



## Rural Lifestyle Zone (RLZ)

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

Pressures for further rural lifestyle subdivision on the margins of Ōamaru would result in the loss of highly productive rural land.

The scattered nature of rural lifestyle development can sometimes lead to reverse sensitivity issues with existing farming operations.

The minimum lot size of 1 hectare in the existing Rural Residential zone is not always practical to maintain for lifestyle purposes. We are keen to hear your feedback on whether we should reduce the lot size below 1 hectare for new subdivisions in the zone.

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

The Rural Lifestyle Zone (RLZ) provides for low density rural living located near established urban areas. It would replace the Rural Residential Zone identified in the current District Plan.

The chapter recognises that further subdivision in the zone would need to be appropriately serviced and risks from natural hazards managed.

The key objective of the chapter is to maintain the semi-rural character and amenity values of the zone with low density detached residential units on spacious sites and provide for ongoing farming opportunities.

You can view where the Rural Lifestyle Zone has been identified on our website.



### 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.*

Within the RLZ, some primary production and residential activities (including an additional minor residential unit) would not require a resource consent. New buildings would however need to meet standards on density, height, coverage, setbacks and fencing. Other activities such as some commercial activities, recreational, farm holiday accommodation, homestay, home businesses and amenity tree planting and shelterbelts would not require a resource consent.

Activities that would require a resource consent include intensive farming activities, community and educational facilities, industry, quarrying, mining, and some commercial activities.

## Key changes from the current rules

The Rural Lifestyle Zone would replace the Rural Residential Zone in the current district plan.

The area of RLZ in Ōamaru has been reduced to align with the Council adopted Ōamaru, Weston and Kakanui Spatial Plan.

Additional RLZ has been identified in Palmerston and Herbert.

## 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)



## 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.

## Summary of suggested rules

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

- Primary production activities, but not mining, quarrying or intensive farming activities.
- Amenity tree planting and shelterbelts where it is not wilding conifer species, and it does not shade an adjacent residential unit during certain hours and is no more than 15m in width.
- Home businesses where they meet standards on size and number of employees.
- One residential unit per 1 hectare plus one minor residential unit where these meet certain standards.
- Accessory buildings
- Farm holiday and homestay accommodation.
- Recreational activities.
- Retailing of farm/handcraft produce and refreshments for group visits.
- Papakāika within land held under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 or within a Native Reserve.

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

- Community facilities
- Industrial activities
- Service activities
- Intensive farming
- Educational facilities
- Retirement villages
- All other activities not listed as being permitted.