

## **H19. Rural zones**

### **H19.1 Background**

There are five rural zones covered in H19. Rural zones:

- Rural – Rural Production Zone;
- Rural – Mixed Rural Zone;
- Rural – Rural Coastal Zone;
- Rural – Rural Conservation Zone; and
- Rural – Countryside Living Zone.

These zones, and their provisions, provide the main framework for the management of subdivision, use and development in the rural areas.

Section H19.2 contains general provisions applicable to all rural zones. These general provisions are then followed by objectives and policies relevant to the individual zones (section H19.3 to H19.5.12). The general and zone-specific provisions provide the management framework for subdivision use and development in the rural areas and need to be considered together, along with the Auckland-wide objectives and policies for rural subdivision.

Within the Rural – Rural Coastal Zone there are a number of identified coastal areas that, in addition to the general objectives and policies of that zone, have additional area specific objectives and policies.

These areas are:

- Te Arai-Pakiri coastal area;
- Whangateau-Waiwera coastal area;
- Kaipara South Head and Harbour coastal area;
- Muriwai-Te Henga coastal area;
- Tasman coastal area;
- Manukau Harbour coastal area; and
- Tāmaki-Firth coastal area.

### **H19.2 Objectives and policies – all rural zones**

The following objectives and policies apply to all rural zones.

#### **H19.2.1. Objectives – general rural**

- (1) Rural areas are where people work, live and recreate and where a range of activities and services are enabled to support these functions.
- (2) Rural production activities are provided for throughout the rural area while containing adverse environmental effects on site.

- (3) Elite soil is protected, and prime soil is managed, for potential rural production.
- (4) Rural lifestyle development avoids fragmentation of productive land.

#### **H19.2.2. Policies – general rural**

- (1) Enable activities based on use of the land resource and recognise them as a primary function of rural areas.
- (2) Require rural production activities to contain and manage their adverse environmental effects on-site to the fullest extent practicable.
- (3) Enable rural production activities on elite and prime soil and avoid land-use activities and development not based on, or related to, rural production from locating on elite soil and avoid where practicable such activities and development from locating on prime soil.
- (4) Enable and maintain the productive potential of land that is not elite or prime soil but which has productive potential for rural production purposes, and avoid its use for other activities including rural lifestyle living except where these are provided for or enabled by Policy H19.2.2(5).
- (5) Enable a range of rural production activities and a limited range of other activities in rural areas by:
  - (a) separating potentially incompatible activities such as rural production and rural lifestyle living into different zones;
  - (b) avoiding or restricting rural subdivision for activities not associated with rural production in areas other than those subdivision provided for in [E39 Subdivision – Rural](#);
  - (c) managing the effects of activities in rural areas so that;
    - (i) essential infrastructure can be funded, coordinated and provided in a timely, integrated, efficient and appropriate manner; and
    - (ii) reverse sensitivity effects do not constrain rural production activities.
  - (d) acknowledging that, in some circumstances, the effective operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of infrastructure may place constraints on productive land and other rural activities; or
  - (e) providing for tourism and activities related to the rural environment.
- (6) Recognise that a range of buildings and structures accessory to farming and forestry, and other operational structures for rural production activities are an integral part of rural character and amenity values.
- (7) Enable intensive farming in the Rural – Rural Production Zone, Rural – Mixed Rural Zone and Rural – Rural Coastal Zone only where it is carried out in accordance with good industry practice.

### **H19.2.3. Objectives – rural character, amenity and biodiversity values**

- (1) The character, amenity values and biodiversity values of rural areas are maintained or enhanced while accommodating the localised character of different parts of these areas and the dynamic nature of rural production activities.
- (2) Areas of significant indigenous biodiversity are protected and enhanced.

### **H19.2.4. Policies – rural character, amenity and biodiversity values**

- (1) Manage the effects of rural activities to achieve a character, scale, intensity and location that is in keeping with rural character, amenity and biodiversity values, including recognising the following characteristics:
  - (a) a predominantly working rural environment;
  - (b) fewer buildings of an urban scale, nature and design, other than dwellings and their accessory buildings and buildings accessory to farming; and
  - (c) a general absence of infrastructure which is of an urban type and scale.
- (2) Recognise the following are typical features of the Rural – Rural Production Zone, Rural – Mixed Rural Zone and Rural – Rural Coastal Zone and will generally not give rise to issues of reverse sensitivity in these zones:
  - (a) the presence of large numbers of farmed animals and extensive areas of plant, vine or fruit crops, plantation forests and farm forests;
  - (b) noise, odour, dust, traffic and visual effects associated with use of the land for farming, horticulture, forestry, mineral extraction and cleanfills;
  - (c) the presence of existing mineral extraction activities on sites zoned as Special Purpose – Quarry Zone;
  - (d) accessory buildings dot the landscape, particularly where farming activities are the dominant activity; and
  - (e) activities which provide for the relationship of Mana Whenua to their ancestral land and taonga.
- (3) Enable opportunities to protect existing Significant Ecological Areas or provide opportunities to enhance or restore areas to areas meeting criteria of Significant Ecological Areas.

### **H19.2.5. Objectives – rural industries, rural commercial services and non-residential activities**

- (1) Rural production activities are supported by appropriate rural industries and services.
- (2) The character, intensity and scale of rural industries and services are in keeping with the character of the relevant rural zone.

- (3) The rural economy and the well-being of people and local communities are maintained or enhanced by social, cultural and economic non-residential activities, while the area's rural character and amenity is maintained or enhanced.
- (4) Industries, services and non-residential activities of an urban type and scale unrelated to rural production activities are not located in rural zones.
- (5) The rehabilitation of quarries is assisted by cleanfills and managed fills.

#### **H19.2.6. Policies – rural industries, rural commercial services and non-residential activities**

- (1) Enable rural industries and rural commercial services only where they have a direct connection with the resources, amenities, characteristics and communities of rural areas.
- (2) Manage rural industries, rural commercial services and other non-residential activities to:
  - (a) avoid creating reverse sensitivity effects;
  - (b) contain and manage adverse effects on-site; and
  - (c) avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on traffic movement and the road network.
- (3) Enable cleanfills and managed fills where they can assist the rehabilitation of quarries.
- (4) Restrict cleanfills and managed fills in the Rural – Rural Conservation Zone and Rural – Countryside Living Zone. Where cleanfills are established in other rural zones:
  - (a) they should not adversely affect or inhibit the use of surrounding land for productive purposes or for carrying out any permitted, restricted discretionary or discretionary activity; and
  - (b) their completed state should be in keeping with the appearance, form and location of existing rural character and amenity values.

### **H19.3 Rural – Rural Production Zone**

#### **H19.3.1. Zone description**

The purpose of the Rural – Rural Production Zone is to provide for the use and development of land for rural production activities and rural industries and services, while maintaining rural character and amenity values.

The zone's physical, climatic and production characteristics vary across the region, including rolling to steep hill country and flat to rolling lowlands with highly productive soils close to the metropolitan area.

In the north, the zone is characterised by:

- Auckland's highest number of remaining large rural properties;
- Low-intensity settlement, significant natural areas and natural resources; and
- an environment less modified by humans than other zones in the north.

In the south, the zone is characterised by:

- intensively subdivided land tenure pattern, particularly on lowland areas;
- the largest horticultural production area in Auckland, centred on the highly productive soils of the Franklin lowlands;
- mixed primary production including pastoral farming and forestry relating to topography, land tenure pattern and water availability on the west and east coasts; and
- the Hunua Ranges providing the backdrop to production land in the east.

The following objectives and policies apply to the Rural – Rural Production Zone.

