

NATURAL HAZARDS ISSUES AND OPTIONS

Community engagement document • March 2025



OVERVIEW

We're looking at ways to build our District's resilience against natural hazards and encourage quality development in appropriate places. We plan to do this through changes to the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP) that will collectively be called the natural hazards plan change. The TRMP is the blueprint for how we grow as a District, and how we use and care for our land, air and water.

The natural hazards plan change (Plan Change 85) is one of five key environmental workstreams Council decided to progress in late 2023 after the current Government repealed the reforms that were intended to replace the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

We are at the very start of the process to review and update the natural hazards provisions in the TRMP. In 2020 we completed an assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the current natural hazards objectives and policies in the TRMP. We are now engaging on issues and options which will identify and inform the future direction and work programme of Plan Change 85.

A number of the other workstreams intersect with the natural hazards plan change. Plan Change 81 Urban Growth is considering future housing and business locations across the District, ensuring new development is resilient to natural hazards. Plan Change 82 Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes, will identify and protect outstanding natural landscapes and features within the Tasman District. Plan Change 83, considering Coastal Natural Character and Coastal Environment, will replace the existing Coastal Environment Area with a more refined definition, enabling better protection of coastal areas. Land and Freshwater Plan Change 84 addresses priority land and freshwater issues in Tasman.

The Government has signalled there will be new national direction on natural hazards, which will provide direction to Council on how to identify potential natural hazards, assess the risk they pose, and respond to that risk. This national direction is expected to be in place by mid-2025. As the natural hazards plan change is at the beginning of the plan change process, we will be able to incorporate any national direction requirements into the plan change once they come into force.

WHY CHANGES ARE NEEDED

Changes are required to update the TRMP natural hazard provisions with more recent technical information and respond to national direction under the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010. We also intend to refocus the TRMP to better consider RMA requirements to manage significant risks from natural hazards and to have particular regard to the effects of climate change.

When we first developed the TRMP in the mid-1990's our technical and mapping resources were limited and nationally there was low awareness of climate change. Today, we have access to much more technical information and have a better understanding of the District's natural hazards and the effects of climate change.

Plan Change 85 will focus on the following natural hazards:

- Geological hazards – liquefaction, slope instability and debris run-out, earthquake fault rupture
- Coastal hazards – erosion, flooding from storms and sea-level rise
- Flooding, including overland flows during extreme rainfall events
- Wildfire

Tsunami, drought, earthquake ground shaking, wind and severe weather hazards are not included as part of this plan change.

The natural hazards plan change will focus on how new development or intensification can be undertaken in ways that are resilient to natural hazards. The plan change scope does not extend to community climate adaptation planning. How our existing communities adapt to climate change will be part of our Adaptation Planning work programme which is currently being scoped.

OUR NATURAL HAZARDS ISSUES AND OPTIONS

It's crucial that together we build our District in a way that is resilient to the potential impacts of a changing climate and natural hazards. Recent natural hazard events throughout Aotearoa New Zealand have highlighted the important role of land-use planning in reducing risk and enabling greater resilience.

We want to hear from you about the issues we have identified across the natural hazard topics and the options you prefer to address those issues. For each natural hazard topics that follow in this document, we have identified:

- the issue – what the problem is,
- the outcome – what we want to achieve,
- how the effects of the natural hazard are currently managed in the TRMP, and
- the preferred option for changing the TRMP to better manage the effects of the hazard.

You can find more detailed information on the issues and options for each natural hazard in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for each hazard to determine the preferred options presented in this document.

You can also find more technical information on the different natural hazards covered in this document on our website. Links to the technical assessment reports mentioned in this document can also be found on the natural hazards web page: www.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards.



