

*Summary Report*

# **Hastings Coastal Environment Strategy**

Prepared for  
Hastings District Council

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*SUMMARY REPORT*

# Hastings Coastal Environment Strategy

*Prepared for*

**HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

*By*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. STUDY OBJECTIVES

*There is approximately 75km of coastline in the Hastings District, with a diverse mix of natural and built features. The coastal environment of Hastings has significant cultural, recreation and heritage values and the interplay between this complex mix of resources and values requires careful and comprehensive planning. The Hastings Coastal Environment Strategy (HCES) has emerged in response to this demand.*

*The central goal of the HCES project as defined in the consultancy brief is:*

***“To establish a comprehensive Coastal Environment Strategy that will enable the community to develop an integrated regime to protect, manage and develop the Coastal Environment”.***

*A number of objectives were identified to meet this goal. These included:*

- *To collate the data, findings and recommendations of existing background studies relating to the coastal environment and identify consistent themes, conflicting objectives and any resource information gaps or inconsistencies.*
- *To undertake any technical or specialist investigations necessary to address any baseline information gaps or conflicting information.*
- *To bring together a core group of specialists to study and debate resource management issues and options for the coastal environment, including:*
  - *Natural character and landscape values*
  - *Ecological values*
  - *Archaeological and heritage issues*
  - *Iwi concerns and priorities*
  - *Competing land use and development initiatives*
  - *Coastal hazards*
  - *Public access and recreational values*
  - *Tourism values*
  - *Engineering or servicing opportunities and constraints*
- *To undertake targeted consultation and facilitate Council debate on the resource management issues and management options.*
- *To integrate the findings, feedback and conclusions of the study to formulate a recommended management strategy for the coastal environment.*

Technical Papers #1 - #5 provide detailed information on technical investigations

- *To translate strategy recommendations into an appropriate objective, policy and method framework for inclusion in Council's other statutory documents such as the District Plan, Annual Plans and Strategic Plans.*

*This document summarises the findings from investigations on these specific objectives. Additional background papers provide detail of studies and investigations that have been undertaken. The process schematic for the Hastings Coastal Environment Strategy is identified in [Figure 1.1](#).*

*The focus of this study is the integrated management of Hastings coastal environment. The strategy proposed in this report is intended to provide a framework for all aspects of planning and management for the coastal environment in the Hastings District over the next 20 years. As such, if adopted by Council, this strategy will become an essential part of or contribution to Council's District Plan, Asset Management Plans, Annual Plans and other strategic planning documents. In addition, this project recommends a number of implementation plans, outlining specific management strategies for sites and areas within the coastal environment.*

## 1.2. BACKGROUND TO THE HCES PROJECT

*The HCES study has emerged in recognition of the diversity of resources and management issues within the coastal environment and the need for an integrated management approach. This follows general opinion and criticism that there is a lack of integrated management thinking in both policy formulation and in resource management practice.*

Section 2.7 of the PDP outlines an interim Coastal Environment Strategy for the District

*Council has recognised the importance of management issues in the coastal environment. This is reflected in the Proposed District Plan (PDP), released by the Hastings District Council (HDC) in November 1997, which identifies many of the key issues confronting management of the coastal environment. It is worth summarising these here as they provide important background to this project:*

- *The PDP states that there is currently 'no established definition of the Coastal Environment, though it is acknowledged that the landward extent of the area will vary considerably'. Accordingly, it is recognised that the identification of this coastal environment is an important component for the effective management of coastal resources.*
- *The PDP also identifies a number of legislative requirements under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). These include the requirements set out in the National Coastal Policy Statement and the Regional Coastal Plan. Council recognises that the 'District Plan will need to balance the increasing demand for access, use, and development of the Coastal Environment with the environmental goals set for the coast by the Regional Coastal Plan, and the direction established by the Resource Management Act 1991 and National Coastal Policy Statement.'*

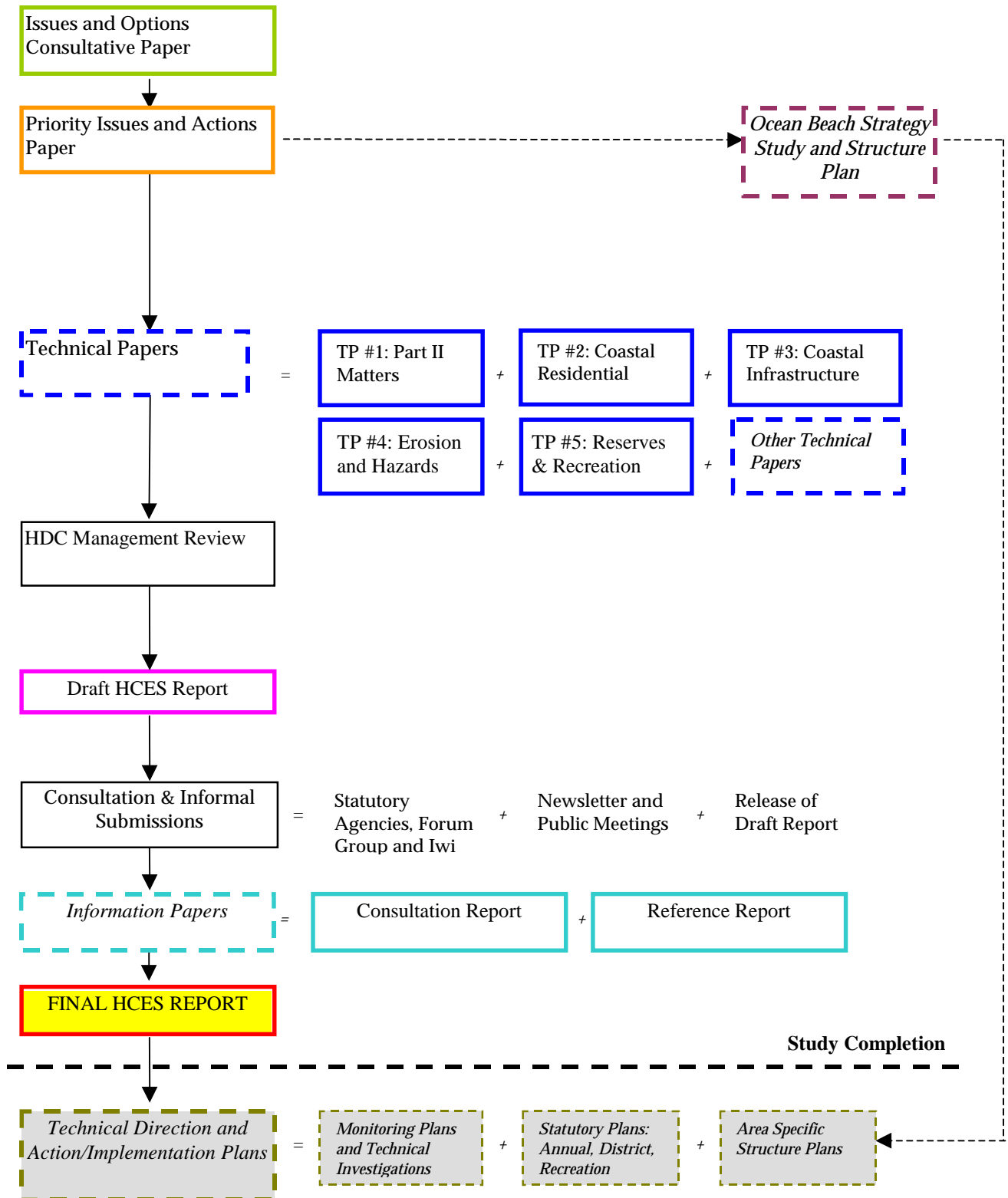


Figure 1.1 HCES Study - Process Schematic

*Other issues identified in the PDP include:*

- *Preserving the natural character of the coastal environment*
- *Protecting the significant natural values in the coastal environment of the District*
- *Protecting the visual significance of the coast*
- *Recognising the recreational value of the coastal environment*
- *Protecting tangata whenua values in the coastal environment*
- *Recognising the modified coastal environment*
- *Providing for the sustainable development of coastal settlements in the District*
- *That the existing bach settlements are not properly provided for*
- *That the Hastings coastline is exposed to natural processes and hazards.*

*In response to these issues Council recognises the need to establish a comprehensive strategy for the coastal environment. Specifically objectives in regard to the coastal environment include:*

*CEO1 To establish a comprehensive Coastal Environment Strategy that will enable the community to develop an integrated management regime to protect, manage and develop the Coastal Environment.*

*CEO2 Determine the suitability of Ocean Beach to accommodate a new residential area north of the Waipuka Stream.*

See the Ocean Beach Strategy Study and Structure Plan Report, BCHF, Oct 1999

*While the HCES is not a statutory document and has no legal force, it establishes the direction for the management, future development and use of the coastal area and will be used by community and regulatory agencies. Accordingly, whilst much of the content and findings of this study will provide recommended guidelines for the coastal environment components of the District Plan it is envisaged that outputs will be of a wider strategic nature, falling outside the strict ambit of the RMA. (For example, it is intended that the recommendations made in this report will be addressed as part of Council's corporate and strategic planning functions as well as guiding specific implementation plans for resources or management areas).*

### **1.3. PROJECT APPROACH**

#### **1.3.1. GENERAL**

*In recognising the complexity of the coastal environment and hence management of this environment it is considered essential that the HCES should incorporate all aspects of Council planning, including infrastructural planning, asset management, landscape, heritage and environmental assessment, natural hazard management and rural and social planning. Accordingly, from the outset of the project, the methodology has attempted to clearly identify the interdependence and relationship between resources*



and values in the coastal environment, focussing on integrating the management facets of Council's planning.

### 1.3.2. METHODOLOGY

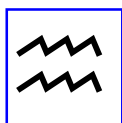
The study has been carried out in a manner which reflects the spectrum of resources and management issues in the coastal environment to ensure a coordinated approach to resource investigation and issue identification. At the outset the project has identified a number of management themes which need to be recognised and taken into account in planning for the coastal environment. These Strategic Management Themes are:



**Natural Character.** Natural character includes the perceptions and values of wilderness, remoteness and isolation from habited areas, coastal landforms and areas of indigenous vegetation and ecological value<sup>1</sup>. While the coast of Hastings is extensively modified (particularly pastoral landscapes), it is generally recognised that these areas derive natural character as areas of untamed and uninhabited areas of coast.



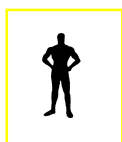
**Landscape.** Landscape values are derived from both natural features and from human interaction with the coastal environment. However, there is also a need to recognise the dynamic nature of these landscape values, which vary both across communities and time.



**Physical Processes.** The coast represents a dynamic environment with processes from both the land and sea playing an important role. The Hastings coastline is subject to erosion, accretion, inundation and tsunami hazard and it is important to consider and manage these processes and their implication on resource use and values.