### **H19.3.2. Objectives**

- (1) A range of rural production, rural industries, and rural commercial activities take place in the zone.
- (2) The productive capability of the land is maintained and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

### **H19.3.3. Policies**

- (1) Provide for a range of existing and new rural production, rural industry and rural commercial activities and recognise their role in determining the zone's rural character and amenity values.
- (2) Provide for forestry activities including:
  - (a) planting and management of new and existing forests in recognition of their production values, land stability and carbon sequestration functions, and multiple use for active recreation;
  - (b) woodlots and farm-scale forestry; and
  - (c) planting of indigenous species and amenity exotic species for long-term production purposes and the eventual harvesting of these species.
- (3) Enable the establishment of new greenhouses and the expansion of existing greenhouses in specific locations where there are advantages for operational efficiencies, transport accessibility and the provision of energy such as natural gas supplies and services, and manage the amenity expectations of other activities in these areas.
- (4) Provide for intensive farming, while managing the adverse effects and require compliance with good industry practice.
- (5) Require intensive farming of new species, including terrestrial, freshwater and marine species not currently farmed in the Rural – Rural Production Zone to:

- (a) be designed and operated to prevent the escape of any species of animal or plant that could have an adverse effect on the natural environment; and
- (b) not include any mustelid species.

#### **H19.4 Rural – Mixed Rural Zone**

##### **H19.4.1. Zone description**

The purpose of the Rural – Mixed Rural Zone is to provide for rural production, generally on smaller rural sites and non-residential activities of a scale compatible with smaller site sizes.

These areas often have a history of horticulture, viticulture, intensive farming and equine-related activities. These activities have in turn supported the establishment of produce sales or retail services such as cafés, restaurants, tourist and visitor-related facilities.

Sites in this zone provide flexibility to accommodate a range of rural production activities and associated non-residential activities while still ensuring good amenity levels for residents who use their land for rural lifestyle purposes.

The following objectives and policies apply to the Rural – Mixed Rural Zone.

##### **H19.4.2. Objectives**

- (1) The existing subdivision pattern is used by a range of rural production activities and non-residential activities that support them.
- (2) The continuation of rural production and associated non-residential activities in the zone is not adversely affected by inappropriate rural lifestyle activity.
- (3) Rural character and amenity values of the zone are maintained while anticipating a mix of rural production, non-residential and rural lifestyle activities.

##### **H19.4.3. Policies**

- (1) Enable rural production, rural industries and rural commercial services that are compatible with the existing subdivision pattern and recognise that these activities are significant elements of, and primary contributors to, rural character and amenity values.
- (2) Manage reverse sensitivity effects by:
  - (a) limiting the size, scale and type of non-rural production activities;
  - (b) retaining the larger site sizes within this zone;
  - (c) limiting further subdivision for new rural lifestyle sites; and
  - (d) acknowledging a level of amenity that reflects the presence of:
    - (i) rural production and processing activities that generate rural odours, noise from stock and the use of machinery, and the movement of commercial vehicles on the local road network; and

- (ii) non-residential activities which may generate noise, light and traffic levels greater than those normally found in areas set aside for rural lifestyle activities.

## **H19.5 Rural – Rural Coastal Zone**

### **H19.5.1. Zone description**

The purpose of the Rural – Rural Coastal Zone is to retain and enhance the rural character and amenity values, local coastal character and biodiversity values of rural areas along Auckland's harbours, estuaries and coastline. It is also to enable rural production activities, local non-residential activities, maintain recreational opportunities and manage the effects of existing scattered rural lifestyle development. The zone also provides opportunities to access the coastal marine area and support marine-related activities.

The zone is more extensive than the coastal environment line identified by using the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement criteria. It recognises the significance of the coast to the character and identity of Auckland and its role as a favoured place to live and work and for recreational and leisure activities. The coastal environment, and in particular the coastal edge and margins of lakes and rivers, is important to Mana Whenua.

Much, but not all of the zone and the adjacent coastal marine area is covered by Outstand Natural Character, High Natural Character, Outstanding Natural Landscape and Significant Ecological Areas overlays.

Parts of this zone are under significant development pressure for coastal town and village settlement, further rural lifestyle opportunities, recreational, tourism and visitor activities.

The objectives and policies set out in H19.5.2 and H19.5.3 apply to the entire Rural – Rural Coastal Zone. The objectives and policies set out in sections H19.5.4. – H19.5.10. apply to specific coastal areas:

- Rural Coastal Zone – Te Arai-Pākiri coastal area;
- Rural Coastal Zone – Whangateau-Waiwera coastal area;
- Rural Coastal Zone – Kaipara South Head and Harbour coastal area;
- Rural Coastal Zone – Muriwai-Te Henga coastal area;
- Rural Coastal Zone – Tasman coastal area;
- Rural Coastal Zone – Manukau Harbour coastal area; and
- Rural Coastal Zone – Tāmaki-Firth coastal area.

### **H19.5.2. Objectives**

- (1) Rural production activities are enabled while managing adverse effects on rural character and amenity values, landscape, biodiversity values and Mana Whenua cultural heritage values.

- (2) The development and operation of activities that provide recreational and local non-residential services are enabled where they maintain and enhance the zone's rural and coastal character, amenity values, landscape and biodiversity values.
- (3) Buildings are of a scale and intensity that do not detract from the zone's rural and coastal character and amenity values.
- (4) Rural lifestyle subdivision is limited across the zone.
- (5) The significant relationship between land, freshwater bodies and the coastal marine area and their contribution to Auckland's rural and coastal character is maintained and enhanced.
- (6) Recognise differences in coastal character in different parts of the zone and manage activities and development to maintain and enhance local coastal character.

### **H19.5.3. Policies**

- (1) Manage activities and development to maintain the distinctive rural and coastal character of the zone which include:
  - (a) farming and forestry with a low density of buildings and other significant structures;
  - (b) rural character and amenity values, biodiversity values, values based on particular physical and natural features such as beaches, ridgelines, estuaries, harbours, indigenous vegetation, wetlands, or similar features;
  - (c) physical and visual links between land, freshwater lakes and the coastal marine area; or
  - (d) traditional cultural relationships of Mana Whenua with the coastal environment.
- (2) Enable the continuation of rural production activities and the construction of accessory buildings and structures for farming purposes.
- (3) Provide for the continued operation of forestry including harvesting and replanting in existing forest areas.
- (4) Discourage rural production activities that have significant adverse effects resulting from:
  - (a) large buildings;
  - (b) significant earthworks or changes to natural landforms;
  - (c) adverse effects that cannot be contained or managed within the boundary of the site;
  - (d) significant numbers of daily vehicle movements, particularly on scenic and tourist routes; or



- (e) significant impacts on biodiversity values and rural character and amenity values.
- (5) Maintain the rural and coastal character and amenity values in the coastal environment by controlling the number, location, size and visual impact of dwellings and other non-residential buildings and their curtilage and accessways.
- (6) Require the location and design of buildings and other significant structures to:
  - (a) avoid locating on the top of ridgelines so their profile does not protrude above the natural line of the ridge;
  - (b) minimise building platforms and accessways and earthworks associated with these; and
  - (c) avoid locating buildings and other significant structures in coastal yards and riparian margins, except for fences and structures with operational need for such a location.
- (7) Recognise the importance of major roads in the zone that:
  - (a) provide access to coastal settlements, public open space and the coast;
  - (b) function as major transport routes for rural produce;
  - (c) are major scenic and tourist routes;
  - (d) are preferred locations for recreation, tourism, visitor facilities and services and the sale of produce and crafts; or
  - (e) act as gateways to Auckland.
- (8) Enable the development of appropriate activities, while ensuring that the transport function of the road and its scenic values are not compromised.

#### **H19.5.4. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone Te Arai-Pākiri coastal area**

##### **H19.5.4.1. Area Description**

This area includes the coastal land between Te Arai Point and J Greenwood Road to the south of Pākiri village. Te Arai and Pākiri beaches are the only lengthy, exposed, high-energy beaches on mainland Auckland's east coast. In contrast to other areas on this coastline, it has a distinctly remote and wild rural character.

The area is characterised by hill country in the south and west which gives way to rolling rural land, sand dunes and flat pastoral land in the north and east. The sand dunes along with historically planted exotic forests form a natural interface between the beach and the pastoral land further afield. The areas of indigenous and exotic forest on the hills lying to the west of the Pākiri coastal area form a physical and visual backdrop to the area. There are significant areas of indigenous vegetation and wildlife habitat in the area, containing a number of important native species.

The Te Arai-Pākiri coastal area is characterised by an existing rural lifestyle and beach settlement to the south of Mangawhai Forest, focussed on the Pākiri River area. Pākiri Regional Park is located to the south of the river. There are limited public road access points to the beaches. At Te Arai Point, located towards the northern end of the coastline, there is a public reserve, regional park, scenic lookout and a golf course.