MAPPING

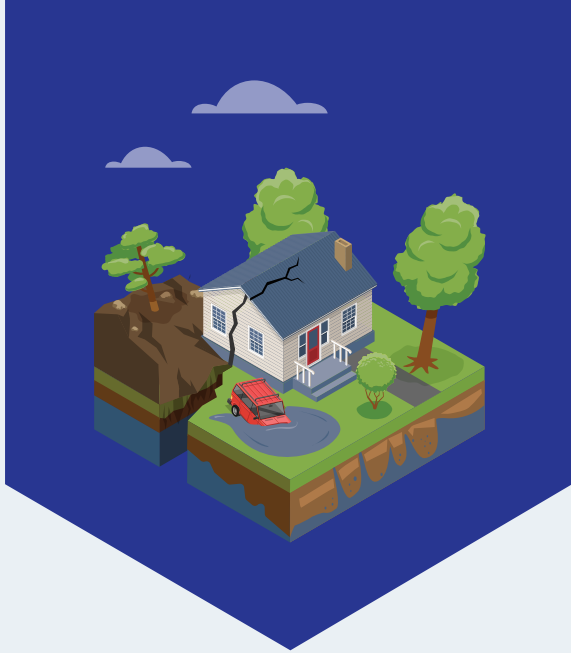
We use natural hazard mapping to show areas of the District that are susceptible to natural hazards. Currently, the TRMP contains some specific rules that relate to mapped natural hazard areas (often referred to as 'overlays') which are included in the plan. These overlays include the Slope Instability Risk Area, the Fault Rupture Risk Area, and the Coastal Risk Area for Māpua/Ruby Bay. Maps for other natural hazards such as flooding, are not included in the TRMP, however we use these maps to inform decisions when general rules apply.

It is important to note that we do not have technical or mapped information for all natural hazards across the whole District. We have prioritised our resources to focus on those areas where there is current or anticipated future development pressure and to ensure we are meeting our legislative requirements. Nationally, there is a number of research institutes and organisations (e.g. Universities and Crown Research Institutes) that hold national and local natural hazards data, information and maps for a variety of purposes.

You can view the range of natural hazard maps on our website at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards.

The Government has signalled it is developing a national direction on natural hazards, which may include a requirement for hazard maps/overlays to be incorporated into planning documents such as the TRMP. We will need to comply with the national direction requirements once they come into effect, anticipated mid-2025.

The names of the current TRMP natural hazard overlays may not accurately describe what the overlay is showing. For example, the current Slope Instability Risk Area does not incorporate an assessment of risk, instead the overlay shows areas that are potentially susceptible to slope instability. As part of this plan change, we will review the names of these overlays to ensure they reflect what they represent.



GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS LIQUEFACTION

Liquefaction causes wet sandy and silty soils to behave more like a liquid than a solid during strong earthquake shaking. When this happens, the soil loses its structure and some soil may be ejected to the surface (sand boils), or in other areas there may be subsidence. This in turn can cause significant damage to land, buildings, infrastructure (particularly underground services), and the environment, as well as economic and social disruption.

ISSUE

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM

Liquefaction has the potential to adversely affect the environment during and following an earthquake. This can include damage to buildings, structures and infrastructure and disruption to the community. In rare cases liquefaction can also present a risk to life.

OUTCOME

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The risks to people and property from liquefaction are avoided or mitigated.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have we correctly identified the issue for liquefaction? Are there other issues related to liquefaction that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for liquefaction, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?



OPTIONS

WHAT WE DO NOW

The TRMP currently does not include specific policies and rules to address liquefaction hazards. However, through the subdivision resource consent process there is a requirement to ensure the land is suitable (or is made suitable) for development through geotechnical certification of building platforms. For new buildings and/or building alterations, we rely on the Building Act 2004 process to ensure buildings are designed appropriately in areas where liquefaction damage is possible.

In 2021 we completed a high-level liquefaction assessment that classifies and maps the District into three categories:

- Areas where liquefaction damage is possible
- Areas where liquefaction damage is unlikely
- Areas with very low liquefaction vulnerability

This liquefaction mapping is not currently included in the TRMP. However, it is used to inform building consent processes under the Building Act 2004.

THE CHANGE WE COULD MAKE

We could create an overlay in the TRMP based on our current high-level technical assessment that identifies areas of the District where liquefaction damage is possible. We could have provisions that provide specific guidance and controls for subdivision, land use and development in these areas. One of the benefits of this approach is that it provides landowners with more certainty of the areas where controls would apply, allowing them to plan for developments and buildings that are resilient to the effects of liquefaction.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the issues and options for liquefaction can be found in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for liquefaction to determine the preferred option presented here.

Our website has more information on liquefaction, including a link to the Tasman Regional Liquefaction Assessment 2021 report that outlines the methodology, assumptions and assessment of liquefaction areas in the District.