**Tangata Whenua.** The coastal environment also holds special values to tangata whenua and the incorporation of these values and resources is an important challenge for management in the coastal environment. Within the Hastings context there are numerous hapu affiliated with different areas of the coast. It is important to recognise the diversity of needs and interests of these groups.



**Social and Cultural Values.** The coastal environment contributes positively to the social and cultural wellbeing of communities. Heritage sites and values, and other special social and cultural features warrant recognition.



**Recreation and Access.** The coast remains New Zealander's preferred outdoor recreation location and the provision of access to the coastal environment is important. The diversity of the Hastings coast correspondingly provides for a diversity in recreation values and activities which must be recognised.

<sup>1</sup>

Case law suggests that 'man made' structures and landscapes need not necessarily remove the natural character from the coast. See Technical Paper #1: Part II Matters, for further discussion on the definition of 'natural character' in the coastal environment.



**Land Use and Development.** *There is ongoing pressure for development in the coastal environment, particularly for urban land use. It is important to consider the need and demand for such development, recognising the pressure it puts on other resources and resource values.*



**Infrastructure.** *Efficient and appropriate infrastructure and utility service provision is essential for the sustainable management of the environment, for example failure of infrastructure can often adversely affect the environment and environmental values. It is also important to take into account the impact infrastructural investment can have as a driver for increased demand for resources.*



**Economic Value.** *Considerable economic wealth is derived from human activities in the coastal environment. However, economic development needs to be managed to ensure that it is compatible with sustainable management and that other resources and environmental values are provided for.*

Throughout this report the above icons illustrate a focus on a particular resource theme.

Section 4 of this report applies the HCES to these specific areas within the coastal environment.

*Although it is important to recognise the coastal environment as a single entity or resource it is also important to recognise geographic and spatial variability within this environment, both physically and socially. For example, while there may be high demand for recreation resource use in one area there may be effectively no recreation demand in another. In recognition of the geographic distinction for resource management, 12 specific management areas have been identified within the coastal environment in addition to the general 'rural coast'. These areas are identified in Fig 1.2. These areas represent units where the strategic policies of this document can be applied for integrated management plans to address specific resource demands and conflicts.*

*Integrated management requires both the recognition of the diversity and interdependence of resources and an acknowledgment of the relationship between the agencies involved in the management of these resources. Accordingly, throughout the HCES project a number of organisations were involved in the HCES Forum Group, to provide consultation and assistance for the identification of issues and strategic directives. The Forum Group included:*

- *Hawke's Bay Regional Council*
- *Napier City Council*
- *The Department of Conservation*
- *Hastings District Council*
- *New Zealand Historic Places Trust*

Figure 1.2 Specific Management Areas within the Hastings Coastal Environment

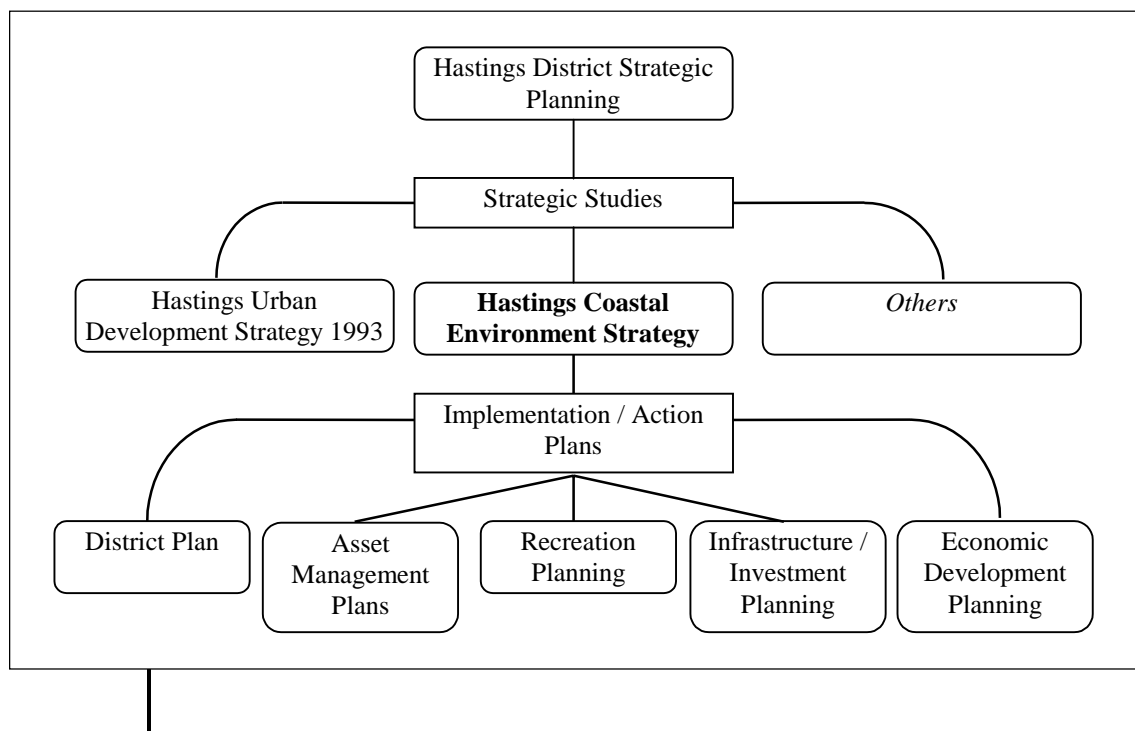


*With the philosophy outlined above in mind, the following parameters were adopted as a basis for the methodology of this study:*

- *Review of background studies and available information*
- *Identify the key issues in the coastal environment*
- *Consult widely with government and community organisations, and community members on the issues and possible management solutions*
- *Identify the priority management issues in the coastal environment*
- *Undertake specialist studies and investigations for information gaps or specific information requirements*
- *Formulate an integrated Coastal Environment Strategy*
- *Establish specific implementation and management guidelines for areas within the coastal environment.*

*Often strategic documents are criticised for their ambiguity and a general failure to implement strategic policies. In this regard, the HCES project has positioned itself within a clearly defined framework, providing both recommendations for policies and methods in future District Plans and where necessary providing guidance for implementation documents, such Annual Plans. [Figure 1.3](#) below identifies the strategic framework for the study.*

**Figure 1.3 Strategic Framework**





## 1.4. THE LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

*Whilst obviously not limited to the specific scope and extent of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), the HCES project has a central focus and its philosophical basis on the RMA. The purpose of this Act is 'to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources'.*

*Natural resources within the Hastings coastal environment include the land and soil resource, clean air, natural vegetation and ecosystems, fresh water (of rivers, streams and wetlands) and the coastline. In addition to these, physical resources also include built forms associated with settlements, such as transportation networks, engineering and community infrastructure and housing stock.*

*The RMA provides an integrated framework of authorities for management of natural and physical resource in a sustainable manner. Sustainable management is defined in section 5 of the RMA. Within this framework, a management structure of statutory agencies, and their respective policy statements and plans, is established. This framework sets out the statutory context for managing the future use and development of the Hastings coastal environment and is summarised in [Figure 1.4](#). The planning environment for the HCES is discussed further in section 2 of this report.*

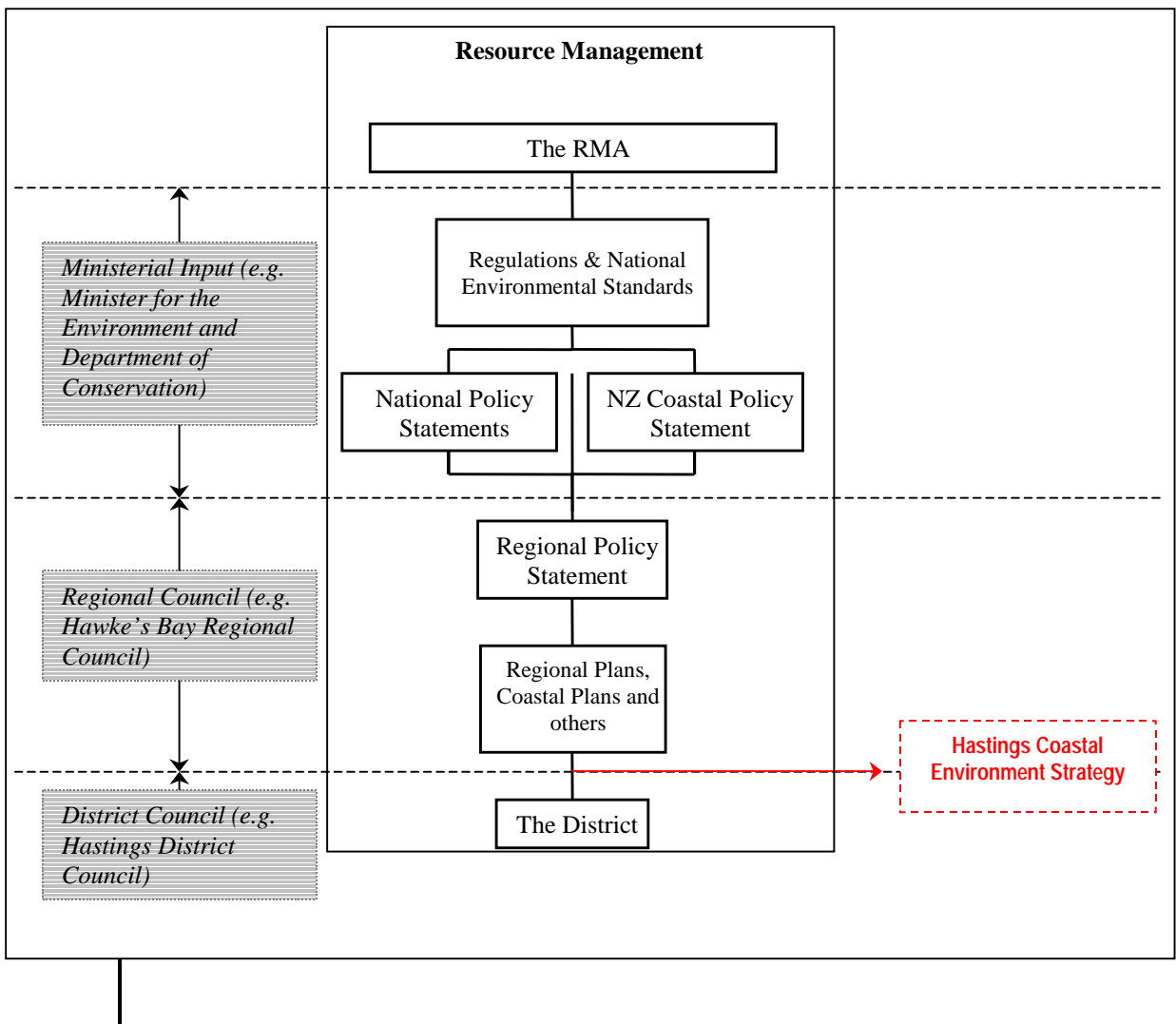
## 1.5. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

