

HAVE YOUR
SAY

Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago



Otago's future

Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei

*For us and for the generations
that come after us*

This brochure tells you about the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago, how it affects you, and how to get involved.

The Proposed Regional Policy Statement aims to ensure Otago's natural and built resources are managed well, now and for the future.

Well managed resources provide for Otago's social, economic, cultural and environmental wellbeing; community health and safety; and for future generations.

The Proposed Regional Policy Statement affects you because it guides development of district and regional plans, and resource consent decision making.

The Proposed Regional Policy Statement:

Has four outcomes:

- Kāi Tahu values, rights and interests are recognised and kaitiakitaka (exercise of customary custodianship) is expressed
- Otago has high quality natural resources and ecosystems
- Communities in Otago are resilient, safe and healthy
- People are able to use and enjoy Otago's natural and built environment.

Considers the needs of all of Otago's communities by:

- Addressing matters of regional importance
- Focusing on values and effects of using resources, and land use activities
- Requiring environmental bottom-lines to be set
- Enabling use of resources, and land use activities, unless there is good reason for them to be avoided or managed
- Reflecting the connections in the natural and built environment
- Using common descriptions for values to help make consistent planning decisions
- Assisting city, district and regional councils to work well together.

The Proposed Regional Policy Statement includes proposals that affect you:

Kāi Tahu values, rights and interests

We need to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi) by including Kāi Tahu values, rights, and interests in our planning processes. Resource management needs to give effect to the Treaty and recognise that customs evolve over time, while enabling customary use of land and other resources.

Significant values

Some things are so important to us that we need to be extra careful in how we manage them, and we should do this consistently across Otago. We propose the use of common criteria identifying indigenous vegetation, habitat of indigenous fauna (animals), natural features, natural landscapes, and heritage.

Natural hazards

Risk from natural hazards should be minimised, and reduced wherever possible. Communities affected by natural hazards will be involved in assessing their ability to tolerate natural hazard events and how best to minimise risk to life and property.

Climate change and sea level rise

The effects of climate change over the next 100 years should be considered. A sea level rise figure of one metre is proposed to recognise the effect of climate change. This figure must be taken into account when future resource management decisions are made.

Land use change in dry catchments

Any changes of land use that reduce available water in Otago's dry and vulnerable catchments should be carefully considered. We propose that significant changes in vegetation, such as tussock grassland conversion and forestry extension, need to be managed appropriately in drier parts of the region.

Air quality

It is important for our health that we have clean air and warm homes. Where there is already poor air quality, or in areas where air quality is at risk of being degraded, it is proposed that new subdivision and development must use low or no-emission heating systems.

Urban areas

Different planning approaches may be needed to ensure our urban areas are vibrant and productive. Some urban areas, like in the Queenstown Lakes District, are experiencing strong population growth, while other parts of the region want to attract people and investment.

Managing the effects of urban areas and the costs of infrastructure on our communities is a major issue regardless of the rate of growth. Urban growth boundaries may be used where extra care is necessary to ensure infrastructure is used well and stays affordable, or to protect valued rural land. The use of good urban design is supported.



Find out more and get involved

We encourage you to read the full Proposed RPS.

It can be found on our website (www.orc.govt.nz), at public libraries and city, district, and regional council offices. For more information or to request a copy you can email us at rps@orc.govt.nz or phone us on 0800 474 082.

This is the public consultation process and you are invited to make a submission.

All submissions must be received by:
5pm, Friday 24 July 2015.

You can make a submission in the following ways:

Online	www.orc.govt.nz
Email	rps@orc.govt.nz
Post	Freepost 497, Proposed RPS, Otago Regional Council, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054. (Or complete the freepost submission form attached)
Deliver to	Otago Regional Council offices at: 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin Dunorling Street, Alexandra The Station, First Floor, corner Shotover and Camp Streets, Queenstown.

What happens next?