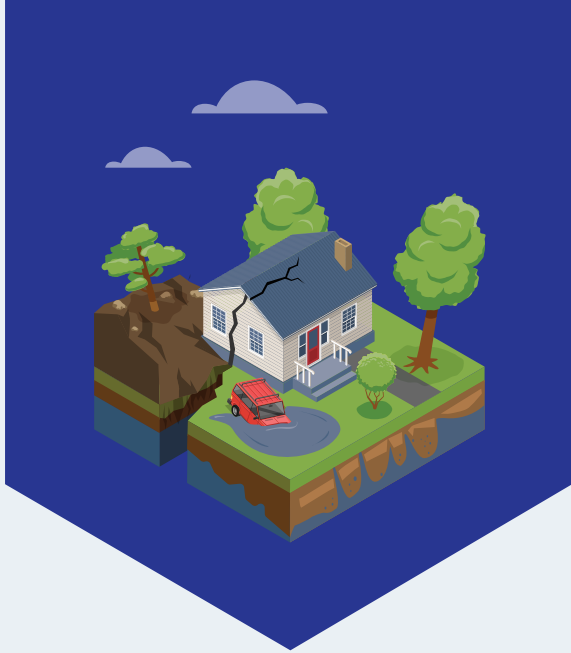
www.tasman.govt.nz/liquefaction

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we stick with the status quo, or include liquefaction provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – continue to have the liquefaction map outside of the TRMP, manage liquefaction hazards for subdivision through the TRMP, and continue to manage liquefaction hazards for buildings, development and alterations through the Building Act; OR
- b. Change to include a liquefaction map in the TRMP and manage liquefaction hazards for subdivision, building alterations, and development through policies and rules in the TRMP.





GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS FAULT RUPTURE

Earthquakes can have a range of natural hazard impacts. For the purposes of the TRMP we focus on the surface rupture of active fault lines, rather than the effects of ground shaking (which is addressed in the Building Code). An active fault is a fault that has ruptured repeatedly in the past, and whose history indicates that it is likely to rupture again. The upper limit for a fault to be considered active is if the fault has moved during the last 125,000 years. Surface rupture along a fault can result in ground deformation and the movement of the ground surface by up to several metres, both horizontally and vertically, severely damaging anything that lies across it. The displaced land may be raised, lowered or tilted and this can occur some distance from the fault line.

ISSUE

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM

There are a number of known fault lines in the District. Fault rupture during an earthquake has the potential to adversely affect the environment, including damage to buildings and infrastructure, and loss of life.

OUTCOME

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The risk to people and property from a fault rupture are avoided or mitigated.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have we correctly identified the issue for fault rupture? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for fault rupture, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?



Source: Setford News Photo Agency, www.snpa.co.nz

OPTIONS

WHAT WE DO NOW

We currently manage ground deformation hazards from fault rupture through the Fault Rupture Risk Area (FRRA) overlay and rules in the TRMP. The FRRA currently includes parts of the Waimea, Eighty-Eight, Wairau-Alpine, White Creek and Lyell faults. Any subdivision within the FRRA requires a resource consent. Building construction or alteration within the FRRA is permitted provided geological assessment and setback distances from the surface position of the active fault are met. This permitted activity rule relies on certification of geotechnical assessments through a third party to determine compliance (e.g. a competent person in geology/geotechnical engineering), rather than the Council.

Not all of the District's active faults are currently included in the FRRA. In 2021, we sought a technical review which recommended including three additional active faults into the FRRA overlay for the purpose of planning controls – Whangamoa, Wakamarama and Kikiwa.

THE CHANGE WE COULD MAKE

We could update the existing FRRA overlay in the TRMP to include the three additional active faults identified in the technical review. We could also review and update the existing provisions to provide more specific policy direction for managing the effects from fault rupture and continue to have controls requiring setbacks for subdivision, building construction or alteration for sites within the FRRA. The review of the provisions could also address issues with the current permitted activity rule because it is not best practice or strictly legal to rely on a third party to determine compliance.

There is also the potential to include an overlay for faults that do not exhibit ground surface deformation (e.g. Ruby Bay – Moutere Fault), and/or faults with long recurrence intervals (e.g. Pikikiruna Fault). These faults could be included in the TRMP as an information layer and/or have a different set of provisions to the FRRA overlay.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the issues and options for fault rupture can be found in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for fault rupture to determine the preferred option presented here.