#### **H19.5.4.2. Objectives**

- (1) Low levels of built development in the Te Arai-Pākiri coastal area are maintained to retain its coastal character and the scenic and recreational values of Pākiri Beach and Te Arai Beach.
- (2) Development of Māori land is provided for in a way that retains the dominance of natural elements and scenic values over any built development.

#### **H19.5.4.3. Policies**

- (1) Avoid beachfront residential and rural lifestyle development to retain the undeveloped character of the beaches.
- (2) Manage the type and intensity of development along existing public roads and other access ways to the beaches to protect their low-key development character.
- (3) Manage built development so that the size, location and density of buildings do not dominate over natural elements and the area retains a rural and coastal character rather than a built one.
- (4) Minimise the visual and landscape impacts of buildings in areas where there are important public views to and from Pākiri Beach, Te Arai Beach and the rural backdrop, including:
  - (a) views to and from the beach at the Pākiri River mouth;
  - (b) views to and along Pākiri Beach and the southern coastal hills from Pākiri Regional Park; and
  - (c) views to and from the beach at Te Arāi Point.
- (5) Avoid activities and development that adversely affect the natural character, water quality and recreational use of the catchment of the Cape Rodney to Ōkakarī Point/Goat Island Marine Reserve, particularly on the coastal hills fronting the reserve.
- (6) Provide for the ongoing operation of the Mangawhai Forest and its multiple purposes for timber production and sand dune stabilisation, and for its landscape and open space values as a backdrop to Pākiri Beach.
- (7) Enable the use of Māori land in the area for papakāinga and other associated purposes, but recognise the high natural values of the area by:
  - (a) concentrating built development in areas of lower visual prominence;

- (b) cluster development rather than expansion along the coastal edge;
- (c) maintaining existing vegetation and landform character as far as practicable; and
- (d) managing the scale of development to reflect papakāinga and marae needs, rather than more intensive forms of development.

#### **H19.5.5. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone East Coast area Whangateau-Waiwera**

##### **H19.5.5.1. Area Description**

This extends from Rodney Road (Pākiri Hill) south as far as the northern bank of Waiwera River. Its inland boundary generally follows State Highway 1 from Waiwera to Warkworth, before extending northeast to the east of Matakana Road and along Leigh Road.

The area is characterised by an indented and variable coastline with steep headlands, small coves, sheltered beaches and harbours, and extensive sandy beaches. A sequence of five major estuaries are along the eastern coast area – Whangateau, Matakana, Mahurangi, Pūhoi and Waiwera. These estuarine environments provide fish nursery areas that contribute to the overall productivity of the Hauraki Gulf.

Between Mahurangi and Waiwera the land is characterised by steep to rolling rural land with extensive areas of indigenous vegetation and partially bush-clad slopes. There are few areas of flat land, the largest areas being at Omaha Beach and Omaha flats.

Much of the coastal edge is identified as an Outstanding Natural Character or High Natural Character overlay with further expanses of land being Outstanding Natural Landscape and Significant Ecological areas.

Five regional parks at Tāwharanui, Scandretts, Mahurangi East, Mahurangi West and Wenderholm provide public access and recreational opportunities, as well as being significant ecological areas.

##### **H19.5.5.2. Objectives**

- (1) The open, high-quality natural character, coastal landscape and natural environmental values are retained.
- (2) Recreational, marine transport, tourism and home occupation activities are supported where they are consistent the coastal landscape character and natural environmental values of the area.
- (3) Use and development is integrated with growth in identified rural and coastal towns and settlements.
- (4) The high natural values of the east coast estuaries are maintained.

##### **H19.5.5.3. Policies**

- (1) Require buildings, including dwellings, greenhouses and buildings for intensive farming and their curtilage and access to be located sensitively in

the landscape with particular consideration to their size, location, scale and density, ability to sit into the landscape.

- (2) Avoid locating dwellings and other significant buildings on ridgelines and the construction of visually prominent accessways up or across visually significant slopes.
- (3) Recognise and support the high recreational values of the area, particularly accessibility to, and use of, the coastal marine area by enabling:
  - (a) the continued use of Sandspit as a transport terminal to Kawau Island; and
  - (b) the efficient operation of existing public boat launching facilities and the establishment of new public facilities in appropriate locations.
- (4) Avoid activities and development of a type, scale or location that adversely affects the public use and enjoyment of regional parks and other public open space for:
  - (a) active and passive recreation, both on land and in the adjoining coastal marine area;
  - (b) appreciation of open space, scenic and natural landscape values;
  - (c) centres for biodiversity management and enhancement; or
  - (d) farmland management.
- (5) Concentrate larger scale tourist facilities, including tourist accommodation, in rural and coastal towns.
- (6) Manage activities that have the potential to generate sediment into the estuarine environments to ensure the high natural values of these environments are protected and maintained.

#### **H19.5.6. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone West Coast Coastal area (Kaipara South Head and harbour)**

##### **H19.5.6.1. Area description**

This area includes significant areas of Kaipara South Head, the Ōkahukura (Tāpora) Peninsula and the eastern coastal margins of the Kaipara Harbour. The area is characterised by a predominance of rural production activity, particularly pastoral farming activities and forestry and its significance to Māori. Long, high-energy beaches backed by sand dunes are located along the coast, terminating in the significant high dune landforms and Papakanui spit at South Kaipara Head.

Flat coastal alluvial plains are a special landscape feature in the Kaipara Harbour catchment. These are backed by a convoluted coastline with rolling hills. This harbour is highly tidal with extensive areas of exposed intertidal flats and defined low tidal channels and occasional mangrove communities. The South Head area

is recognised as having wind resources with potential to be used as a source of renewable energy.

Significant bird habitats are present along the coastal margins and in the harbour, particularly around the sand islands at Tāpora. Tāpora, Wharehine and Port Albert are sensitive to development due to the elevated nature of many of the surrounding roads, and due to the rolling and often open nature of the land which also connects to the low lying alluvial plains.

Development has increased in particular along the west coast of the Kaipara Harbour and along South Head. A pattern of typically large properties and low-density settlement provides a rural and semi-remote character.

Woodhill Forest along the western margins of South Kaipara peninsula provides recreation, sand stabilisation and landscape functions.

There are areas of Outstanding Natural Character, High Natural Character and Outstanding Natural Landscape which may be at risk of degradation due to development pressure. South Head and the coast of the Kaipara Harbour are areas recognised as being under pressure for development. Control over the built environment in these areas is considered prudent to ensure that the character and rural/coastal landscape and environmental and amenity values are retained.

#### **H19.5.6.2. Objectives**

- (1) The special and distinctive coastal and rural character of the West Coast area is retained.
- (2) Land-based activities and development are managed to protect the area's Outstanding and High Natural Character and landscape values and its ecological, recreation and amenity values.
- (3) The relationship between the land, the Tasman Coast and the Kaipara Harbour is recognised and maintained.
- (4) Significant Māori associations with the Kaipara Harbour area recognised and provided for.

#### **H19.5.6.3. Policies**

- (1) Enable rural production activities, particularly pastoral farming and forestry, for their economic and social role as well as in retaining a remote rural and coastal character.
- (2) Maintain a low-intensity built environment, where buildings are for rural production purposes rather than for rural lifestyle.
- (3) Require buildings for intensive farming to be sited to minimise visual impacts on natural character and landscape values.
- (4) Retain a range of land holding sizes, particularly those larger land holdings used for pastoral farming activities.

- (5) Improve public access to the Kaipara Harbour, including boat launching facilities where this does not adversely affect important habitat areas, such as the Tāpora sand islands.
- (6) Require subdivision and land-use activities to enhance and protect the distinctive special character and sensitive environments of the policy area.

#### **H19.5.7. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone Muriwai-Te Henga coastal area**

##### **H19.5.7.1. Area description**

This area consists of a rugged coastal strip between Muriwai and Bethells Beach/Te Henga and the area inland to the edge of the hill country west of Waitākere township. It has largely uninhabited steep, rugged indented coastal cliffs along the West Coast with small beaches amid high rocky headlands. Rolling to steep hills extend inland from the coast. There is significant indigenous vegetation. This area is characterised by the predominance of natural qualities that is largely unmodified by the built environment, significant roads or other landscape modifications.

