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Proposed Regional Policy Statement
Greater Wellington Regional Council
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8 June 2009

Submission on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region 2009

Introduction

The Pauatahanui Inlet Community Trust (PICT) is a charitable trust established in May 2002 tasked with ensuring the implementation of the Pauatahanui Inlet Action Plan. *Towards Integrated Management: the Pauatahanui Inlet Action Plan* includes the following vision statement:

“the Pauatahanui Inlet and its catchment is managed to:

Enhance the quality of the environment by protecting the integrity of existing ecosystems and by restoring degraded ecosystems wherever possible.

Enable people to enjoy recreational activities and to undertake economic activities without compromising the reasonably foreseeable needs of present and future generations.

This can only be achieved by management agencies and the community working together”.

The Proposed Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and the various plans developed under the Resource Management Act 1991 are critical to delivering this vision for the Pauatahanui Inlet and, indeed, for the whole Porirua Harbour¹.

The specific parts of the proposed RPS that our submission relates to are:

- Policies on the coastal environment
- Appendix 1

¹ PICT defines the Porirua Harbour as encompassing the Pauatahanui Inlet, the Onepoto Arm and the channel to the sea.

Our submission is that:

We note that the proposed RPS does not include Policy 3 and Appendix 1 of the draft RPS which provided for the protection of the values of nationally and regionally significant areas in the coastal environment for those sites and areas identified in Appendix 1.

We consider that this policy and appendix should be included in the proposed RPS because it provides important direction and guidance for councils as to which areas are nationally and regionally significant and what the values of the areas are. The inclusion of the sites and areas in the appendix also provides people who may be considering carrying out activities in the sites and areas with information they need to consider in order to avoid any potential adverse effects. Not including the list creates the potential for things to slip through the cracks and create problems.

We support the inclusion of Table 6 Rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems in Appendix 1 of the proposed RPS and want to see it retained.

We wish Greater Wellington to make the following decisions:

1. **Include** Policy 3 from the Draft Regional Policy Statement which provides for the protection of the values of nationally and regionally significant areas in the coastal environment for those sites and areas set out in Appendix 1;
2. **Include** Appendix 1 from the Draft Regional Policy Statement which identifies sites and areas of regional significance in the coastal environment; and
3. **Retain** Appendix 1 Table 16 of the proposed Regional Policy Statement including the identification of Taupo Stream, Kakaho Stream, Horokiri Stream, Pauatahanui Stream, Duck Creek and Porirua Stream.

We wish to be heard in support of our submission. We would consider presenting a joint case at the hearing if others are making a similar submission.

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On behalf of the Pauatahanui Inlet Community Trust

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