Our website has more information on fault rupture, including a link to the Review of Active Earthquake Faults in the Tasman District report that outlines the methodology, outputs and maps of active faults in the District.

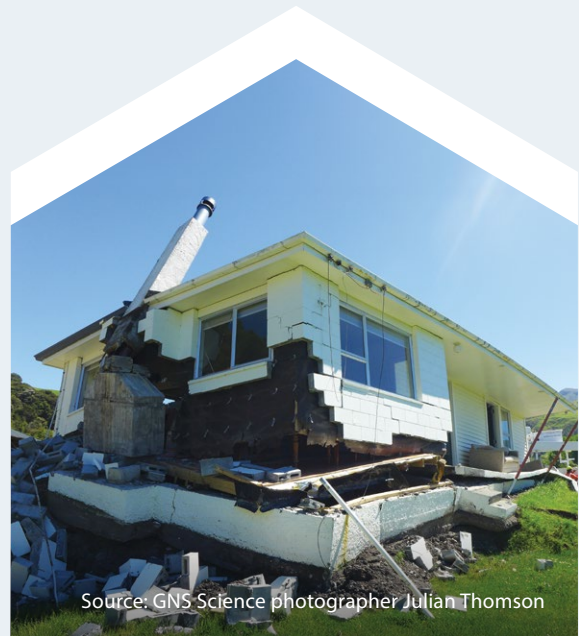


www.tasman.govt.nz/earthquake-faults

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the fault rupture provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – no changes to the FRRA overlay in the TRMP and continue to manage subdivision in the overlay through resource consents and building construction or alteration via permitted activity (provided conditions can be met); OR
- b. Change to include updated FRRA overlay in the TRMP and manage the active fault rupture hazard through revised provisions in the TRMP; OR
- c. In addition to Option b, should we also include an overlay for faults that do not exhibit ground surface deformation and/or faults with long recurrence intervals.



Source: GNS Science photographer Julian Thomson



GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS SLOPE INSTABILITY AND DEBRIS RUN-OUT

Slope instability hazard, which includes landslides, is the movement of a mass of rock, debris and/or soil down a slope. Slope failures can be triggered by natural processes (e.g. rainfall events, earthquakes) and slopes may be primed for failure by activities such as land development and earthworks. The area impacted by soil and rock debris from upslope failures is termed the 'debris run-out area'.

ISSUE

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM

Slope instability and debris run-out hazards occur in some of the District's steep topography. If new activities are not managed appropriately, structures (including buildings infrastructure) on and below susceptible slopes are put at further risk increasing the potential for damage to property and risk to life.

OUTCOME

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Slope instability and associated debris run-out hazard is identified in susceptibility areas of the District and the risks to people and property associated with these hazards are avoided or mitigated.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have we correctly identified the issue for slope instability and debris run-out? Are the other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for slope instability and debris run-out, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?



OPTIONS

WHAT WE DO NOW

We have a Slope Instability Risk Area (SIRA) overlay in the TRMP that covers some key areas in the District: the Richmond foothills, Clifton/Pōhara/Ligar Bay, Collingwood, and the Ruby Bay sea cliffs. While there are prescriptive rules in the TRMP for the SIRA there are no specific policies to support the rules. Any subdivision within the SIRA requires a resource consent. Other activities within the overlay are permitted provided the site has been certified as suitable or has been made suitable. This permitted activity rule relies on a third party to determine compliance (e.g. an appropriately competent person in engineering geology or geotechnical engineer certifying the site as suitable or has been made suitable), rather than the Council. Outside of the SIRA overlay slope instability hazards are managed on a case-by-case basis through the resource consent process if general rules apply, or through the building consent process.

In 2021, we sought a technical review of the existing SIRA and immediate surrounding areas to identify land susceptible to slope instability and associated run-out areas. The review produced maps that revised the extent of the slope susceptibility and debris run-out areas. Further work is required before these maps can be finalised and we will keep affected landowners and the community informed of this process and opportunities to provide feedback.

THE CHANGE WE COULD MAKE

We could update the existing SIRA overlay to include a revised extent of the SIRA and develop a specific policy and rule framework for activities in the overlay area. We would review the permitted rule because it is not best practice, or strictly legal, to require certification by a third party. This may mean resource consents would likely be required for activities in the SIRA overlay, but it would ensure the activities are resilient and take into account to slope instability.