Rural lifestyle development to the south of Muriwai settlement is focused on Ōaia and Constable Roads but set back from the coastal edge.

Part of this area is included in the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Overlay.

##### **H19.5.7.2. Objectives**

- (1) The natural character and coastal and non-urban character of the Muriwai-Bethells Beach coastal area is protected and retained.
- (2) Activities are managed to maintain the values of the adjoining Open Space Zone.

##### **H19.5.7.3. Policies**

- (1) Manage built development so that its size, location and density do not dominate natural elements and the area retains a rural and coastal character rather than a built one.
- (2) Avoid siting dwellings and accessory buildings overlooking public walkways or locations such as headlands or ridgelines where they would be highly visible from an Open Space Zone.
- (3) Avoid built development requiring significant clearance of regenerating and established indigenous vegetation.

#### **H19.5.8. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone Tasman Coast area (Āwhitu Peninsula)**

##### **H19.5.8.1. Area description**

This area comprises the western margins of the Āwhitu Peninsula. It extends from the Manukau Harbour south to the boundary with the Waikato District.

The Peninsula is largely defined by a sequence of massive dunes that rise to a central spine generally 120-190m above sea level. These enclose a series of

deep valleys and dune lakes that are exposed to the Tasman Sea. There are two dune lakes - Pēhiākura and Pokorua.

The area as a whole is one of high natural character and outstanding natural landscapes. Steep hill country gives the area a wild, scenic and remote landscape character. Pastoral land comprises large farm holdings with pockets of indigenous vegetation and forestry. Settlement is typically sparse – characterised by farm houses and accessory buildings and located adjacent to existing roads. A long history of Māori settlement has left a legacy of places and sites of significance to local iwi and strong cultural associations with the peninsula as a whole.

The potential for this area to support renewable wind energy generation facilities is acknowledged.

#### **H19.5.8.2. Objectives**

- (1) The high natural values, including natural character and landscapes are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development while providing for rural activities.
- (2) Natural coastal processes are recognised and managed by avoiding activities that would create or exacerbate coastal erosion and sand blowouts along the Tasman coastline.

#### **H19.5.8.3. Policies**

- (1) Provide for limited subdivision, use and development to ensure natural character and landscape values are maintained and enhanced.
- (2) Avoid land modification and development along sandy coastal margins and seaward faces of the coastal escarpments or ridgelines.
- (3) Encourage protection of stands of indigenous bush and restoration and enhancement planting of indigenous trees, shrubs and other plants along the coastal escarpments and ridgelines.
- (4) Recognise the wild, scenic, and remote values of the Tasman Coast.

### **H19.5.9. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone Manukau Harbour coastal area**

#### **H19.5.9.1. Area description**

This area encompasses the harbour fringe from Wattle Bay at the harbour entrance to the Whangamaire Stream arm of the Pāhurehure Inlet west of Hingaia.

This coastal margin is physically diverse with a wide variety of environments including beaches, headlands, cliffs and estuaries. It is characterised by low-lying rural flatlands, low terraces and rolling topography deeply indented by the Waiuku and Taihiki rivers and various estuarine creeks and inlets.

The Waiuku River is associated with low coastal cliffs and rural land sloping down to a mangrove-lined estuary.

There are larger holdings on the eastern Āwhitu coastline than along the southern Manukau coast, with a predominance of pastoral farming activities. Overall in this location there is a relative absence of dwellings in proximity to much of the coastline. The character of the area is based on agricultural land uses and absence of built development rather than the presence of indigenous vegetation. The area also has important cultural significance.

The coastal area forms part of the wider Franklin lowlands with highly productive soils, pastoral and horticultural land uses and an intensive pattern of land subdivision into small rural sites.

#### **H19.5.9.2. Objectives**

- (1) The rural and coastal character and visual amenity values are maintained.
- (2) Activities in the area are managed to protect the ecological values of the Manukau Harbour, particularly identified wader bird habits and the visual and landscape interconnections between land and sea.
- (3) Identified special character areas as set out in Policy H19.5.9.3(3) are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
- (4) The quality and quantity of coastal and riparian vegetation in the coastal area are improved.

#### **H19.5.9.3. Policies**

- (1) Recognise the significance of the coastal margin setback in maintaining the natural character of the coastal edge and contributing to the visual amenity values, as well as providing a natural buffer to coastal erosion and flooding.
- (2) Require dwellings and other significant built development to locate outside the coastal margin setback.
- (3) Recognise the following areas which are identified as being of special character in the Rural – Rural Coastal Zone Manukau Harbour coastal area:
  - (a) Clarks Beach to Seagrove and Ellets Beach;
  - (b) Pollok Spit;
  - (c) Āwhitu Regional Park and Environs;
  - (d) Waipipi Creek Roosts;
  - (e) The Western Needles Promontory;
  - (f) Kelly's Landing Headland;
  - (g) Dickey's Landing Headland;
  - (h) Kauri Road Headland;
  - (i) Andrew Pye Road Headland;



- (j) Mako Point Headland; and
  - (k) headland between Wattle Bay and Ōrua Bay.
- (4) Protect the special character areas listed in Policy H19.5.9.3(3) by:
- (a) controlling the location, scale and density of built development;
  - (b) having vegetation cover and production land uses that are appropriate to the area having regard to its use by wader birds; and
  - (c) restricting access in identified wader bird areas.
- (5) Avoid activities and development of a type or scale or location that adversely affects the public use and enjoyment of the Āwhitu Regional Park for:
- (a) active and passive recreation, both on land and in the adjoining coastal marine area;
  - (b) appreciation of open space, scenic and natural landscape values; and
  - (c) farmland management.
- (6) Require enhancement of the coastal edge and riparian margins as part of any development for rural lifestyle purposes or non-residential activities.

#### **H19.5.10. Rural – Rural Coastal Zone Tāmaki Firth coastal area**

##### **H19.5.10.1. Area description**

This area encompasses rural coastal land from Maraetai south-east to the regional boundary south of Matingarahi on the Firth of Thames.

It is a mixture of flat land around the lower reaches of the Wairoa River and at Kawakawa Bay, Ōrere Point and Waimangu Point, separated by rolling to steep hill country. This coastal area is predominantly pastoral land but backs onto steep forest-covered hill country in the north and the Hunua Ranges in the south. Pastoral farming is predominant, interspersed with local areas of indigenous vegetation.

The coastline is characterised by a rocky shoreline of small coves and headlands, cliffs, wider sandy beaches, prominent headlands, shallow beaches, separated by rolling land, which gives way to shallow gravel beaches in the south. The southern part of this coastal area acts as the entry to coastal Firth of Thames and provides a significant bird habitat and many natural features.

##### **H19.5.10.2. Objectives**

- (1) The rural and coastal character and amenity values are maintained.
- (2) The scenic values associated with the Pōhutukawa Coast coastal environment are maintained.

### **H19.5.10.3. Policies**

- (1) Enable rural production activities for their economic and social contribution and for their role in retaining the rural and coastal character of this area.
- (2) Avoid locating dwellings and other significant buildings on prominent headlands and ridgelines and the construction of visually prominent accessways up or across visually significant slopes.
- (3) Manage the location, type and scale of non-rural production activities along the Pōhutukawa Coast Highway to ensure that the rural character and scenic values are maintained.
- (4) Avoid activities and development of a type or scale or location that adversely affect public use and enjoyment of regional parks and other public open space, unless those effects arise from the provision of facilities for:
  - (a) active and passive recreation, both on land and in the adjoining coastal marine area;
  - (b) appreciation of open space, scenic and natural landscape values;
  - (c) centres for biodiversity management and enhancement; or
  - (d) farmland management.
- (5) Recognise and support the high recreational values of the area, particularly accessibility to and use of the coastal marine area by enabling the efficient operation of existing public boat launching facilities and the establishment of new public facilities in appropriate locations.