*A number of background data sources and studies are already available which are of relevance to the Hastings coastal environment. A full bibliography of background information and sources used in the technical investigations for the HCES is provided as one of two Information Papers prepared in the finalisation of the HCES (see [Figure 1.1](#)).*

*Data sources for this information includes, but is not limited to the following:*

- *HDC Technical and Infrastructure Reports;*
- *HDC Annual and Strategic Plans;*
- *Building Permit and Subdivision data*
- *HDC Reserve Management Plans*
- *Census '96 results*
- *Department of Conservation reports and records.*
- *Hawke's Bay Regional Council records and reports.*
- *Coastal Hazard data analysis and reports.*
- *Historical reports, documents and theses.*

Figure 1.4 RMA Statutory Context



## 2. A PROFILE OF THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

*The definition of the coastal environment is complex and varies from place to place. Generally the definition of 'coastal environment' provided under the Town and Country Planning Act 1977 has been used:*

*What constitutes the coastal environment will vary from place to place and according to the position from which a place is viewed. Where there are hills behind the coast, it will generally extend up to the dominant ridge behind the coast.*

*While this definition provides a broad framework to identify the coast, it is important to recognise the influence of the built environment and human land use patterns. Often 'human' boundaries have masked natural coastal boundaries and will influence the definition of the coastal environment. The coastal environment within each of the identified management areas has been indicated on the relevant maps (see section 2.4 below). It is important to recognise that the HCES specifically addresses that part of the coastal environment land-ward of MHWS as the coastal marine area is managed principally by the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.*

### 2.1. THE LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Technical Papers #1: Part II Matters (as identified in Figure 1.1)

*Technical Paper #1: Part II Matters, outlines the statutory framework and planning context for resource management of the coastal environment under the RMA. Each of the remaining technical papers provides a brief synopsis of relevant statutory matters regarding each of the key management themes (residential, infrastructure, erosion and hazards, and reserves and recreation). The following provides an overview from these papers, summarising the salient statutory objectives and policies which are significant for the HCES.*

#### 2.1.1. THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT

*The RMA establishes the statutory framework for the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. 'Sustainable Management' has been defined under the Act as:*

*'Managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way or at a rate which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety while:*

- (a) sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and*
- (b) safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems; and*

- (c) *avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment*'.

*Under the RMA 'environment' has been defined as:*

- (a) *Ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and*
- (b) *All natural and physical resources; and*
- (c) *Amenity values; and*
- (d) *The social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions which affect the matters stated in paragraphs (a) to (c) of this definition or which are affected by those matters*'

*In the context of this study it is clear that management of the coastal environment must address the relationship and interdependence of resources and resource use to achieve the goals of sustainable management.*

*In addition to the principal goal of sustainable management, consideration must also be given to the matters of national importance and other key resource management concerns (as specified in sections 6, 7 and 8 of the RMA). These include:*

- preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment from inappropriate subdivision, use and development (s6a)*
- protection of outstanding landscapes and natural features from inappropriate subdivision, use and development (s6b)*
- protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna (s6c)*
- maintenance and enhancement of public access to an along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers (s6d)*
- recognition and provision for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga (s6e)*
- kaitiakitanga and the ethic of stewardship (s7a and s7aa)*
- efficient use and development of natural and physical resources (s7b)*
- maintenance and enhancement of amenity values (s7c)*
- recognition of the intrinsic value of ecosystems (s7d)*
- maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment (s7f)*
- recognition of any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources (s7e)*
- the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (s8).*

*In the framework of this study it is apparent that the challenge for an integrated strategy for the coastal environment is the need to recognise the balanced and interdependence between these matters.*



*The requirement for integrated management of resources is also identified under the RMA. Sections 30 and 31 of the Act outline the functions of regional and territorial Councils including:*

*‘The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies and methods to achieve integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the region/district’.*

*The methodology adopted for this study takes cognisance of the purpose and requirements of the RMA and accordingly, it is important at this stage to review the directives outlined in national and regional policy statements that need to be addressed for this study.*

### **2.1.2. THE NEW ZEALAND COASTAL POLICY STATEMENT**

*The RMA establishes a hierarchy of statutory policy statements and plans to guide the management of the coastal environment. At the national level the Minister of Conservation produces the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.*

*The purpose of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 1994 (NZCPS) is:*

*‘to state policies in order to achieve the purpose of this Act [RMA] in relation to the coastal environment of New Zealand’*

*Pursuant to this purpose, the NZCPS sets out policies which restrict and manage activities across the entire New Zealand coastline. These include:*

- 1. National priorities for the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment including protection from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.*
- 2. The protection of the characteristics of the coastal environment of special value to the tangata whenua including waahi tapu, turanga waka, mahinga maataitai, and taonga raranga.*
- 3. Policies for management of activities involving the subdivision, use or development of areas of the coastal environment. Policies in this section include the provision of public access, the importance of recognising open space and amenity values of the coastal environment, the need to take a precautionary approach for subdivision, use and development, and the need for recognition of coastal processes and natural hazards.*
- 4. Recognising the Crown’s interests in land of the Crown in the Coastal Marine Area. This includes taking into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.*

*In the context of this study, it is important to recognise that the NZCPS sets out a framework for the prioritisation of the matters identified in the RMA. For example, the provision of public access is explicitly confined to areas where such access will not compromise other values and resources, particularly natural character, ecological resources etc. The objectives, policies and methods of the Hastings District Plan are required to be consistent with this Policy Statement. Therefore, any strategies in this*

report, in so far as they relate to RMA matters, must also take these directives into account.

### 2.1.3. REGIONAL PLANNING CONTEXT

*The operative Hawke's Bay Regional Policy Statement 1995 (RPS) provides an overview of resource management issues of the region. The following briefly summarises those sections of the RPS of relevance to the HCES:*

- Chapter 5 of the RPS which addresses resource management matters of significance to Maori, including the need to identify and protect the sustainability of taonga, to identify and protect wahi tapu, and to recognise the desire of Maori to develop their resources in accordance with their own customs and values.*
- Chapter 6 which addresses land resources and the management of land use from a regional perspective. Policies of relevance to the HCES include the promotion of the retirement or afforestation of unstable hill country; the identification and protection of outstanding and significant areas; and the need to make provision for economic development in the region.*
- Chapter 8 addresses issues relating to the management of natural and physical resources within the coastal environment.*
- Chapter 9 which addresses land use and development in regard to natural hazards.*

*The Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) released their Regional Coastal Plan (RCP) in September 1994. This document has since undergone submissions and has been released as an operative document.*

*The focus of the RCP is on the sustainable management of the natural and physical resources within the coastal marine area<sup>2</sup>. While these objectives, policies and methods are largely beyond the jurisdiction of HDC, Chapters 4 and 11 are pertinent. Policy 4.1.5 states that the Regional Council will encourage Council's to avoid or mitigate coastal hazards. Objectives and policies in Chapter 11 address the importance to maintain and enhance water quality in coastal waters.*

### 2.1.4. DISTRICT PLANNING CONTEXT

*The Proposed Hastings District Plan was publicly notified in November 1997 and Council is currently in the process preparing and releasing decisions on submissions to the Plan. In accordance with the RMA, both the Proposed and Transitional District Plan's have weight. However, for the purposes of the HCES focus is given to the Proposed District Plan (PDP) as it provides insight into Council's current, albeit interim, strategic and policy direction.*

<sup>2</sup>

*Under the RMA, the Regional Council is responsible for natural and physical resources in the Coastal Marine Area; that area seaward of Mean High Water Springs.*

As discussed in Section 1 of this report, the HCES has been identified in the PDP, see Section 2.7 of the PDP. Notwithstanding this, the following policies are considered relevant:

- *CEP5, which states that Council will establish appropriate provisions to address the effects caused by coastal processes;*
- *CEP6, which states that Council will encourage public access to the coastal environment unless it is in conflict with other cultural or natural values; and*
- *CEP7, which states that Council will ensure the protection of natural and cultural features in the coastal environment.*

Chapter 3 of the PDP addresses resource management and tangata whenua and there are a number of objectives and policies throughout the Plan which address issues raised in this Chapter. Objectives of particular relevance to the HCES include:

- *WTO1 to WTO3 which state that Council will recognise, promote the protection of and encourage tangata whenua involvement in management of Wahi Tapu sites and areas within the District.*
- *PKO1 which states that Council will recognise the desire of Maori to maintain and enhance their traditional relationship with their land.*

Technical Papers #2:  
Coastal Residential  
addresses these further

Section 8 of the PDP addresses land use management for the residential zones of the District, including the following coastal settlements: Waipatiki, Whirinaki, Clive, Haumoana, Te Awanga, and Waimarama. A number of objectives and policies in this section are relevant to the HCES, including the need for Council to recognise the special character of residential areas and to provide for these, and the importance of adequate servicing and infrastructure for these areas. This section also identifies that Clive, Haumoana and Te Awanga have flooding problems whilst potential flood hazard is identified as a constraint at Waipatiki. Coastal erosion is identified as a hazard at Haumoana, Te Awanga and Waimarama.

Technical Papers #4:  
Erosion and Hazards  
addresses these further

Chapters 11 and 12 of the PDP address the special character, landscape and heritage items and areas within the District (including wahi tapu). To ensure the protection of Outstanding Landscapes, the PDP states that Council will:

- *Ensure that building development, earthworks and plantations do not visually compromise outstanding landscapes and natural features (LSO1);*
- *Ensure that a range of landscapes types are retained and enhanced (LSO2);*
- *Ensure that subdivision, use and development does not have an adverse visual or landscape effect (LSO3).*

To recognise and protect heritage items and areas the PDP states that Council will:

- *protect significant heritage items so that the heritage character and history of the District is preserved (HERO1);*
- *Promote greater public awareness and understanding of the Districts heritage items (HERO2).*

Technical Papers #3:  
Coastal Infrastructure  
addresses these further

*The PDP contains several sections of relevance to infrastructural issues. The following provides a brief summary of those objectives and policies which are considered to be of particular relevance:*

- *Section 2.5 of the PDP addresses transportation. Amongst other objectives aimed at promoting a safe and efficient roading network, the PDP includes a specific objective of the need to avoid or mitigate the effects of inappropriate roading activity on the environmental and amenity values of the community.*
- *Section 4 of the Plan requires all applicants for subdivision and development to fully assess servicing issues and effects including roading, water supply, stormwater and wastewater.*
- *As noted above, Section 8 addresses residential settlements within the District. Of relevance to infrastructure and the HCES, objective RO5 states that Council will ensure that residential development does not occur unless adequate levels of infrastructural services are in place while RO15 states that Council's management will ensure the provision of adequate community or on-site infrastructure sewerage collection, treatment and disposal, water supply, stormwater collection as a pre-requisite to consolidation or greenfield residential development*