We could also investigate whether the SIRA framework and mapping should be extended to include those areas underlain by highly erodible Separation Point Granite geology, where these areas that are not already included in the existing SIRA overlay.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the issues and options for slope instability can be found in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for slope instability to determine the preferred option presented here.

Our website has more information on slope instability, including a link to the Review of TDC Slope Instability Risk Areas report that outlines the methodology, maps and recommendations for slope instability areas in the District.



www.tasman.govt.nz/slope-instability

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the slope instability provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – no changes to the SIRA overlay in the TRMP and continue to manage subdivision in the overlay areas through resource consents and land use via a permitted activity (provided conditions can be met); OR
- b. Change to include updated SIRA overlay in the TRMP and manage slope instability hazard through updated policies and rules in the TRMP; OR
- c. In addition to Option b, should we also include further areas of the Separation Point Granite geology in the overlays even though they are located in rural or backcountry areas where development is unlikely?





COASTAL HAZARDS

Coastal hazards include coastal erosion and flooding, both of which may be exacerbated by sea-level rise driven by climate change. Coastal flooding can occur on low-lying land close to the coast when storm conditions such as storm surges and large waves coincide with high tides. Our sandy beaches and shorelines are subject to natural processes of coastal erosion (sediment loss) and coastal accretion (sediment gain).

Sea-level rise is the increase in the average height of the oceans surface and is caused by the melting of glaciers and ice sheets, and by the expansion of seawater as it warms. In Tasman, relative sea level rise measured at the District's three tide gauges has risen by 14–15 cm over the last 20 years.

ISSUE

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM

The District comprises large low-lying settled coastal areas that are susceptible to coastal erosion and inundation hazards. These hazards will only increase over time as a result of climate change and sea-level rise, putting more people, property and the environment at risk.

Sub issue: Coastal protection works to mitigate coastal inundation and erosion are costly to maintain, often create residual risk (and a false expectation of protection), can transfer risks to previously unaffected people and property, and create ecosystem and natural character feedbacks and effects that are often unanticipated and undesirable.

OUTCOME

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The risks to people, property and the environment associated with coastal inundation and coastal erosion hazards, including the effects of climate change and sea-level rise, are avoided or mitigated in low-lying coastal areas of the District.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have we correctly identified the issues for coastal flooding and erosion?
Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for coastal flooding and erosion, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?



OPTIONS

WHAT WE DO NOW

In the Māpua/Ruby Bay area, where development on the low-lying coastal plain is susceptible to coastal flooding and erosion hazards, there is a Coastal Risk Area overlay and supporting policies and rules in the TRMP that restrict new buildings and alterations (including coastal protection structures) and prohibits subdivision in most circumstances.

In other coastal areas of the District, new buildings within the Coastal Environment Area (CEA) overlay (currently mapped as the area along our coastline from mean high water springs (MHWS) to ~200 m inland) require resource consent; while building extensions and alterations, and coastal protection structures are permitted when certain criteria are met. The rules and activities provided for in the CEA overlay are currently being reviewed through Plan Change 83.

The TRMP also has rules that require resource consents for coastal erosion protection works that occur below MHWS.

Land use zones manage how different areas are used or developed. The location and extent of each zone (such as residential, commercial, industrial) in the TRMP was informed using the most up to date natural hazards information at that time. More recent plan changes, such as Plan Change 81 Urban Growth, are providing for new development opportunities that are natural hazard and climate resilient.

In 2019, we released an interactive map which illustrates the extent of low-lying coastal land in the District that may be affected by rising sea levels through a range of sea level elevations (from 0.5m up to 2m, in 0.5m increments). The map also shows the areas exposed to the impacts of higher tides caused by storms (storm surge), and historical rates of coastal erosion.

THE CHANGE WE COULD MAKE

We could use the mapping of projected sea-level rise and storm surge information to develop an overlay(s) in the TRMP and new policies and rules to address coastal hazards and sea-level rise. Resource consents would likely be required for activities within the overlay and restrictions on new buildings and alterations, coastal protection structures, and subdivisions could apply. The current Māpua/Ruby Bay Coastal Risk Area overlay and provisions could also be reviewed to ensure they are still fit for purpose. Any changes would seek to make any new development and alterations to existing building

more resilient to coastal hazards and sea-level rise over the longer term.

