



Issue 24

12 November 2018

Tūtaekurī, Ahuriri Estuary, Ngaruroro, Karamū – the TANK Plan

In July this year, the TANK Group finished the work plan it started six years ago. Its job was to develop recommendations to the Regional Council for managing the freshwater bodies of TANK's four catchments, including the Heretaunga aquifer. The Group handed over to the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) a draft TANK Plan Change containing objectives, policies and rules (including limits for water quality and quantity) and other measures to help meet the objectives.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the TANK Group the draft was largely complete, however some aspects of the plan still require input and decisions from the RPC.



Progressing the Plan

Since August the Regional Planning Committee has held several workshops. These have helped committee members to build an understanding of the content and overall direction of the [draft](#).

The RPC has also been briefed on the areas that require their input for decision-making, and are currently making provisional decisions relating to these matters. Regional Council staff, with direction from the RPC, are working to prepare Version 8 of the Draft TANK Plan Change. Some of the topics the RPC have considered in more detail and provided in-principle decisions on are:

- Urban stormwater discharges and the timeframes to meet objectives
- The quality of groundwater for urban drinking water supply

- Land use change and its effects on water quality
- Minimum flows and allocation limits for ground and surface water
- The mitigation measures to reduce impact of groundwater takes on stream flows
- The allocation of water that is only available (for storage) at times of high flow.

Elements of these topics require further detail before the RPC make their final decisions. These will be incorporated into Version 8 of the Draft Plan.

Other aspects of the Plan change which the RPC will receive further advice on include:

- the Planning Maps – these show management boundaries for water quality and water allocation
- the Implementation Plan – this describes how the Regional Council will need to implement the Plan Change, as well as the way in which the TANK Stakeholders will contribute to its implementation
- the Section 32 Report - a compilation of all the reports and analyses supporting the provisions in the Plan Change.

Next steps

At its 12 December meeting, the Regional Planning Committee will consider further reports and recommendations for Version 8 of the TANK Plan Change. They will also make recommendations to the Regional Council about when to share the draft TANK Plan Change more widely with key groups such as the Ministry for the Environment, Local Authorities and affected Iwi authorities.

Once the Plan is notified, the community will have an opportunity to comment by submitting on the TANK Plan – the proposed objectives, policies and rules that have been developed to manage our land and freshwater in TANK's catchments.

Watch this space – we will keep you posted.

hbrc.govt.nz search: #tankresources

© 2018, HBRC

Please share this newsletter-panui

Mary-Anne.Baker@hbrc.govt.nz

Ceri.Edmonds@hbrc.govt.nz