*Section 13.5 of the PDP addresses community facilities, recreation, conservation and natural areas. Council's objectives in this section include the following:*

- *Providing for the establishment, operation, development and maintenance of land for reserves and recreation activities... (REO1);*
- *Protecting areas of the coastline that are identified as being of significant natural, cultural or recreation value (REO4);*
- *Encouraging the protection of remaining areas of significant indigenous flora, fauna or habitat and significant geological sites (REO6).*

### **2.1.5. OTHER LEGISLATION**

*As discussed in Section 1, while the RMA is the principal legislation for the management of natural and physical resources, management of the coastal resources goes beyond this, encapsulating a wider range of the District Council's functions and responsibilities. Accordingly, consideration has also been given to other statutory documents in the HCES, including the following:*

#### **The Local Government Act 1974**

*The Local Government Act 1974 (LGA) sets out the functions, powers and duties of local authorities. Of relevance to the HCES, the LGA sets out Council's, powers and responsibilities in regard to subdivision (including those areas where subdivision shall not be permitted, s274); reserves; development levies; and sewerage and stormwater drainage.*

**The Public Works Act 1981**

*The Public Works Act 1981 provides Council with a wide range of functions, powers and responsibilities for the provision of public works, including infrastructure and hazard protection works.*

**The Building Act 1991**

*The Building Act 1991 establishes a framework for the rights and responsibilities of Council in the administration and granting of building consents. Under the Act, Council is empowered to refuse consent on the basis of its ability to meeting standards and codes of practice (including servicing and hazards). The Building Regulations 1992 set out the standards for assessment of building consents.*

**Reserves Act 1977**

*The Reserves Act 1977 provides for the establishment, protection and management of reserves and the identification of the function of these reserves (national, recreation, historic, scenic, nature, scientific, government purpose, local purpose). This Act requires that those reserves created under the powers of the Act have a Reserve Management Plan.*

**The Historic Places Act 1993**

*The Historic Places Act 1993 (HPA) establishes a framework for the identification and registration of historic places and buildings, wahi tapu sites and areas and archaeological sites and areas. The registration of these historic places provides Council the means to identify registered items and requires Council, when a building consent is sought on such an item, to notify the New Zealand Historic Places Trust.*

**The Conservation Act 1987**

*The Conservation Act 1987 established the Department of Conservation (DoC) and its functions, powers and duties, including DoC's role as an advocate for conservation and conservation management. This Act also provides for the setting aside of land for conservation purposes (see also the Queen Elizabeth II Trust Act 1977).*

**Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941**

*This Act makes provision for Council's to undertake works for the protection of property from floods, the conservation of soil, and the protection and mitigation of flood erosion.*

**Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 / Maori Land Act 1993**

*This Act reforms the laws relating to Maori land: to promote the retention of Maori land; to facilitate the occupation, development, and utilisation of that land; and to establish mechanisms to assist the Maori people to achieve the implementation of the principles set out in the Act.*

## 2.2. THE PHYSICAL PROFILE

*The coastal environment represents a complex dynamic of many, often competing, resources and resource demands. The remainder of this section provides a brief description of the physical and natural resources of the Hastings coastal environment. Sections 2.3 and 2.4 are specifically focussed on where these resources and resource demands raise issues for the management of this environment.*

*The Hastings coastline covers some 75km of the East Coast of New Zealand's North Island. Within the coastal environment there are numerous coastal resources or landscapes. The area to which the HCES applies is generally shown in [Figure 1.2](#) of this report and in greater detail in Section 2.4 below.*

*The boundaries of the coastal Strategy have been defined by the territorial boundaries for the District. Aropoanui is the northern coastal management area, though the Strategy extends beyond this, and Waimarama the southern. The coastal strip managed by Napier City Council has been excluded from the HCES as it is beyond the jurisdiction of the Hastings District Council, although the policy framework has regional relevance.*

**Figure 2.1 Sandy Beach: Southern Ocean Beach**



*The coastal environment of Hastings comprises many different beach forms, for example the sandy beaches of Waimarama and Ocean Beach, the shingle beaches at Tangoio and Haumoana and areas of hard coast, such as Cape Kidnappers. There are numerous river outfalls and associated wetlands and lagoons, particularly in the central Hastings coast adjacent to the Heretaunga Plains.*

*Across these various environments different physical processes influence beach morphology and as a result the natural and physical resources. For example, many areas of the coast are currently eroding, with erosion rates as high as 1m/yr (e.g. Clifton), while other areas are slowly accreting. Those coastal environments with river mouths are also often subject to flooding and adjacent flat lands and valleys to inundation (for example Haumoana, Waitangi/Ngaruroro and Aropoanui).*

For the purposes of the HCES, areas outside the specific management units have been generally described as 'rural coast'

Detail on coastal processes and beach morphology for specific areas are provided in Section 2.4

Figure 2.2 Shingle Beach: East Clive



Figure 2.3 Hard Coast: Cliffs Towards Cape Kidnappers



There are three broad landscape units in the Hastings coastal environment

*The varying physical beach forms and the complexity of coastal processes is reflected in the diversity of other resources and resource values. For example, landscape values of the coastal environment have been assessed in a number of previous studies and different areas have been identified for their significance. The Hastings District Council Outstanding Landscape Report, Isthmus Group Ltd 1995, identifies three broad landscape units in the coast: northern, central and southern. The northern coastal unit has been identified as a series of hard coast cliffs with narrow bays. The central coastal unit is largely soft coastline, comprising shingle banks and river estuaries. While the southern coastal unit is identified as being in two sections, the cliffs of Cape Kidnappers, facing Hawke's Bay and the sandy beaches and valleys to the south.*

**Figure 2.4** The coastal cliffs of Cape Kidnappers contrast with the lowland river mouth and soft shingle beaches of the Plains



The traditional vegetation and ecology has largely been lost, with few, small remnant areas remaining.

*Ecologically, the landscape units roughly correspond with the Ecological Districts. The Waihua Ecological District (corresponding to the northern coastal unit) comprises the lower hills between the Esk River and coast. Historically this area was covered in broadleaf-podocarp and coastal broadleaf forest. The Heretaunga Ecological District (correlating with the central coastal unit) encompasses a large area, including the Heretaunga Plains. Historically this area was covered in broadleaf-podocarp forest with intermittent wetlands in the plains. The Eastern Hawke's Bay Ecological District covers the band of coastal hills including and south of Cape Kidnappers. Historically the coast would have been covered in broadleaf coastal forest but was cleared during early Maori times and is now dominated by pasture.*

**Figure 2.5 Coastal Lagoons:** There are a few remnant areas of indigenous vegetation surrounding the lakes and wetlands in the Heretaunga Plains Ecological District.



The coastal residential settlements contribute to the urban fabric of Hastings

*The Hastings coastal environment is more than a local asset, it is a regional asset to the population of Hawke's Bay and in some cases (e.g. Cape Kidnappers) a national tourist asset.*

*The coastal environment provides for the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of the community. The area provides a series of coastal residential communities which range from low scale 'holiday' settlements (e.g. Waipatiki) to alternative urban environments (e.g. Haumoana and Waimarama).*



The coast remains the most popular outdoor recreation location

*The coast provides a recreation environment for both Hastings and Napier residents and for the wider southern North Island population. The coast provides suitable locations for a range of recreation activities (e.g. passive recreation such as swimming, relaxing, and walking, and more active recreation activities such as surfing, fishing, shellfish gathering and water skiing). For example, coastal beaches such as Ocean Beach and Waimarama have day populations in excess of 500 in summer periods.*

*The coastal environment is also significant for the economic well being of the community. For example, fisheries provide for both the local and regional market, the nearby Port of Napier provides an important economic and transport link to the area, there are a number of significant industries close to the coast, and the soils and gravels to the north and south of the Heretaunga Plains provide a suitable environment for growing grapes for viticulture. In addition, the coastal environment provides a tourism opportunity for Hastings, with areas such as Cape Kidnappers attracting both national and international visitors.*

*The different social and economic users of the coastal environment have differing values and perceptions, which are an important consideration for management and development of the coastal edge.*

## 2.3. STRATEGIC ISSUES IN THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

*On the basis of the above planning and physical context, there are a number of resource issues confronting the Hastings coastal environment. While specific issues for the coast are discussed further in section 2.4 below, the following summarises key resource issues confronting the coastal environment generally.*



### 2.3.1. TANGATA WHENUA VALUES

*The coastal environment is a significant taonga for tangata whenua, both representing an important aspect of the traditional 'social economy'<sup>3</sup> and as an important cultural or spiritual resource. Council must consider their responsibilities under the RMA, including: to provide for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga; to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi; and to have regard to kaitiakitanga.*

*Many activities have the potential to adversely impact the relationship of tangata whenua and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water sites, waahi tapu and other taonga in the coastal environment. Particular concerns for tangata whenua include the discharge of sewage, degradation of water quality and the resulting depletion of marine life, the destruction of wahi tapu and the unrestricted gathering of shellfish and other seafood.*

<sup>3</sup>

*For example, there is a predominance of historic sites and evidence of settlement in coastal areas and the sea was important for kai moana.*

*On the basis of this the following issues have been identified:*

**The coastal environment has significant spiritual, cultural and social value to tangata whenua which warrants protection and consideration.**

**Subdivision, use and development of the coastal environment can adversely effect the relationship of tangata whenua and their culture and traditions with their ancestral taonga.**



### 2.3.2. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL VALUES

*The coastal environment is an important historical and cultural resource for the Hastings and wider Hawke's Bay community. The coast creates the sense of place that is Hastings, from the landscape and iconic image of Cape Kidnappers, to the vernacular bach settlements, to the historic whaling and farming stations.*

*While many cultural and heritage sites in the coastal environment are particularly addressed in the specific management areas, the following general social and cultural issues have been identified in the context of the Hastings coastal environment:*

**The amenity of the coastal environment provides special character and sense of place, which warrants recognition in resource management.**



### 2.3.3. LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

*Land use and development both within the coastal environment and beyond these boundaries has the potential to impact on resources and resource values of the coastal environment. The predominant land use of Hastings is rural, with areas of urban, commercial and industrial land use. There are a number of activities which have the potential to adversely impact on the coastal environment, in particular the following issues have been identified:*

**Sporadic subdivision in the rural coastal environment can have adverse effects.**

**Ad hoc servicing of rural areas can lead to adverse effects on other resources.**

**Erosion and the sedimentation of waterways due to land use and development (over grazing, uncontrolled earthworks and land-fills and poor upper catchment management).**

**Gravel extraction from waterways can impact on environmental quality.**

**Uncontrolled coastal protection works can effect amenity and safety of the coastal environment.**



#### 2.3.4. INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKS

*Associated with land use and development, the lack of infrastructure or development of infrastructure and servicing works also have the potential to adversely effect the coastal environment. The following issues have been identified in regard to the management of the coastal environment:*