We could also review the current zoning of undeveloped land to ensure the intended land use is resilient to coastal hazards, particularly in urban areas. Some existing undeveloped land which is zoned for development was zoned more than 20 years ago when our knowledge and understanding of coastal hazards was quite different.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the issues and options for coastal hazards can be found in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for coastal hazards to determine the preferred option presented here.

Our website has more information on coastal hazards, including a link to the Coastal Hazards Assessment in Tasman Bay/Te Tai o Aorere and Golden Bay/Mohua (2019) report that outlines the methodology used to assess and map coastal hazards in the District.



www.tasman.govt.nz/coastal-hazards

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the coastal flooding and erosion provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – continue with restrictions in the Māpua/Ruby Bay Coastal Risk Area and resource consent requirements for new builds within the Coastal Environment Area. Building extensions, alterations, and coastal protection structures remain permitted (criteria dependent) above MHWS, while restrictions and resource consents apply below MHWS; OR
- b. Change to include a coastal hazard overlay(s) for additional areas in the TRMP and make new development and alterations more resilient to coastal hazards. This could be achieved by having policies and rules that restrict land uses and activities, including coastal protection structures, in areas across the District exposed to coastal hazards. Review the Māpua/Ruby Bay Coastal Risk Area and associated provisions, and update zoning of undeveloped land to ensure land use is resilient to coastal hazards.



FLOODING AND OVERLAND FLOW PATHS

River (fluvial) flooding happens when a river, stream, or lake, overflows its banks usually because of excessive rainfall. Overland flow paths are areas outside of rivers, streams, or lakes, where water flows during intense rainfall events.

ISSUE

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM

Flooding from rivers and overland flow paths is a frequent and potentially significant hazard in Tasman District and has the potential to cause disruption to the community, economy, damage to buildings and infrastructure, and loss of life or injury to people. When the additional effects of climate change and sea-level rise are taken into account the risk to the District's communities from flooding increases significantly.

Sub issue: Locating buildings and structures within overland flow paths has the potential to cause risk to life, damage to property, and transfer risk to neighbouring sites if overland flow paths are not appropriately identified and managed.

OUTCOME

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Flooding and overland flow path hazards are identified and the risks to people, property and the environment associated with these hazards, are avoided or mitigated.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

**Have we correctly identified the issues for flooding and overland flow paths?
Are there other issues that need to be addressed?**

Do you agree with the outcome for flooding and overland flow paths, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?





OPTIONS

WHAT WE DO NOW

We currently manage flood hazards through general policies and rules in the TRMP, where for activities requiring resource consent, conditions can be used to manage the effects of the hazard on the activity. Generally, there is no flood overlay in the TRMP, instead the mapping sits outside the plan.

The exception is in Richmond Intensive Development Area (RIDA) where there is an overlay in the TRMP for specified stormwater flood flow paths in the area. Corresponding rules manage development to ensure these stormwater flood flow paths are maintained. Plan Change 81 Urban Growth will be reconsidering these stormwater flood flow paths as part of the proposed changes in the Richmond area.

Activities occurring near stopbanks, on berm land (the land between the bank of a river and a stopbank), or land disturbance in overland flow paths are also restricted and require a resource consent in most cases.

THE CHANGE WE COULD MAKE

We could use flood maps and modelling to develop flood hazard overlays in the TRMP where the requirement for resource consents would likely apply for activities in areas susceptible to flood hazards. We could develop a new set of provisions that would apply in these new flood overlay areas. Any changes would seek to make new activities, new development or alterations more resilient to flood hazards.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the issues and options for flooding and overland flow paths can be found in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for flooding and overland flow paths to determine the preferred option presented here.

Our website has more information on flooding and overland flow paths.



www.tasman.govt.nz/flooding

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the flooding provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- Status quo – continue managing flood risk on a case-by-case basis, where the provisions enable the flood hazard to be considered for most activities. Flood hazard maps (with one exception) sit outside the TRMP; OR
- Change to include flood hazard overlays in the TRMP and make new development, alterations, and activities more resilient to flood and overland flow hazards by having provisions that restrict activities in areas susceptible to flood hazards across the District.





WILDFIRE

Wildfires are unwanted, uncontrolled fires in the natural environment. The District experiences prolonged dry periods and has large areas of both indigenous and commercial forest, making it susceptible to wildfires. There is the potential during dry periods for wildfire arising from natural, accidental or deliberate ignition.

