

Activities on the Surface of Water

The purpose of the chapter

The Maitara River and its tributaries are internationally recognised for brown trout angling experiences and recognised in the Maitara River Water Conservation Order.

These waterways also have cultural significance to mana whenua and tangata whenua for a range of reasons including their associations with Ngāi Tahu cosmology and spirituality, cultural landscapes and tribal histories, mahinga kai values, and as transport routes. They are also an important recreational resource and amenity feature for the wider community.

A range of activities occur on the surface of rivers, streams and lakes. These include:

- functional activities such as jetties and piers,
- recreational activities like fishing and boating, and
- customary activities undertaken by mana whenua.

The chapter relates to the activities on the surface of water, while recognising these activities need to be managed in an integrated manner with Environment Southland, as the regional authority responsible for the management of water and mana whenua.

The rules and standards

This chapter permits the following activities:

- Navigational aids or signs
- Water monitoring equipment
- Infrastructure maintenance
- Government authority use of motorised watercraft (ie motor boats, jet skis etc)
- Recreational activities not using a motorised watercraft
- Commercial fishing guides not using a motorised watercraft
- Existing activities
- Recreational use of motorised watercraft on the Maitara River, with speeds less than five knots, between 1 October to 31 July, except in a designated area to the north of Maitara

Resource consent examples

A resource consent would be required for any activity not listed above so that the effects on the waterbody and other activities can be managed. Any structure damming the water flow on the Maitara River, Waikaka River and Otamita Stream is prohibited, consistent with the Conservation Order.

What's the difference from the current District Plan?

The Proposed Gore District Plan is more enabling and specific than the current District Plan. It gives more clarity and assurance to applicants about what matters would need to be assessed under a resource consent application. The Proposed District Plan provides for activities on the surface of water whereas the operative plan has no provisions for these activities. A wider range of activities are enabled under Proposed Gore District Plan, including existing lawfully established activities. The provisions recognise that some activities can create conflict with other activities occurring on the water bodies and/or on adjoining land. Motorised activities in particular have the potential to impact on the amenity and other users. These activities are managed to ensure they are compatible the values of the waterbody and other activities. The Proposed District Plan provides direction for the effects that need to be managed to guide plan users.

Links to the Proposed Gore Plan

This information sheet addresses a few of the key provisions in the Proposed Gore Plan. It should not be used as a definitive representation of content. To view actual Proposed Gore District Plan content, please go to www.lets.talk.goredc.govt.nz

Make a submission

To find out how to submit on the Proposed Gore District Plan, head to www.lets.talk.goredc.govt.nz.