smithii</i>	Kātote	15.0 (47)	3
Kohekohe	<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>	Kohekohe	15.0 (47)	4
Kōhūhū	<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	Kōhūhū	20.0 (63)	4
Kowhai	<i>Sophora microphylla</i>	Kōwhai	15.0 (47)	4
Lacebark	<i>Hoheria sextylosa</i>	-	15.0 (47)	4
Lancewood	<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	Horoeka	10.0 (31)	4
Large leaved milk tree	<i>Stebulus banksii</i>	Tūrepo	15.0 (47)	4
Marbleleaf	<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	Putaputawētā	15.0 (47)	4
Makomako	<i>Aristotellia serrata</i>	Makomako	15.0 (47)	4
Mamaku	<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	Mamaku	15.0 (47)	4
Miro	<i>Pectinopitys ferruginea</i>	Miro	10.0 (31)	4
Narrow leaved lacebark	<i>Hoheria angustifolia</i>	-	15.0 (47)	4
Narrow-leaved maire	<i>Nestegis montana</i>	Maire kotae or rororo	15.0 (47)	4

Common Name	Species	Maori Name	Dimensions that relate to rules	
			Diameter (circumference in cm)	Height (m)
New Zealand honeysuckle	<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	Rewarewa	15.0 (47)	4
New Zealand myrtle	<i>Lophomyrtus bullata</i>	Ramarama	10.0 (31)	4
New Zealand myrtle	<i>Lophomyrtus obcordata</i>	Röhutu	10.0 (31)	4
Ngaio	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	Ngaio	15.0 (47)	4
Nikau	<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>	Nīkau	15.0 (47)	4
Northern Rata	<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>	Rātā	15.0 (47)	4
Pigeonwood	<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	Porokaiwhiri	15.0 (47)	4
Poataniwha	<i>Melicope simplex</i>	Poataniwha	15.0 (47)	4
Pōkākā	<i>Elaeocarpus hookerianus</i>	Pōkākā	15.0 (47)	4
Pukatea	<i>Laurelia novaezealandiae</i>	Pukatea	15.0 (47)	4
Red māpou	<i>Myrsine australis</i>	Matipo	15.0 (47)	3
Red Pine	<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	Rimu	15.0 (47)	4
Ribbonwood	<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	Mānatu	15.0 (47)	4
Silverfern	<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	Ponga	15.0 (47)	3
Small leaved milk tree	<i>Streblus heterophyllus</i>	Tūrepo	15.0 (47)	4
Swamp maire	<i>Syzygium maire</i>	Maire tawake	15.0 (47)	4
Tarata	<i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>	Ngaio	15.0 (47)	4
Tawa	<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	Tawa	10.0 (31)	4
Mānuka	<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Mānuka	15.0 (47)	3
Thin-leaved coprosma	<i>Coprosma areolata</i>	-	15.0 (47)	3
Titoki	<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>	Tītoki	15.0 (47)	4
Toro	<i>Myrsine salicina</i>	Toro	10.0 (31)	4
Totara	<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Tōtara	25.0 (78)	4
Tree fuchsia	<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	Kōtukutuku	15.0 (47)	4

Common Name	Species	Maori Name	Dimensions that relate to rules	
			Diameter (circumference in cm)	Height (m)
Wharangi	<i>Melicope ternata</i>	Wharangi	15.0 (47)	3
Whekī	<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	Whekī	10.0 (31)	3
White maire	<i>Nestegis lanceolata</i>	Maire rauriki	10.0 (31)	4
White Pine	<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	Kahikatea	15.0 (47)	4
Kānuka	<i>Kunzea robusta</i> or <i>Kunzea amathicola</i>	Kānuka	15.0 (47)	3
Whiteywood	<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	Māhoe	20.0 (63)	4

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APPENDIX 1: Biodiversity Offsetting

The following sets out a framework of principles for the use of biodiversity offsets. Principles must be complied with for an action to qualify as a biodiversity offset. These principles will be used when assessing the adequacy of proposals for the design and implementation of offsetting as part of resource consent applications.

1. **Adherence to the effects management hierarchy:** The proposed biodiversity offset will be assessed in accordance with the management hierarchy set out in ECO-P2. It should only be contemplated after the management hierarchy steps in ECO-P2 have been demonstrated to have been sequentially exhausted. Any proposal for a biodiversity offset will demonstrate how it addresses the residual adverse effects of the activity.
2. **Limits to offsetting:** Many biodiversity values cannot be offset and if they are adversely affected then they will be permanently lost. These situations include where:
 - a. residual adverse effects cannot be offset because of the irreplaceability or vulnerability of the indigenous biodiversity affected or there is no appropriate offset site;
 - b. there are no technically feasible or socially acceptable options by which to secure gains within acceptable timeframes; and
 - c. effects on indigenous biodiversity are uncertain, unknown or little understood, but potential effects are significantly adverse.

In these situations, an offset would be inappropriate. This principle reflects a standard of acceptability for offsetting and a proposed offset must provide an assessment of these limits that supports its success.