**Poor water quality due to poor maintenance and failure of septic tanks or other effluent disposal systems.**

**Ad hoc, sporadic roading development and upgrading is both inefficient and leads to pressure on other resources.**

**Informal and unmanaged camping and transient accommodation can detract from natural character and adversely impact environmental quality.**

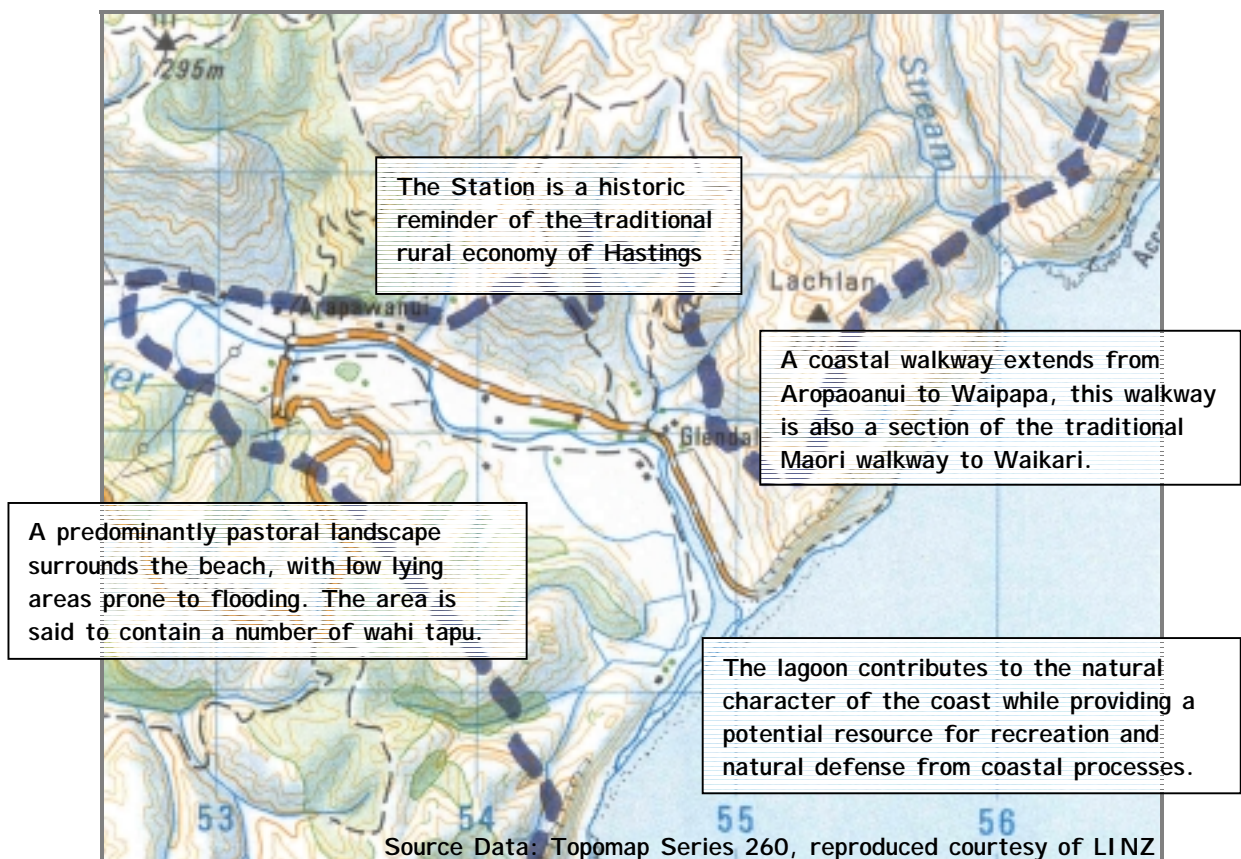
**Informal or illegal dumping of refuse and waste detracts from natural character.**

#### 2.4. SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT AREAS WITHIN THE HASTINGS COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

*As identified in [Figure 1.2](#) there are a number of individual areas within the Hastings coastal environment which are distinctive in terms of the resources, resource values and existing resource conflicts. The remainder of this section addresses each of the identified management areas, providing a profile of the existing environment and summarising existing management issues. This profile has been undertaken geographically, from north to south along the coast.*

### 2.4.1. AROPAOANUI

*Located some 40km north of Napier, Aropaoanui is Hastings northern coastal surf beach accessible by public road. The sandy surf beach lies within an incised river valley creating a sense of remoteness, wilderness and isolation from the built environment. At the mouth of the Aropaoanui River a lagoon has formed, running the length of the beach.*



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*Natural character value is derived from the sense of 'wilderness', isolation from built structures and pastoral landscape patterns. In particular, the steep gully, river and lagoon provide a picturesque backdrop to the beach.*

**Natural character values (wilderness and isolation) are significant and warrant protection.**



*Tangata whenua have identified Aropaoanui as an area of significant value, with a number of wahi tapu and other significant sites and areas (including urupa and the coastal walkway to Waikari). Kai moana resources are also considered significant in this area.*

**Tangata whenua values are being adversely effected by land use, development and recreation activities.**



*The farm station and heritage trail along the coast have heritage and historic value associated with the traditional settlement of the area.*



*Aropaoanui is a comparatively remote coastal area. The inaccessibility has been identified as a constraint to recreation, however it is also true that this contributes to the special character of the area and its role as an alternative recreation location/experience. There is currently little recreation infrastructure and servicing to support recreation activities, including the informal camping ground.*

**The special recreation value warrants recognition.**

**Inappropriate recreational use or development would adversely impact on the natural character and amenity values of the coastal environment.**



*Rural land use, predominantly pastoral grazing, surrounds Aropaoanui. The River floodplain is also used as an informal camping ground over summer providing an unofficial recreation resource for the community. Land use and management practices have the potential to impact on the coastal environment.*

**Upper catchment rural land use practices are impacting on the water quality of the lagoon.**



**Valley Flood Plain**



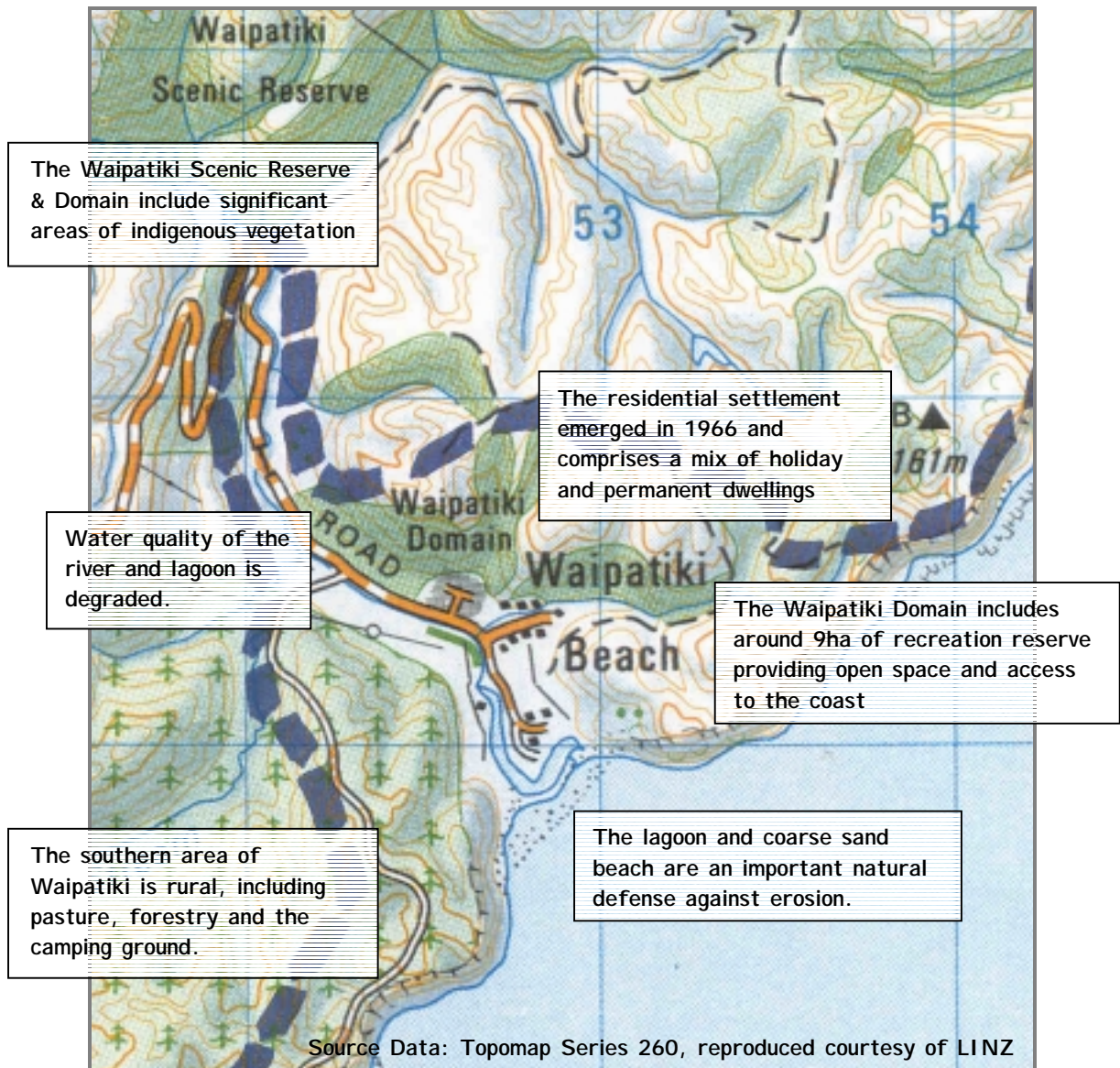
*Aropaoanui is currently served by an unsealed road that is considered poor and a constraint to access. Residential activities associated with rural properties are unserved, with individual water supply and wastewater disposal.*

**Inappropriate infrastructural development would adversely impact on the natural character values.**



### 2.4.2. WAIPATIKI

*Located off Waipatiki Road (from SH2), 30km north of Napier City, Waipatiki is Hastings northerly coastal residential settlement. Waipatiki Beach is a relatively small white-sand surf beach (approximately 0.5km in length), enclosed by cliffs and rocky coastline to the north and south.*



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*Natural character value is derived from the bush clad hills and scenic reserve, representing a small remnant of Hastings indigenous vegetation. The coastal environment is also considered to have natural character value in terms of the dramatic cliff setting, affording the area a sense of isolation, open space and remoteness.*

**The areas of indigenous bush have significant ecological value and warrant protection.**

**The special natural character of Waipatiki warrants recognition.**



*The Waipatiki settlement and road access lies within a low lying valley and floodplain of the Waipatiki Stream.*



**Waipatiki Road bridge**

**The Waipatiki Stream regularly floods, severing road access and threatening areas of the camp ground.**



*The settlement at Waipatiki has been identified as a special 'niche' market, comprising both residential and holiday accommodation. While there is a mix of building styles within the settlement, including a number of single and double story buildings, the settlement is distinctive for its low density, low scale and casual character.*