Wildfire can occur anywhere within our District, and Council does not hold any mapped information. However, we know there are some communities that are particularly vulnerable, such as those located in areas of dense fire-prone vegetation (e.g. pine forest, kanuka/manuka or other expansive flammable species), on hilly areas (where fire spreads quicker), and/or locations that have limited or single access.

ISSUE

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM

The climate of Tasman District is susceptible to prolonged dry periods. With climate change wildfire hazard is likely to increase in frequency and severity and affect more locations in the District, putting people, property and the environment at greater risk.

Sub issue: Landscaping amenity planting around dwellings may conflict with vegetation management used to mitigate the risk of wildfire. Conversely, vegetation removal to create a defensible space around dwellings may conflict with protecting indigenous vegetation.

OUTCOME

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The risk to people, property and the environment from wildfire is managed.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have we correctly identified the issues for wildfire? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for wildfire, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?





OPTIONS

WHAT WE DO NOW

There are a number of policies and rules in the TRMP that assist in managing wildfire hazard, such as requiring setbacks for dwellings from plantation/commercial forestry. The National Environmental Standards (NES) for Commercial Forestry also requires setbacks from dwellings, urban areas and adjoining properties for afforestation (e.g. planting and growing commercial forestry trees).

New dwellings, not connected to reticulated water supply in rural or rural residential zones, are required to provide a water supply for firefighting purposes (water tank, dam/pond or river supply), or home fire sprinkler system.

The St Arnaud Landscape Priority area in the TRMP allows for removal of indigenous vegetation for new building sites and access. However, this is primarily a landscape provision, to minimise loss of indigenous vegetation for new development, and is currently being reviewed through Plan Change 82 Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes.

THE CHANGE WE COULD MAKE

In rural areas we could look to retain and strengthen the existing setback rules and consider 'defensible space' provisions (the area around a home where vegetation has been modified, reduced or cleared to create a barrier or slow the spread of fire toward the home). The proposed approach would be to minimise wildfire risk in terms of location of buildings to existing vegetation and placement of vegetation near existing buildings.

In rural and rural residential zones, we could clarify the requirements for servicing new developments with water for building firefighting and wildfires.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the issues and options for wildfire can be found in the Tasman Resource Management Plan – Natural Hazards Issues and Options Report, available at shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards. The full report contains a more detailed analysis of the various options considered for wildfire to determine the preferred option presented here.

Our website has more information on wildfire.



www.tasman.govt.nz/wildfire

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the wildfire provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- Status quo – continue requiring setbacks for dwellings from commercial forestry and vegetation clearance provisions for the St Arnaud Landscape Priority Area. In non-reticulated areas continue to require a water supply for firefighting purposes; OR
- Change to strengthen setback provisions with an approach to minimise wildfire risk in terms of location of buildings to existing vegetation and placement of new vegetation near existing buildings. Clarify the requirements for servicing new developments with water for building firefighting and wildfires.

With both options the NES for Commercial Forestry will also continue to apply regarding setbacks, where relevant.



HOW TO GIVE FEEDBACK

There are a number of ways to provide your feedback:



Via Shape Tasman:

shape.tasman.govt.nz/natural-hazards

Use the online form or upload your feedback



Email your feedback to

environmentplan@tasman.govt.nz



Post your feedback to: Natural Hazards

Plan Change 85, Tasman District Council,

Private Bag 4, Richmond, 7050



Deliver it to a Council office:

Attn: Environmental Policy Team,

Plan Change 85 Issues and Options

Remember to include the following information if you're emailing, posting or delivering your feedback:

- Your name or organisation
- Your postal address
- Your telephone number
- Your email address

TIMEFRAME

Engagement on the Issues and Options for Natural Hazards starts on 24 March 2025 and ends on 5 May 2025.

NEXT STEPS

When the engagement period has ended, we will report back to Council on the feedback received and begin developing a draft natural hazards plan change (Plan Change 85) for the Tasman Resource Management Plan. There will be further opportunities for the community to input and provide feedback on Plan Change 85 as it progresses through the planning process.

FEEDBACK QUESTIONS

We want to hear from you about the issues we have identified across the natural hazard topics and the options you prefer to address those issues. You do not have to answer all the questions, and all comments are welcome.