## **H19.6 Rural – Rural Conservation Zone**

### **H19.6.1. Zone description**

This zone comprises biophysically distinctive areas in rural Auckland. The zone has important natural values requiring maintenance and protection. They are largely in private ownership and are used for a range of purposes including dwellings, low-impact recreational activities, conservation and open space.

Most areas have significant indigenous vegetation cover, are important wildlife habitats or contain important natural features such as dune lakes. Most have been identified as Significant Ecological Areas, Outstanding Landscapes, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character overlays in the Plan.

The purpose of this zone is to adopt a conservative approach to new subdivision, use and development so that the natural values of the zone are maintained and protected while enabling established rural activities and dwellings to continue.

### **H19.6.2. Objectives**

- (1) The natural character, landscape, and distinctive environmental values of the zone are recognised and protected.
- (2) The zone's values are maintained and where appropriate enhanced.

- (3) Existing rural activities and dwellings are provided for but further development in the zone is limited to that which maintains and where appropriate enhances the values of the zone.
- (4) Buildings and structures are unobtrusive within the natural landscape.

### **H19.6.3. Policies**

- (1) Protect the natural character and landscape from significant change or modification, particularly visually intrusive buildings, structures and roads.
- (2) Manage adverse effects of buildings and structures by:
  - (a) requiring buildings and structures to be of a design, form, scale, density and location that is in keeping with the landscape; and
  - (b) avoiding buildings and structures on ridgelines.
- (3) Enable the continued use of established rural activities and dwellings and provide for new activities only where adverse effects are avoided or mitigated.
- (4) Maintain and enhance water quality and quantity by:
  - (a) avoiding new primary production activities or the expansion of existing activities where they will accelerate water abstraction from lakes;
  - (b) avoiding intensive farming, cleanfills, and rural industries and services that generate contaminant discharges to land or water and increase existing levels of diffuse nutrient input into lakes;
  - (c) minimising land disturbances, landform modification and the removal of indigenous vegetation; or
  - (d) avoiding the introduction of exotic species which may undermine the ecological integrity of native terrestrial or aquatic habitats.
- (5) Protect, maintain and enhance habitats, high-value natural areas and unique features present within the zone through controls on earthworks, vegetation removal, grazing, wetland modification and limitations on activities and subdivision.
- (6) Recognise the high ecological value of the dune lakes and their habitats by avoiding activities that disturb wildlife during breeding or nesting seasons.

## **H19.7 Rural – Countryside Living Zone**

### **H19.7.1. Zone description**

This zone provides for rural lifestyle living in identified areas of rural land which are generally closer to urban Auckland or rural and coastal towns. There is a diversity of topography, land quality and landscape character within the zone which results in a diversity of site sizes. The zone is the receiver area for transferable rural site subdivision from other zones.

This zone incorporates a range of rural lifestyle developments, characterised as low-density rural lifestyle dwellings on rural land. These rural lifestyle sites include scattered rural dwellings sites, farmlets and horticultural sites, bush dwelling sites and papakāinga.

Some parts of the zone reflect historical subdivision patterns, while other areas were established on rural land that did not have significant rural production values, and was often associated with steep topography and poor soils. Bush lots enabled the protection of indigenous vegetation cover as part of the subdivision process.

### **H19.7.2. Objectives**

- (1) Land is used for rural lifestyle living as well as small-scale rural production.
- (2) The rural character, amenity values, water quality, ecological quality, historic heritage values and the efficient provision of infrastructure is maintained and enhanced in subdivision design and development.
- (3) Development in the zone does not compromise the ability of adjacent zones to be effectively and efficiently used for appropriate activities.
- (4) The type and nature of land-use activities provided for are restricted to those appropriate for the typically smaller site sizes.
- (5) Subdivision, use and development is compatible with infrastructure and any existing infrastructure is protected from reverse sensitivity effects.

### **H19.7.3. Policies**

- (1) Locate and design subdivision and development to maintain and enhance rural character and amenity values and avoid an urban form and character by:
  - (a) designing subdivision and development (including accessways, services, utilities and building platforms) to be in keeping with the topography and characteristics of the land;
  - (b) minimising earthworks and vegetation clearance for accessways, utilities and building platforms;
  - (c) avoiding locating accessways, services, utilities and building platforms where they will result in adverse effects on water quality, wetlands, riparian margins, historic heritage sites or scheduled sites and places of value or significance to Mana Whenua. Where avoidance is not possible,

mitigation measures must be proposed so that any adverse effects are minor;

- (d) identifying opportunities for environmental enhancement of existing areas of native vegetation, wetland areas, riparian margins or the coastal edge;
  - (e) encourage landscape planting that reinforces local vegetation patterns;  
and
  - (f) identifying and where appropriate, requiring, the provision of walkway, cycleway and bridle path networks.
- (2) Prevent subdivision, use and development from compromising the safe and efficient operation of existing mineral extraction activities, rural production activities, existing infrastructure or industry in adjacent zones.
  - (3) Avoid or mitigate adverse effects in relation to reverse sensitivity and rural character and amenity by restricting the range of land-use activities in the zone.
  - (4) Discourage activities that will result in adverse effects such as noise, dust, traffic volumes, odour, visual effects and effects on health, safety and cultural values and significantly reduce the rural character and amenity values of the zone.
  - (5) Acknowledge that the rural character and amenity values associated with this zone reflect its predominant use for rural lifestyle living rather than for rural production activities.

### **H19.8 Activity table**

Tables H19.8.1 and H19.8.2 specify the activity status of land use and development activities pursuant to section 9(2) and 9(3) of the Resource Management Act and subdivision pursuant to section 11 the Resource Management Act 1991.

The activity status of the activities in the table below also applies to new buildings including accessory buildings that will accommodate or are needed to facilitate the activity unless otherwise specifically provided for in the table.

#### ***Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Regulations 2017***

If any activity listed in rules (including standards) H19.8.1 to H19.10.16 is regulated by the Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry) Regulations 2017 (“NESPF”) then the NESPF applies and prevails.

However, the NESPF allows the plan to include more restrictive rules in relation to one or more of the following:

- Significant Ecological Areas Overlay;
- Water Supply Management Areas Overlay;
- Outstanding Natural Character Overlay;
- High Natural Character Overlay;

- Outstanding Natural Landscapes Overlay;
- Outstanding Natural Features Overlay; or
- activities generating sediment that impact the coastal environment.

Where there is a rule in the plan that relates to any of the matters listed above then the plan rule will apply. In the event that there is any conflict between the rules in the plan and the NESPF in relation to any of the above, the most restrictive rule will prevail.

If the NESPF does not regulate an activity then the plan rules apply.

**Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020**

The Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 ('Freshwater NES') came into force on 3 September 2020. Currently, there may be duplication or conflict between specific plan rules and the Freshwater NES.

If an activity provided for in rules H19.8.1 to H19.13, including any associated matters of discretion, is also regulated by the Freshwater NES, where there is conflict then the most restrictive provision will prevail.

If the Freshwater NES regulations do not apply to an activity, then the plan rules apply.

Duplication or conflict between plan rules and the Freshwater NES will be addressed in the plan as soon as practicable.