3. **No net loss and preferably a net gain:** The values to be lost through the activity to which the offset applies are counterbalanced by the proposed offsetting activity which is at least commensurate with the adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity so that the overall result is no net loss and preferably a net gain in biodiversity. No net loss and net gain are measured by type, amount and condition at the impact and offset site and require an explicit loss and gain calculation. Provisions for addressing sources of uncertainty and risk of failure in delivering the biodiversity offset should also be included.
4. **Additionality:** A biodiversity offset must achieve gains in indigenous biodiversity above and beyond gains that would have occurred in the absence of the offset, including that gains are additional to any minimisation or remediation undertaken in relation to the adverse effects of the activity. Offset design and implementation must avoid displacing activities harmful to indigenous biodiversity to other locations.
5. **Like-for-like:** The ecological values being gained at the offset site are the same as those being lost at the impact site across types of indigenous biodiversity, amount of indigenous biodiversity (including condition), over time and spatial context.
6. **Landscape context:** Biodiversity offset actions must be undertaken where this will result in the best ecological outcome, preferentially, first at the site, then the relevant catchment, then within the ecological district. Applications must consider the landscape context of both the impact site

and the offset site, taking into account interactions between species, habitats and ecosystems, spatial connections and ecosystem function.

7. **Long-term outcomes:** The biodiversity offset must be managed to secure outcomes of the activity that last at least as long as the impacts, and preferably in perpetuity, including through the use of adaptive management where necessary.
8. **Time lags:** The delay between loss of indigenous biodiversity at the impact site and gain or maturity of indigenous biodiversity at the offset site must be minimised so that gains are achieved within the consent period and identified within the biodiversity offset management plan.
9. **Trading up:** When trading up forms part of an offset, the proposal must demonstrate that the indigenous biodiversity values gained are demonstrably of higher value than those lost, and the values lost are not indigenous taxa that are listed as Threatened, At-risk or Data deficient in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists, or considered vulnerable or irreplaceable.
10. **Offsets in advance:** A biodiversity offset developed in advance of an application for resource consent must provide a clear link between the offset and the future effect. That is, the offset can be shown to have been created or commenced in anticipation of the specific effect and would not have occurred if that effect were not anticipated.
11. **Proposing a biodiversity offset:** A proposed biodiversity offset must include a specific biodiversity offset management plan, that:
 - a. sets out baseline information on the indigenous biodiversity that is potentially impacted by the proposed activity at both the donor and recipient sites, and
 - b. demonstrates how the requirements set out in this schedule will be carried out, and
 - c. identifies the monitoring approach that will be used to demonstrate how the principles set out in this schedule will be fulfilled over an appropriate timeframe.

APPENDIX 2: Biodiversity Compensation

The following sets out a framework of principles for the use of biodiversity compensation. Principles must be complied with for an action to qualify as biodiversity compensation.

1. **Adherence to effects management hierarchy:** Biodiversity compensation is a commitment to redress residual adverse effects. It must only be contemplated after the management hierarchy steps in ECO-P2 have been demonstrated to have been sequentially exhausted and thus applies only to residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity.
2. **Limits to biodiversity compensation:** In deciding whether biodiversity compensation is appropriate, a decision-maker must consider the principle that many indigenous biodiversity values are not able to be compensated for because:
 - a. the indigenous biodiversity affected is irreplaceable or vulnerable
 - b. there are no technically feasible or socially acceptable options by which to secure proposed gains within acceptable timeframes
 - c. effects on indigenous biodiversity are uncertain, unknown or little understood, but potential effects are significantly adverse.
3. **Scale of biodiversity compensation:** The values to be lost through the activity to which the biodiversity compensation applies must be addressed by positive effects to indigenous biodiversity that are proportionate to the adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity.
4. **Additionality:** Biodiversity compensation must achieve gains in indigenous biodiversity above and beyond gains that would have occurred in the absence of the compensation, including that gains are additional to any minimisation and remediation undertaken in relation to the adverse effects of the activity. Compensation design and implementation must avoid displacing activities harmful to indigenous biodiversity to other locations.
5. **Landscape context:** Biodiversity compensation actions must be undertaken where this will result in the best ecological outcome, preferentially, first at the site, then the relevant catchment, then within the ecological district. The actions must consider the landscape context of both the impact site and the compensation site, taking into account interactions between species, habitats and ecosystems, spatial connections and ecosystem function.
6. **Long-term outcomes:** The biodiversity compensation must be managed to secure outcomes of the activity that last as least as long as the effects, and preferably in perpetuity.
7. **Time lags:** The delay between loss of indigenous biodiversity at the impact site and gain or maturity of indigenous biodiversity at the compensation site must be minimised.
8. **Trading up:** When trading up forms part of biodiversity compensation, the proposal must demonstrate the indigenous biodiversity values gained are demonstrably of higher indigenous biodiversity value than those lost. The proposal must also show the values lost are not indigenous taxa that are listed as Threatened, At-risk or Data deficient in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists, or considered vulnerable or irreplaceable.
9. **Biodiversity compensation in advance:** Biodiversity compensation developed in advance of an application for resource consent must provide a clear link between the compensation and

the future effect. That is, the compensation can be shown to have been created or commenced in anticipation of the specific effect and would not have occurred if that effect were not anticipated.

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