LIQUEFACTION

ISSUES AND OUTCOMES

Have we correctly identified the issue for liquefaction? Are there other issues related to liquefaction that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for liquefaction, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?

OPTIONS

Should we stick with the status quo, or include liquefaction provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – continue to have the liquefaction map outside of the TRMP, manage liquefaction hazards for subdivision through the TRMP, and continue to manage liquefaction hazards for buildings, development and alterations through the Building Act; OR
- b. Change to include a liquefaction map in the TRMP and manage liquefaction hazards for subdivision, building alterations, and development through policies and rules in the TRMP.

FAULT RUPTURE

ISSUES AND OUTCOMES

Have we correctly identified the issue for fault rupture? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for fault rupture, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?

OPTIONS

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the fault rupture provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – no changes to the FRRA overlay in the TRMP and continue to manage subdivision in the overlay through resource consents and building construction or alteration via permitted activity (provided conditions can be met); OR
 - b. Change to include updated FRRA overlay in the TRMP and manage the active fault rupture hazard through revised provisions in the TRMP; OR
 - c. In addition to option b, should we also include an overlay for faults that do not exhibit ground surface deformation and/or faults with long recurrence intervals.
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SLOPE INSTABILITY AND DEBRIS RUN-OUT

ISSUES AND OUTCOMES

Have we correctly identified the issue for slope instability and debris run-out? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for slope instability and debris run-out, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?

OPTIONS

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the slope instability and debris run-out provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – no changes to the SIRA overlay in the TRMP and continue to manage subdivision in the overlay areas through resource consents and land use via a permitted activity (provided conditions can be met); OR
 - b. Change to include updated SIRA overlay in the TRMP and manage slope instability hazard through updated policies and rules in the TRMP; OR
 - c. In addition to option b, should we also include further areas of the Separation Point Granite geology in the overlays even though they are located in rural or backcountry areas where development is unlikely?
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COASTAL HAZARDS

ISSUES AND OUTCOMES

Have we correctly identified the issues for coastal flooding and erosion? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for coastal flooding and erosion, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?

OPTIONS

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the coastal flooding and erosion provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – continue with restrictions in the Māpua/Ruby Bay Coastal Risk Area and resource consent requirements for new builds within the Coastal Environment Area. Building extensions, alterations, and coastal protection structures remain permitted (criteria dependent) above MHWS, while restrictions and resource consents apply below MHWS; OR
- b. Change to include a coastal hazard overlay(s) for additional areas in the TRMP and make new development and alterations more resilient to coastal hazards. This could be achieved by having policies and rules that restrict land uses and activities, including coastal protection structures, in areas across the District exposed to coastal hazards. Review the Māpua/Ruby Bay Coastal Risk Area and associated provisions, and update zoning of undeveloped land to ensure land use is resilient to coastal hazards.

FLOODING AND OVERLAND FLOW PATHS

ISSUES AND OUTCOMES

Have we correctly identified the issues for flooding and overland flow paths? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for flooding and overland flow paths, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?

OPTIONS

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the flooding and overland flow path provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – continue managing flood risk on a case-by-case basis, where the provisions enable the flood hazard to be considered for most activities. Flood hazard maps (with one exception) sit outside the TRMP; OR
- b. Change to include flood hazard overlays in the TRMP and make new development, alterations, and activities more resilient to flood and overland flow hazards by having provisions that restrict activities in areas susceptible to flood hazards across the District.

WILDFIRE

ISSUES AND OUTCOMES

Have we correctly identified the issues for wildfire? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

Do you agree with the outcome for wildfire, or are there other outcomes we should achieve?

OPTIONS

Should we stick with the status quo, or make changes to the wildfire provisions in the TRMP? Why?

- a. Status quo – continue requiring setbacks for dwellings from commercial forestry and vegetation clearance provisions for the St Arnaud Landscape Priority Area. In non-reticulated areas continue to require a water supply for firefighting purposes; OR
- b. Change to strengthen setback provisions with an approach to minimise wildfire risk in terms of location of buildings to existing vegetation and placement of new vegetation near existing buildings. Clarify the requirements for servicing new developments with water for building firefighting and wildfires.

With both options the NES for Commercial Forestry will also continue to apply regarding setbacks, where relevant.

CONTACT DETAILS

Name and/or organisation _____

Email or postal address _____ **Phone** _____

Where do you live? e.g. Richmond, Dovedale _____