**Table H19.8.1 Activity Table – use and development [rp/dp]**

		Rural Conservation Zone	Countryside Living Zone	Rural Coastal Zone	Mixed Rural Zone	Rural Production Zone
<b>Use</b>						
<b>Rural</b>						
(A1)	Farming	P	P	P	P	P
(A2)	Post-harvest facilities	NC	NC	RD	RD	RD
(A3)	Rural airstrips	P	P	P	P	P
(A4)	Greenhouses	RD	RD	P	P	P
(A5)	Intensive farming	NC	NC	P	P	P
(A6)	Intensive poultry farming that complies with Standard H19.10.1(3)	NC	NC	P	P	P
(A7)	Intensive poultry farming that does not comply with Standard H19.10.1(3)	NC	NC	D	D	D

H19 Rural zones

		Rural Conservation Zone	Countryside Living Zone	Rural Coastal Zone	Mixed Rural Zone	Rural Production Zone
(A8)	Free-range poultry farming that complies with Standard H19.10.6(1)	P	RD	P	P	P
(A9)	Free-range poultry farming that does not comply with Standard H19.10.6(1)	D	D	D	D	D
(A10)	Mustelid farming	Pr	Pr	Pr	Pr	Pr
(A11)	Disposal of non-residential waste or composting that complies with Standard H19.10.1(1) and (2)	P	P	P	P	P
(A12)	Disposal of non-residential waste or composting that does not comply with Standard H19.10.1(1) and (2)	D	D	D	D	D
(A13)	Forestry	P	D	P	P	P
(A14)	Forestry that does not comply with Standard H19.10.7.	D	D	D	D	D
(A15)	Conservation planting	P	P	P	P	P
(A16)	Rural commercial services	D	D	RD	RD	RD
(A17)	Animal breeding or boarding that complies with Standard H19.10.8.	D	NC	P	P	P
(A18)	Animal breeding or boarding that does not comply with Standard H19.10.8.	D	NC	D	D	D
(A19)	Produce sales	P	P	P	P	P
(A20)	Produce sales that do not comply with Standard H19.10.9.	D	D	D	D	D
(A21)	Rural industries	NC	NC	RD	RD	RD
(A22)	On-site primary produce manufacturing	D	D	P	P	P

H19 Rural zones

		Rural Conservation Zone	Countryside Living Zone	Rural Coastal Zone	Mixed Rural Zone	Rural Production Zone
(A23)	Equestrian centres	NC	D	RD	RD	RD
(A24)	Quarries – farm or forestry	P	P	P	P	P
(A25)	Quarries – farm or forestry that does not comply with Standard H19.10.15.	D	D	D	D	D
<b>Accommodation</b>						
(A26)	Dwellings	Refer to Activity Table H19.8.2.				
(A27)	Minor dwellings	RD	RD	RD	RD	RD
(A28)	Minor dwellings that do not comply with Standard H19.10.11.	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
(A29)	Workers' accommodation	NC	NC	RD	RD	RD
(A30)	Workers' accommodation that does not comply with Standard H19.10.12.	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
(A31)	Home occupations	P	P	P	P	P
(A32)	Home occupations that do not comply with Standard H19.10.13.	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
(A33)	Camping grounds	RD	NC	RD	RD	RD
(A34)	Visitor accommodation	NC	D	D	RD	D
<b>Commerce</b>						
(A35)	Restaurants and cafes accessory to farming carried out on the same site	NC	NC	RD	RD	RD
(A36)	Restaurants and cafes not otherwise provided for	NC	NC	NC	D	D
(A37)	Garden centres	NC	D	D	RD	D
(A38)	Markets	NC	D	D	P	P
(A39)	Markets that do not comply with Standard H19.10.14.	NC	D	D	D	D



H19 Rural zones

		Rural Conservation Zone	Countryside Living Zone	Rural Coastal Zone	Mixed Rural Zone	Rural Production Zone
(A40)	Storage and lock-up facilities	NC	NC	NC	D	D
(A41)	Show homes	D	D	D	D	D
(A42)	Veterinary clinics	NC	RD	RD	RD	RD
(A43)	Rural tourist and visitor activities	D	D	D	D	D
<b>Community</b>						
(A44)	Care centres for up to 10 people	P	P	P	P	P
(A45)	Care centres for more than 10 people	NC	RD	RD	RD	RD
(A46)	Community facilities	NC	D	D	D	D
(A47)	Healthcare facilities	NC	D	D	D	D
(A48)	Education facilities	NC	D	D	D	D
(A49)	Information facilities	P	P	P	P	P
(A50)	Artworks	P	P	P	P	P
(A51)	Informal recreation	P	P	P	P	P
(A52)	Organised sport and recreation	NC	D	RD	RD	RD
(A53)	Emergency services	RD	RD	RD	RD	RD
(A54)	Clubrooms	RD	RD	RD	RD	RD
<b>Mana Whenua</b>						
(A55)	Urupā	D	D	D	D	D
(A56)	Marae	D	D	D	D	D
(A57)	Customary use	P	P	P	P	P
<b>Development</b>						
(A58)	Demolition of buildings	P	P	P	P	P
(A59)	Additions and alterations to existing buildings	P	P	P	P	P
(A59A)	Rainwater tank	P	P	P	P	P
<b>Mineral activities</b>						
(A60)	Mineral extraction activities	NC	NC	NC	D	D
(A61)	Mineral prospecting	P	P	P	P	P

H19 Rural zones

		Rural Conservation Zone	Countryside Living Zone	Rural Coastal Zone	Mixed Rural Zone	Rural Production Zone
(A62)	Mineral prospecting that does not comply with Standard H19.10.16.	D	D	D	D	D
(A63)	Mineral exploration	P	P	P	P	P
(A64)	Mineral exploration that does not comply with Standard H19.10.16.	D	D	D	D	D
<b>Cleanfill, managed fill and landfill</b>						
(A65)	Cleanfill	NC	NC	D	D	D
(A66)	Managed fill	NC	NC	D	D	D
(A67)	Landfill	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
<b>Subdivision</b>						
(A68)	The subdivision of a minor dwelling from the site on which the principal dwelling is located	Pr	Pr	Pr	Pr	Pr
(A69)	The subdivision of workers' accommodation from the site on which the principal dwelling is located	Pr	Pr	Pr	Pr	Pr
<b>Coastal</b>						
(A70)	Navigational aids	P	P	P	P	P
(A71)	Boat launching facilities	D	D	D	D	D

**Table H19.8.2 Activity table – number of dwellings and activity status in rural zones**

Activity	Activity Status				
	Mixed Rural Zone and Rural Production Zone	Rural Conservation Zone and Countryside Living Zone	Rural Coastal Zone: Te Arai-Pakiri, East Coast area – Whangateau-Waiwera, West Coast area- Kaipara South Head and harbour, Muriwai-Te Henga coastal areas	Rural Coastal Zone: Tasman Coast area – Awhitu Peninsula, Manukau Harbour, and Tamaki-Firth coastal areas	
(A72)	One dwelling per site	P	P	RD	P

## H19 Rural zones

(A73)	Two dwellings per site where the site is equal to or greater than 40ha and is less than 100ha	P	D	D	D
(A74)	Two dwellings per site where the site is less than 40ha	NC	NC	NC	NC
(A75)	Three dwellings per site where the site is equal to or greater than 100ha	P	D	D	D
(A76)	More than three dwellings per site where the site is equal to or greater than 100ha	D	D	D	D
(A77)	Three or more dwellings per site where the site is less than 100ha	NC	NC	NC	NC
(A78)	Dwellings not otherwise provided for, or any dwelling that does not comply with Standard H19.10.10	NC	NC	NC	NC

### **H19.9 Notification**

- (1) Activities listed in Tables H19.8.1 and H19.8.2 will be subject to the normal tests for notification under the relevant sections of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- (2) When deciding who is an affected person in relation to any activity for the purposes of section 95E of the Resource Management Act 1991 the Council will give specific consideration to those persons listed in Rule [C1.13\(4\)](#).

### **H19.10 Standards**

- (1) All activities listed in tables H19.8.1 and H19.8.2 must comply with standards in H19.10.1.
- (2) In addition, all activities in tables H19.8.1 and H19.8.2 must comply with the relevant applicable standards in H19.10.2. to H19.10.16.
- (3) Notwithstanding the above Rainwater tanks must comply with rainwater tank standard H19.10.17.

### **H19.10.1. General**

- (1) Areas used for disposal of non-residential waste or composting must be located at least 100m from the boundary of adjoining sites in the Rural – Countryside Living Zone, Future Urban Zone and any residential zones.
- (2) Areas used for disposal of non-residential waste or composting adjoining all rural zones other than Rural – Countryside Living Zone, must be located at least 20m from the boundary of adjoining sites.
- (3) Pens or areas used for intensive farming (excluding poultry hatcheries), or any effluent disposal system, including any area on which effluent is being disposed of by way of spray irrigation, or any treatment plant or ponds, or any composting area, must be at located least:
  - (a) 250m from any dwelling located on any site other than the site on which the activity is carried out; and
  - (b) 100m from any boundary of the site on which the activity is located.

### **H19.10.2. Building height**

Purpose: to manage the bulk and scale of buildings to ensure they are in keeping with rural landscape, character and amenity.