**Further residential development has the potential to adversely impact on the special character of the residential settlement.**



*Waipatiki represents an important recreation resource for the northern area of Hastings, with a number of day visitors and holiday-makers (from both Napier and Hastings) frequenting the beach. Surveys and traffic counts undertaken for Waipatiki indicate that over 100 people per day visit the beach during summer periods.*

**A lack of recreation management measures will adversely impact on recreation and natural character values.**



*The existing settlement of Waipatiki includes some 30 to 40 residential dwellings. There is some potential and demand for further residential development.*

*Rural land use, comprising a mix of pastoral grazing, the camp ground and forestry, surrounds Waipatiki.*

**Upper catchment rural land use practices are impacting on the water quality of the lagoon.**



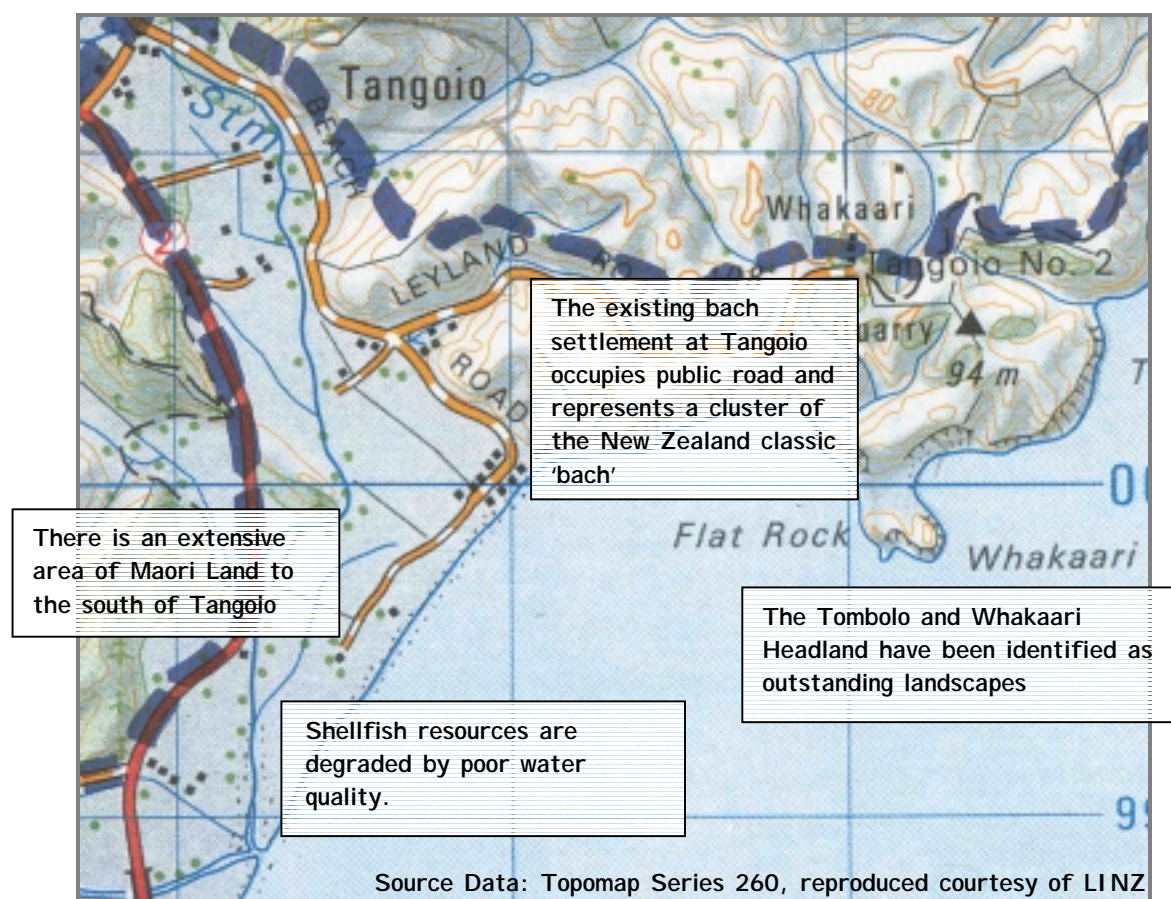
*As noted above, both the camping ground and the residential settlement are currently serviced by on site and individual systems for water supply and wastewater disposal. Evidence suggests that there is some failure of these systems, degrading water quality of the Waipatiki lagoon. Road access and improvements (currently underway) will be important for any future growth of the area.*

**The failure of existing systems is adversely impacting on the coastal environment and there is a need to accommodate future residential growth.**



### 2.4.3. TANGOIO

Located some 20km north of Napier City, from Tangoio Beach Road, Tangoio Beach is the northern extent of the expansive shingle beach extending from Westshore to Tangoio Bluff. To the north of the beach, the Tangoio Headland and Whakaari Bluff have been identified as significant, both in terms of their landscape value and in terms of the geo-scientifically important tombolo feature between these landforms.



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

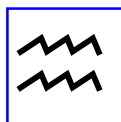


Natural character value is derived from the sense of wild and undeveloped coastline. As noted above, the tombolo between the Tangoio Bluff and Whakaari Headland has geo-scientific significance.



Tangoio Headland has been identified as a landscape of Outstanding significance. Values attributed to the landscape include the natural landform character, integrity of land form and the open space characteristics of the area.

**Those features which contribute to the Outstanding Landscape of Tangoio warrant protection.**



Tangoio is subject to erosion, with the HBRC monitoring recording erosion rates as high as 0.39m/yr. Flooding also occurs on the coastal and inland flats.





*There is a significant area of land currently held in Maori Land Title at the southern end of Tangoio Beach, with access from Tangoio Beach Road and SH2. The coastal area adjacent to this property has been identified as a significant source of kaimoana (mussels).*

**Degraded water quality is adversely affecting shellfish and kaimoana resources.**



**Existing Baches**



*Tangoio is considered to have significant historic and cultural value, both for the Whaling Station at Whakaari and the bach settlement. The Tangoio bach settlement has been identified as having important aesthetic and cultural values as a traditional 'fishing' settlement and a representation of period bach architecture. Notwithstanding this, the baches are currently on road reserve and are considered by other members of the community to have a detrimental effect on amenity values of the coast.*

**Does the bach settlement warrant protection or recognition?**



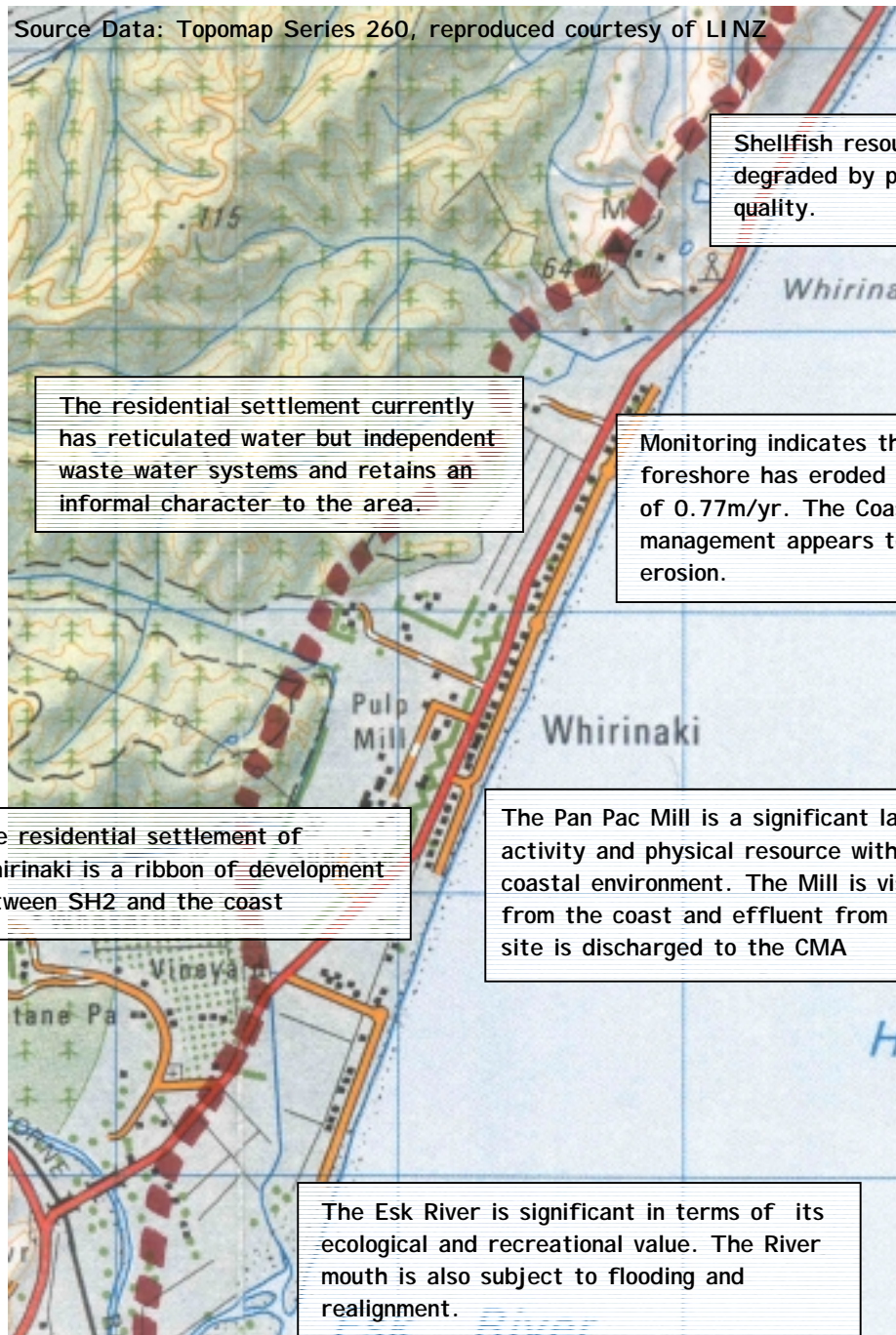
*Recreation use of Tangoio beach is considered moderate, popular for fishing, relaxing, swimming and to the north snorkeling and diving. There is an existing recreation reserve at Tangoio, though access to the reserve is through an easement across private property.*

**Public access to and along the coastal marine area is constrained by private interests.**

**Degraded water quality is adversely impacting on recreation activity (shellfish and bathing).**

#### 2.4.4. WHIRINAKI

*Adjacent to SH2, Whirinaki provides an urban alternative to residential Napier and Hastings (filling a similar market to neighbouring Bay View). The beach is shingle, extending from Westshore (Napier) to the Tangoio Headland.*



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

*Although comparatively modified, the area is considered to have ecological value, particularly the Esk River.*





Monitoring at Whirinaki indicates an historical erosion trend. The Esk River mouth has also been identified as an area subject to flooding in the 50 and 100 year events. While the existing residential settlement is beyond the flood limits the adjacent rural land is effected.