AUGUST 2015
Summary of all decisions requested is notified and further submissions may be made

OCTOBER 2015
Hearings are held where all submitters can speak about their submission

END OF 2015
Decision is released
Opportunity to appeal the decision

PROPOSED REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR OTAGO

Public notice of Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago

The Otago Regional Council gives notice that it has prepared the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago (Proposed RPS). The Proposed RPS sets out how we will achieve integrated management of Otago's natural and physical resources.

The Proposed RPS has four outcomes:

- Kai Tahu values, rights and interests are recognised and kaitiakitaka (exercise of customary custodianship) is expressed
- Otago has high quality natural resources and ecosystems
- Communities in Otago are resilient, safe and healthy
- People are able to use and enjoy Otago's natural and built environment

The Proposed RPS aims to consider the needs of all of Otago's communities by:

- Addressing matters of regional importance
- Focusing on values and effects of using resources, and land use activities
- Requiring environmental bottom-lines to be set
- Enabling use of resources, and land use activities, unless there is good reason for them to be avoided or managed
- Reflecting the connections in the natural and built environment
- Using common descriptions for values to help make consistent planning decisions
- Assisting city, district and regional councils to work well together.

The Proposed RPS may directly affect you as it contains proposals regarding:

- Kai Tahu values, rights and interests in planning processes
- Significant values (e.g. indigenous vegetation and natural landscapes)
- Natural hazards, climate change and sea level rise
- Land use change in dry catchments
- Air quality
- Managing growth of urban areas

The Proposed RPS and Section 32 Evaluation Report may be inspected at:

- www.orc.govt.nz
- Otago Regional Council offices:
 - 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
 - William Fraser Building, Dunorling Street, Alexandra
 - The Station, First Floor, corner Shotover and Camp Streets, Queenstown
- All public libraries, and city and district council offices throughout Otago

Any person may make a submission on the Proposed RPS

You may do so by sending a written submission to the Otago Regional Council. The submission must be in Form 5 and state whether you wish to be heard in support of your submission. Submission forms (Form 5) can be found on our website www.orc.govt.nz and are available by phoning 0800 474 082.

Submissions close at 5pm, Friday 24 July 2015

Email to: rps@orc.govt.nz

Online: www.orc.govt.nz

Post to: Freepost 497, Proposed RPS, Otago Regional Council, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054

Deliver to: Otago Regional Council offices at:

- 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
- Dunorling Street, Alexandra
- The Station, First Floor, Corner Shotover and Camp Streets, Queenstown

The process under the Resource Management Act 1991 is:

- After submissions close, Council prepares a summary of decisions requested and publicly notifies it
- Certain persons may make a further submission supporting or opposing submissions already made
- You may speak in support of your submission at a hearing
- The Council gives notice of its decision on the proposal, including its reasons
- Every person making a submission has the right of appeal to the Environment Court

Fraser McRae
Director Policy and Resource Planning

Signed on behalf of the Otago Regional Council
Saturday 23 May 2015

Notified in accordance with Clause 5 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991.



SUBMISSION FORM (Print clearly on both sides)

Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago

Office use only

Name of submitter: _____

Organisation (if applicable): _____

Postal address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

I wish / do not wish (circle preference) to be heard in support of my submission

If others make a similar submission, I will / will not consider presenting jointly with them at a hearing (circle preference)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(of submitter, or person authorised to sign on their behalf)

Trade competitors declaration (if applicable)

I could gain through trade competition from a submission, but my submission is limited to addressing environmental effects directly impacting my business

Signature: _____

Note that all submissions are made available for public inspection

**SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5.00 PM,
FRIDAY 24 JULY 2015**



Send to:
Freepost ORC 497
Otago Regional Council
Private Bag 1954
Dunedin 9054

Please turn over

1 State what your submission relates to and if you support, oppose or want it amended	2 State what decision you want the Otago Regional Council to make	3 Give reasons for the decision you want made
e.g. amend provision 'y'	e.g. provision 'y' should say...	e.g. I want provision 'y' changed because...

Please add pages as required