- (1) Dwellings and buildings accessory to dwellings – buildings must not exceed a height of 9m.
- (2) Other buildings – buildings must not exceed a height of 15m.

### **H19.10.3. Minimum yards setback requirement**

Purpose: to ensure adequate and appropriate separation distance between buildings and site boundaries to minimise:

- adverse effects of buildings on the character and amenity values enjoyed by occupiers of adjoining properties;
  - opportunities for reverse sensitivity effects to arise; and
  - to ensure buildings are adequately setback from streams and the coastal edge to maintain water quality and provide protection from natural hazards.
- (1) Buildings and accessory buildings must comply with the minimum yard setback requirement as set out in Table H19.10.3.1.

**Table H19.10.3.1 Minimum yards setback requirement**

Yard	Minimum depth in each zone				
	Rural Conservation	Countryside Living	Rural Coastal	Mixed Rural	Rural Production
Front yard	10m	10m	10m	10m	10m
Front yard of sites adjoining arterial roads as shown on the planning map (unless otherwise specified)	20m	20m	20m	20m	20m
Side or rear yard for buildings other than dwellings and their accessory buildings (unless otherwise specified)	12m	12m	12m	12m	12m
Side or rear yard for dwellings and their accessory buildings within a Quarry Buffer Area Overlay	20m	20m	20m	20m	20m
Side or rear yard of the site for dwellings and their accessory buildings (unless otherwise specified)	12m	12m	12m	12m	12m
Riparian yard	20m from the edge of permanent and intermittent streams				
Lake yard	30m				
Coastal protection yard or as otherwise specified for the site in <a href="#">Appendix 6 Coastal protection yard</a>	50m	40m	50m	50m	50m

**H19.10.4. Buildings housing animals – minimum separation distance**

Purpose: to ensure adequate and appropriate separation distance between buildings and site boundaries to minimise the:

- adverse effects of buildings on the character and amenity values enjoyed by occupiers of adjoining properties, and
- opportunities for reverse sensitivity effects to arise.

(1) Buildings for the primary purpose of housing animals must be located at least 12m from any site boundary.

**H19.10.5. Size of buildings – intensive farming, intensive poultry farming, animal breeding or boarding, produce sales, and on-site primary produce manufacturing**

(1) Buildings required for or accessory to the following activities must not exceed the following gross floor area:

- (a) intensive farming, intensive poultry farming, animal breeding or boarding, produce sales: 200m<sup>2</sup>; or

(b) on-site primary produce manufacturing: 500m<sup>2</sup>.

#### **H19.10.6. Free-range poultry farming**

- (1) Coops and associated hard stand areas for free-range poultry farming must be set back at least 20m from the nearest site boundary.

#### **H19.10.7. Forestry**

The following standards apply to forestry:

- (1) Forestry must be carried out at least 10m from any adjoining site boundary unless the landowner of the forest also owns or controls the adjoining site, or the adjoining site is an area identified in the Significant Ecological Areas Overlay or the adjoining site is already afforested;
- (2) Forestry must be carried out at least 5m from the bank of permanent stream, river, lake, wetland or coastal edge;
- (3) Forestry must be carried out at least 5m from an area identified in the Significant Ecological Areas Overlay; and,
- (4) Portable sawmills must be located on a site for no more than six months in any 12 month period. Where a portable sawmill has been located on a site for longer than six months in any 12 month period, the use of portable sawmills on the site will be considered as a rural industry and is subject to the activity status of the relevant zone.

#### **H19.10.8. Animal breeding or boarding**

The following standards apply to animal breeding or boarding:

- (1) Animal breeding or boarding must operate on a site with a minimum size of 2,000m<sup>2</sup> in the Rural – Rural Conservation Zone, Rural – Rural Production Zone, Rural – Mixed Rural Zone and Rural – Rural Coastal Zone;
- (2) No more than 20 cats may be bred or boarded at any one time;
- (3) No dogs may be bred or boarded at any time;
- (4) No more than 25 domestic pets, other than cats or dogs, may be bred or boarded at any one time; and,
- (5) Buildings or areas used for animal breeding or boarding must not be located less than 20m from the boundary of an adjoining site in a different ownership.

#### **H19.10.9. Produce sales**

The following standards apply to produce sales:

- (1) Produce sales must not be carried out on any part of the road reserve and the site must not have its vehicle access from a State Highway or motorway;
- (2) The area set aside on the site for displaying and produce sales must not exceed:

- (a) 30m<sup>2</sup> per site where the site is not located in the Rural – Countryside Living Zone; or
- (b) 15m<sup>2</sup> per site in the Rural – Countryside Living Zone;
- (3) The type of produce offered for sale on the site must be confined to the following:
  - (a) fruit, vegetables, plants, eggs, flowers, honey, dairy products, meat, wine, juices;
  - (b) produce or products from on-site primary produce manufacturing; or
  - (c) handcrafts made on the site;
- (4) Produce that is not grown or produced on the site or on a site owned by the same landholder must not be sold or offered for sale; and,
- (5) The area set aside for produce sale (comprising any land, buildings, parts of a building, tables, tractors, barrows, platforms, boxes or any other structure or vehicle used for that purpose), must not exceed 100m<sup>2</sup> of the site area.

#### **H19.10.10. Dwellings**

- (1) The site of the proposed dwelling must not be located on a closed road or road severance allotment.

#### **H19.10.11. Minor dwelling**

The following standards apply to minor dwellings:

- (1) There must be no more than one minor dwelling per site;
- (2) The building must comply with the relevant yards setback requirement and height standards for buildings in the zone as set out in standards H19.10.2 and H19.10.3;
- (3) The proposed minor dwelling must be located on a site greater than 1ha;
- (4) The proposed minor dwelling must have a floor area less than 65m<sup>2</sup> excluding decks and garaging; and,
- (5) The minor dwelling must share the same driveway access as the principal dwelling.

#### **H19.10.12. Workers' accommodation**

The following standards apply to workers' accommodation

- (1) Workers' accommodation must comply with all of the following:
  - (a) no more than one workers' accommodation building per site;
  - (b) comply with all the relevant yards setback requirement, and height standards for buildings in the applicable zone as set out in standards H19.10.2 and H19.10.3;

- (c) be located on a site equal to or greater than 5ha and less than 40ha;
- (d) have a floor area equal to or less than 120m<sup>2</sup> excluding decks and garaging. The floor area may include a dormitory or equivalent;
- (e) only have a single kitchen facility; and
- (f) may accommodate a number of seasonal workers.

#### **H19.10.13. Home occupations**

The following standards apply to home occupations:

- (1) At least one person engaged in the home occupation must use the dwelling on the site as their principal place of residence;
- (2) No more than two people who do not use the dwelling as their principal place of residence may work in the home occupation, and no more than 10 guests may be accommodated within an existing dwelling;
- (3) Except for homestay accommodation, customers and deliveries must not arrive before 7am or after 7pm daily;
- (4) Vehicle movements to and from the home occupation activity must not exceed 20 per day;
- (5) Heavy vehicle trips must not exceed two per week;
- (6) No more than one commercial vehicle associated with the home occupation may be on site at any one time;
- (7) [Deleted]
- (8) Storage for rubbish and recycling must be provided on site and screened from public view;
- (9) Materials or goods manufactured, serviced or repaired as part of the home occupation activity must be stored within a building on the same site; and,
- (10) Goods sold from the home occupation site must comply with the Standard H19.10.9 Produce sales.

#### **H19.10.14. Markets**

- (1) Markets must comply with all of the following:
  - (a) must not operate on a site of less than 1ha;
  - (b) must not be located on a rear site;
  - (c) must be limited to the sale of food and beverages, agricultural or horticultural produce, or handcrafts; and
  - (d) must operate between 7am and 7pm daily.



#### **H19.10.15. Quarries - farm or forestry**

- (1) Quarries - farm or forestry must not be located closer than:
  - (a) 50m from the edge of a lake, river or stream;
  - (b) 50m from the edge of or a wetland larger than 1,000m<sup>2</sup>;
  - (c) 100m either side of a foredune; or
  - (d) 100m landward of the coastal marine area.