**Ribbon development south of Whirinaki would be adversely effected by coastal processes and inundation hazard.**



The coastal area between Whirinaki and Tangoio has been identified as a significant source of kaimoana (mussels).

**Degraded water quality is adversely effecting shellfish and kaimoana resources.**



Recreation use of Whirinaki beach is considered moderate; popular for fishing and walking/relaxing. The area has also been identified for shellfish.

**Degraded water quality is adversely effecting the shellfish resource.**



The existing residential area of Whirinaki provides an urban alternative to residential Napier and Hastings, providing a high amenity coastal residential area in the coastal environment. There is potential for future residential growth, subject to servicing and buffering from the industrial zone.



Residential character

**Unmanaged ribbon development would threaten natural character values of the Esk River.**

**There is a need to maintain visual and noise buffering between the residential settlement and the heavy industrial zone.**



Whirinaki is easily accessed from SH2, with a local roading network providing access to private properties and along the coastal marine area. The residential settlement is currently serviced with a reticulated water supply. Wastewater disposal is on site, predominantly serviced by individual septic tank systems. Infrastructure for the industrial zone also impacts on the area, with the effluent outfall currently discharging into the coastal marine area.

**Infrastructural development must accommodate future residential growth.**

**Discharge (including effluent discharge from the Pan Pac Mill) is potentially adversely impacting on water quality of the coastal marine area.**



The heavy industrial zone at Whirinaki contributes to the economy of the District. The industrial zone includes the Pan Pac Mill and other industry that supports land use activities outside the coastal environment. This zone needs to be recognised.

### 2.4.5. WAITANGI/NGARURORO

*Waitangi/Ngaruroro is located at the southern coastal boundary of Napier City Council and Hastings District Council and at the confluence of the Ngaruroro and Tutaekuri Rivers. The coastal environment includes the open and exposed shingle beach, as well as the estuary, wetlands and shingle banks at the River mouth.*

In severe floods SH2 has temporarily closed as floodwaters reach the underside of the bridge crossing.

The Colenso Memorial is a significant historical site associated with the Colenso Mission.

Gravel and river mouth management, including extensive stopbanking and pump stations, is important for maintaining the integrity of the flood control scheme for the Heretaunga Plains.

The Ngaruroro River Mouth Wildlife Refuge provides habitat for a number of coastal bird species.

Source Data: Topomap Series 260, reproduced courtesy of LINZ

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*Natural character value is derived from the sense of wilderness and the significant ecological values associated with the area. The Ngaruroro River Mouth Wildlife Refuge, managed by the Department of Conservation, is also identified as a significant ecological area.*

**There is a need to undertake river control works yet these have the potential to impact on natural character.**



*The Waitangi/Ngaruroro environment is dynamic, with significant and episodic erosion and flooding events. The area is also an integral component of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council's river and flood control management for the Heretaunga Plains. As identified above, the management of this environment raises issues with the protection and enhancement of the natural character of the coastal environment.*



*The Colenso Memorial is significant in terms of European colonisation of the Hawke's Bay Region. The Colenso Mission was established by William Colenso (a founding missionary in the Hawke's Bay). The area is also considered significant for the people of Ngati Kahungunu.*





Public access to the Waitangi/Ngaruroro coastal environment is afforded by the Waitangi Road Local Purpose Reserve (managed by the Hawke's Bay Regional Council). There are extensive areas of reserve in the area, principally established for river control and flood management, but also used for recreation (particularly fishing and white-baiting).

**Degraded water quality is adversely impacting on recreation activity.**



Adjacent to Waitangi/Ngaruroro, Awatoto is an important industrial area for Napier City. There are a number of heavy industrial activities in Awatoto including the fertiliser plant and Napier City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Future growth of the Awatoto industrial area has the potential to impact on the natural character values of Waitangi/Ngaruroro.**



Waitangi/Ngaruroro is located off SH2, currently one of the main vehicle access route between Napier City and the Hastings District<sup>4</sup>. During severe flooding events, this road access has been closed as river levels rise to the underside of the bridge. Parallel to SH2, the Gisborne Railway line also crosses the Ngaruroro/Tutaekuri Rivers.



SH2 bridge crossing

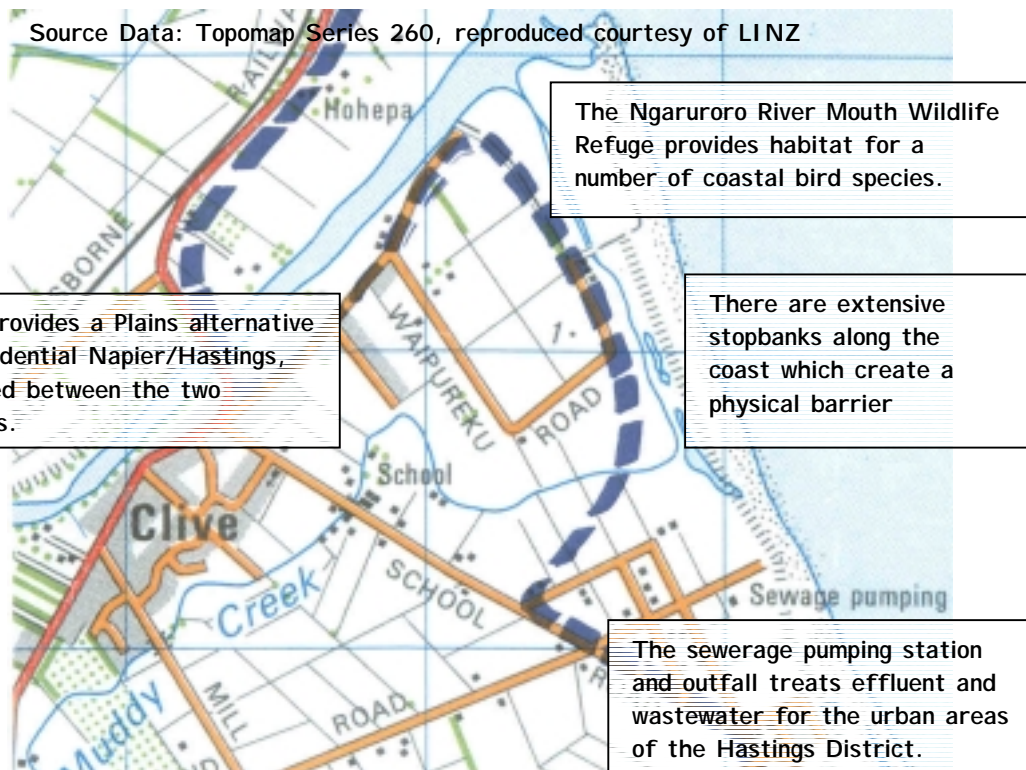
<sup>4</sup>

The Napier/Hastings Expressway provides an alternative route to SH2.

#### 2.4.6. CLIVE COASTAL ENVIRONS / WAIPUREKU

*Adjacent to the residential area of Clive, the Clive coastal environs includes the mouth of the Clive River and the coastline between the River and the Hastings sewerage pumping station. As with Waitangi/Ngaruroro there are extensive works within the coastal environment for river protection and flood control. The beach is an exposed shingle beach, with a number of small backshore waterbodies.*

Source Data: Topomap Series 260, reproduced courtesy of LINZ



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*The Clive coastal environment is dynamic, with significant and episodic erosion and flooding events. As with Waitangi/Ngaruroro, the area is an integral component of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council's river and flood control management for the Heretaunga Plains.*

**The erosion protection works (e.g. stopbanking) take primacy in the coastal environment.**

**Hazards are a constraint to land use and development (particularly residential).**



*There are a number of reserve areas in Clive, managed by different authorities. While recreation use of the Clive coastal environment is relatively low, the area is popular for specific water sports (jet skiing and water skiing). Water quality in the Clive River is degraded and periodically presents a health risk for contact recreation.*

**Degraded water quality is adversely impacting on recreation activity.**



*Clive is perceived to be a satellite of urban Hastings, providing an alternative residential environment to the suburbs surrounding Hastings City. Residential development and urban growth strategies for Clive have been addressed in the Hastings Urban Growth Strategy and are not considered pertinent in terms of the coastal environment.*



*As part of 'urban' Hastings both Clive and East Clive are serviced with reticulated water supply and wastewater disposal. The wastewater treatment plant, pumping station, and outfall at East Clive service the wider urban area of Hastings and physically dominate the coastal environment.*

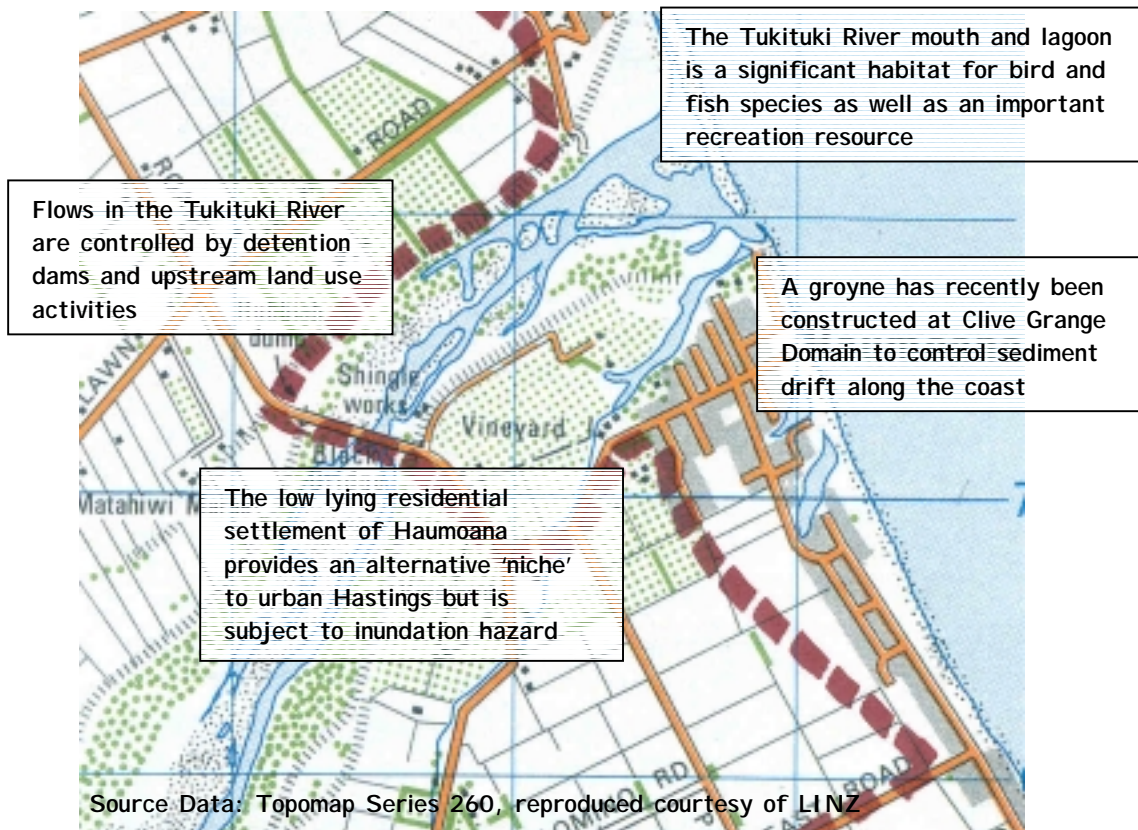


Pipeline along the Clive River

**Sewerage works dominate the local environment and adversely impact on the amenity of the coastal environment.**

### 2.4.7. HAUMOANA

*The settlement at Haumoana is seen as a residential alternative to urban Hastings, providing a 'niche' in the Hastings housing market. Located on the mouth of the Tukituki River, the area is valued for its amenity, the ecological significance of the wetlands, and its proximity to Hastings. The beach is shingle, part of the coastline extending from the Port of Napier to Cape Kidnappers.*



