


 WAITAKI  
DISTRICT  
PLAN  
REVIEW

## Activities on the Surface of Water (ASW)

### What are the key issues we need to think about?

Waitaki's lakes and rivers are enjoyed by many communities and visitors to the district. They also support the breeding of nationally and internationally recognised birds and support salmon and trout spawning. Some recreational and commercial activities can affect our lakes and rivers, such as structures and swing moorings that reduce public access to the water, the availability of river/lake space and changes to the natural character of lakes, rivers and their margins. The use of powered craft can also have noise effects that are sometimes unsuitable for the surrounding environment.

Important values to mana whenua are held in the lakes and rivers of our district. Many waterbodies hold taonga species, of special significance to local iwi as well as represent historic gathering places to exercise kaitiaki (guardianship) and mahika kai (customary food gathering).

Consideration also needs to be given to the Waitaki Power Scheme that operates within and alongside the Waitaki lakes and river.

### What are we suggesting in the Draft District Plan?

The draft chapter tries to balance the need to protect the ecological, cultural, recreational and natural character of the district's lakes and rivers and allowing for appropriate activities to occur in these areas.

The objective of the chapter is to support the use of the districts' lakes and rivers for a range of activities whilst managing the impact on the natural environment, mana whenua values, public health and safety and the Waitaki Power Scheme.

The draft plan approach provides for the use of powered and non-powered vessels for recreation purposes on lakes and rivers with



### What does it mean for me?

*Any lawfully established existing businesses or activities would have what is referred to as 'existing use rights' and could continue to operate unchanged.*

**You can still go out and enjoy the lakes and rivers, both on and off the water, but there are protections being suggested for some waterbodies which limit the use of powered vessels in those areas. A resource consent would be required for any commercial activities, structures and swing moorings on lakes and rivers.**

some exclusion areas for powered vessels to protect spawning grounds and bird breeding habitats. You can see the exclusion areas for motorised and powered vessels here.

Vessels can also be used for accommodation, but a resource consent would be required if it is not for a recreational activity or there is insufficient effluent containment on board.

The use of vessels for the Waitaki Power Scheme, and statutory responsibilities are also provided for.

## Key changes from the current rules

The recommended provisions are more restrictive than the current Plan for the use of powered vessels.

- Commercial activities that take place on waterbodies would require a resource consent.
- Controls to protect fish spawning and bird breeding values are being suggested.
- Structures and swing moorings that pass across/through the water would also require a consent.

## Find out more

You can view the full draft chapter on our website

visit [www.waitaki.govt.nz/district-plan-review](http://www.waitaki.govt.nz/district-plan-review)

or scan for more info



## Summary of the new rules being considered

### **Permitted Activities that would not require a resource consent:**

- Use of vessels for a recreational activity (but not motorised or powered vessels on some rivers and lakes) where noise limits and Navigation Safety Bylaws are complied with.
- Use of vessels for accommodation where conditions and Navigation Safety Bylaws are complied with.
- Use of vessels for scientific research and monitoring, consent monitoring, compliance, enforcement, search and rescue, defence, pest control, and civil emergency purposes.
- Use of vessels for the operation, maintenance, refurbishment, enhancement, upgrading and development of the Waitaki Power Scheme.

### **Activities that would require a resource consent:**

- Use of the surface of water for commercial activities.
- Structures and swing moorings that pass across or through the surface of water.
- Use of motorised or powered vessels for a recreational activity on the Ahuriri River or tributaries of the Hopkins River and the exclusion areas identified on the planning maps.

## More questions?

If you have any further questions that aren't covered in this document, or on our website, you can email the Planning Team at [planreview@waitaki.govt.nz](mailto:planreview@waitaki.govt.nz) or call the District Plan Review hotline on 03 433 1661 and leave a message.