#### **H19.10.16. Mineral prospecting and mineral exploration**

- (1) Mineral prospecting and mineral exploration must comply with all of the following:
  - (a) must not involve blasting; and,
  - (b) must not be undertaken outside the hours of 7am to 10pm on any day.

#### **H19.10.17. Rainwater tanks**

- (1) Rainwater tanks must not be located:
  - (a) in a riparian, lakeside or coastal protection yard unless less than 1 m in height or wholly below ground level;
  - (b) in a front yard unless they are at least 1.5m from the front boundary and are a maximum height of 1 m.
- (2) Rainwater tanks must not be located on or outflow across an existing effluent dispersal area.
- (3) Any overflow from the rainwater tank must discharge to the existing authorised stormwater system for the site.
- (4) Rainwater tanks located in the Rural Coastal zone must be finished in a recessive colour in a natural colour range (green, brown, grey) unless wholly below ground level or fully screened by vegetation.

Note: If there is a new stormwater discharge or diversion created Chapter E8.6.2.1 and Building Act requirements must be complied with.

Note: Building Act regulations apply. A building consent may be required under the Building Act.

### **H19.11 Assessment – controlled activities**

#### **H19.11.1. Matters of Control**

There are no controlled activities in this section.

#### **H19.11.2. Assessment Criteria**

There are no controlled activities in this section.

### **H19.12 Assessment – restricted discretionary activities**

### **H19.12.1. Matters of discretion**

The Council will restrict its discretion to the following matters when assessing a restricted discretionary resource consent application:

- (1) all restricted discretionary activities and their buildings (including accessory buildings):
  - (a) effects on rural character and amenity values of the neighbourhood;
  - (b) effects of noise on the amenity values of the neighbourhood;
  - (c) effects of traffic volume on the safety of and convenience of other road users;
  - (d) effects of stormwater management;
  - (e) effects on land containing elite soil or prime soil for rural production activities; and
  - (f) effects on areas identified in the Outstanding Natural Landscapes, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character Areas overlays.
- (2) one dwelling per site and accessory buildings in the Rural Coastal Zone – Te Arai-Pakiri, Whangateau to Waiwera, Kaipara South Head and harbour to Muriwai-Te Henga coastal areas:
  - (a) matters for all restricted discretionary activities;
  - (b) the effects of the site layout and building design on the rural coastal character of the area and the amenity values of surrounding properties; and,
  - (c) the effects of the development including any landform modification on the landscape values of the neighbourhood the effect on areas identified in the Outstanding Natural Landscapes, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character areas overlays.
- (3) minor dwellings:
  - (a) matters for all restricted discretionary activities;
  - (b) effects of building siting and access on landscape, rural character and amenity values;
  - (c) the cumulative effects of additional development on the site;
  - (d) the adequacy of access to the dwelling; and
  - (e) proximity to the principal dwelling on the site.
- (4) workers' accommodation:

## H19 Rural zones

- (a) matters for all restricted discretionary activities;
  - (b) the effects of building siting, and access on landscape and rural character;  
and
  - (c) the cumulative effects of additional development on the site.
- (5) infringement of Standard H19.10.2 Building height:
- (a) the effects on rural character; and
  - (b) impacts on dwellings on adjoining sites.
- (6) infringement of Standard H19.10.4 Buildings housing animals – minimum separation distance:
- (a) the effects on rural character;
  - (b) impacts on dwellings on adjoining sites; and
  - (c) natural hazards.

### **H19.12.2. Assessment criteria**

The Council will consider the relevant assessment criteria below for restricted discretionary activities:

- (1) all restricted discretionary activity and their accessory buildings:
  - (a) whether the design and location of the buildings, and site landscaping, avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse visual effects of the buildings and related site works on rural and rural coastal character and amenity values including where the proposal is within or adjacent to any Outstanding Natural Landscape, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character areas. The following are relevant:
    - (i) building bulk;
    - (ii) glare or reflections off the exterior cladding;
    - (iii) landform modification needed for building platforms;
    - (iv) screening from neighbouring sites;
    - (v) views of the buildings from any public road or open space used for recreation, including any beach, coastal marine area, coastline, or regional park; and
    - (vi) related signage.
  - (b) whether noise from fans, ventilators, heaters, or other machines, or from on-site activities can be adequately mitigated;

- (c) whether the design and location of the buildings, and the associated traffic avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the road network or traffic safety;
  - (d) whether the control, treatment, storage, or disposal of stormwater can be adequately managed;
  - (e) if the site contains elite soils whether the proposed buildings, structures, or site development prevent or compromise its availability or use for activities that directly rely on it;
  - (f) if the site contains prime soils, whether the proposed buildings, structures, or site development can be relocated so as not prevent or compromise its availability or use for activities that directly rely on it; and
  - (g) for fire stations, the extent to which functional requirements and the benefits that having the emergency services in the location are to be taken into account.
- (2) one dwelling per site and its accessory buildings in the Rural Coastal Zone – Te Arai-Pakiri, Whangateau to Waiwera, Kaipara South Head and harbour to Muriwai-Te Heunga coastal areas:
- (a) whether all buildings are sited and designed so they do not visually intrude on any significant ridgeline or skyline or adversely affect landscape values when viewed from any road or other public land including any beach, the sea or regional park;
  - (b) whether building finishes including colours and materials complement the rural and rural coastal character of the surrounding environment. This criterion would be satisfied if the exterior finish of the building or structure has a reflectance value of, or less than, 30 per cent as defined within the BS5252 standard colour palette;
  - (c) whether the siting of buildings and accessory buildings contribute to the rural and rural coastal character of the surrounding environment by responding to natural landforms, landscape features, including where the proposal is within or adjacent to any Outstanding Natural Landscape, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character overlays;
  - (d) whether the development requires extensive landform modification; and
  - (e) whether existing trees and bush that make a significant contribution to the visual and environmental qualities of the site are retained to the fullest extent practicable.
- (3) minor dwellings and their accessory buildings:
- (a) whether the design and location of the buildings, access and site works avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse visual effects on rural and rural

coastal character and amenity values including where the proposal is within or adjacent to any Outstanding Natural Landscape, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character overlays including:

- (i) building bulk;
- (ii) glare or reflections off the exterior cladding;
- (iii) landform modification needed for building platforms;
- (iv) screening from neighbouring sites; and
- (v) the cumulative effects of built development on the site.

(b) whether the minor dwelling is in close proximity to the principal dwelling so that the inhabitants remain close to one another and the buildings are not dispersed over a rural site.

(4) workers' accommodation:

(a) whether the design and location of the buildings, access and site works avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse visual effects on rural and rural coastal character and amenity values including where the proposal is within or adjacent to any Outstanding Natural Landscape, Outstanding Natural Character and High Natural Character overlays including:

- (i) building bulk;
- (ii) glare or reflections off the exterior cladding;
- (iii) landform modification needed for building platforms;
- (iv) screening from neighbouring sites; and
- (v) the cumulative effects of built development on the site.

(b) whether the applicant can demonstrate that a separate dwelling is required on the site for the purpose of accommodating workers engaged on the site or in the surrounding rural area and that it would be impracticable to provide the accommodation as a permitted buildings such as a sleep-out, existing minor dwelling or an extension to an existing dwelling on the site.

(5) infringement of Standard H19.10.2 Building height:

- (a) whether the proposed height and scale of the building adversely affect the rural character of a site;
- (b) whether the proposed height and location of buildings adversely affect the visual character of adjacent sites; and
- (c) whether the proposed height and scale of the building adversely affect amenity values of neighbouring sites by reducing privacy or sunlight access.

- (6) infringement of Standard H19.10.4 Buildings housing animals – minimum separation distance:
- (a) whether the proposed height and scale of the building adversely affects the rural character of a site;
  - (b) whether the proposed height and location of buildings adversely affects the visual character of adjacent sites;
  - (c) whether the proposed height and scale of the building adversely affect amenity values of neighbouring sites by reducing privacy or sunlight access; and
  - (d) whether the proposed building exacerbates or creates a natural hazard or nuisance for neighbouring properties.

**H19.13 Special information requirements**

There are no special information requirements in this section.