

Consents are necessary when an activity has the potential to have an effect on the environment.

Activities such as taking water for irrigation, discharging wastewater, stormwater, dairy farm effluent, undertaking an activity in the coastal marine area (i.e. jetty or mooring installation) all require some form of consent.



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 (RMA)

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) is New Zealand’s primary legislation that sets out how we manage our environment. As well as managing air, soil, fresh water and coastal marine areas, the RMA regulates land use and infrastructure. The RMA requires Regional and District Councils to develop regional and district plans which contain rules for managing these effects, including whether permission is needed for an activity. This permission is authorised by the granting of a resource consent. Decisions on whether to approve resource consents are made by the council, and with complex proposals by independent commissioners or the Environment Court.

HAWKE’S BAY REGIONAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Regional Resource Management Plan (RRMP) is the regional plan that sets out rules for activities in Hawke’s Bay.



The Regional Plan contains objectives and policies, which are the general intent of what the Council **would like to see happen**; as well as rules which set out what **should happen**.