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*The mouth and lagoon of the Tukituki River are considered significant habitat for a number of fish and bird species. While no water quality monitoring has been undertaken, anecdotal evidence suggests that water quality is degraded and is adversely impacting on these ecological values. The lagoon is also identified as important for fish spawning.*

**The control of flows in the Tukituki River has potential adverse effects on natural character.**

**Degraded water quality adversely effects natural character.**



*Erosion at Haumoana is significant, with rates of 0.4m/yr recorded by the HBRC (prior to the recent erosion protection works). The HBRC have recently constructed a concrete groyne in the coastal environment in an attempt to stay these erosion rates. During flooding events and high tides in the Lower Tukituki River mouth, there is potential for flood waters to overtop the existing stopbanks, flooding residential areas.*

**Urban growth is constrained by existing flood and inundation hazard.**

**Erosion protection works can often detract from coastal amenity.**



**Concrete Groyne**

*Haumoana is an important recreation area, particularly for the local community. Recreation activities include walking/relaxing, swimming, surfing and fishing. The Tukituki River is also important for fishing and white-baiting. While there are a number of existing reserves, these areas are poorly maintained.*

**Recreation activity conflicts with river control management.**

**Poor management has detracted from the recreation resource.**



*Haumoana satisfies a niche market in Hastings residential demand and is relatively popular. Evidence from recent studies suggests that demand exceeds supply and that the market could accommodate future residential growth, subject to servicing and hazard management.*

**There is a lack of infrastructure for residential growth**

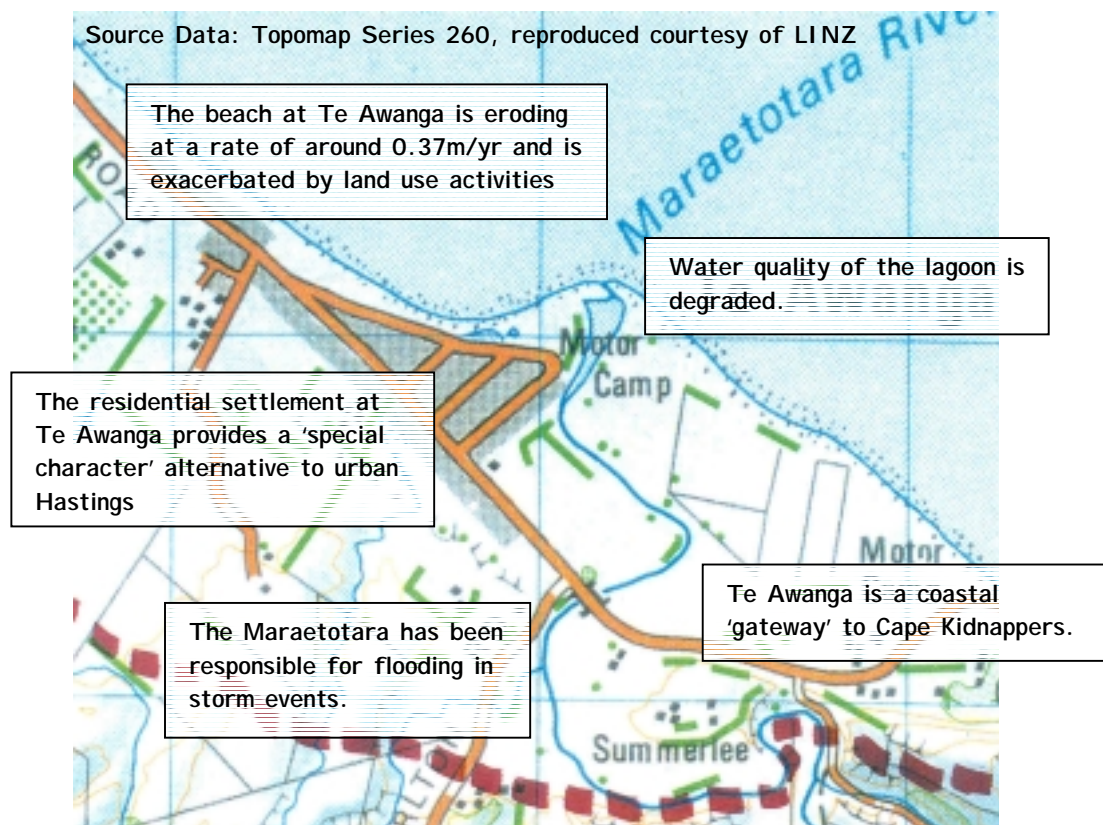
**Potential ribbon development along the Haumoana coast has the potential to adversely impact on the natural character areas between Te Awanga and Haumoana.**



*The residential settlement of Haumoana is currently self sufficient for wastewater disposal. There is evidence that a number of these systems are failing, impacting on the water quality of the lagoon and coastal environment.*

#### 2.4.8. TE AWANGA

*Te Awanga is a small residential settlement, providing an alternative residential lifestyle to urban Hastings. The area is considered a 'special character' niche market. The beach at Te Awanga is part of the shingle coast extending from the Port of Napier in the north to Cape Kidnappers in the south. Te Awanga is an important gateway to the Cape.*



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*The residential area of Te Awanga is considered to have special character and amenity values, particularly by the resident population. While a number of people consider this area worthy of protection, other members of the District do not.*

#### Does the special character of residential Te Awanga warrant recognition?



*The erosion rate at Te Awanga has averaged 0.37m/yr. Erosion is exacerbated by the loss of natural protection, due to housing, roads and recreation activities. There are numerous failed protection works within the coastal environment.*

**Ad hoc and uncoordinated protection works do not address erosion hazard and adversely impact on the amenity of the coastal environment.**



Failed protection works



*Te Awanga is an important recreation area, particularly for the local community. Recreation activities include walking/relaxing, swimming, surfing and fishing. The Motor Camp also provides temporary accommodation for holiday makers. The lagoon has potential as a 'safe' bathing environment, but water quality is degraded.*

**Recreation activity is adversely affected by degraded water quality**



*As with Haumoana, Te Awanga satisfies a niche market in Hastings residential demand and is relatively popular. Evidence from recent studies suggests that demand exceeds supply and that the market could accommodate future residential growth. There is provision for up to 50 or so residential sites in Te Awanga, subject to servicing.*

**The accommodation of future residential development has potential adverse impacts on special character.**

**There are potential interface conflicts between residential and rural land use activities.**



*The residential settlement of Te Awanga currently has reticulated water supply but is self sufficient for wastewater disposal. Failing infrastructure is potentially a cause of degraded water quality in the Maraetotara lagoon.*

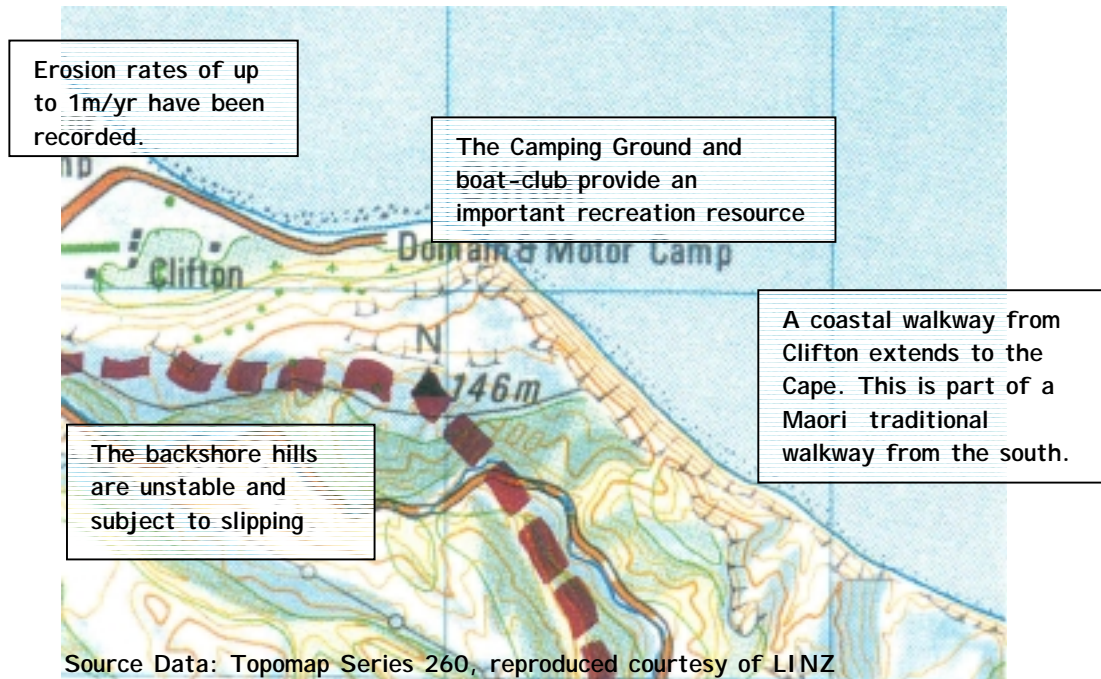
**Future residential development is reliant on adequate servicing.**



*To the south of Te Awanga, Cape Kidnappers is considered a significant resource for tourism and development of tourism in the Hastings District. There is potential for Te Awanga to establish itself as a 'gateway' to the Cape for recreation and tourism facilities (e.g. tour operations).*

#### 2.4.9. CLIFTON

*Clifton is a small area of development bound by the coast and steep hill country of rural Hastings. The shingle beach is the southern end of the coastal strip between the Port and Cape Kidnappers and the area is a coastal gateway to the Cape.*



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*Cape Kidnappers is considered an icon for the Hastings community. While Clifton is a modified landscape and distinct from the Cape it is an important 'gateway', for example the existing walkway to the Cape starts from Clifton.*



*Erosion at Clifton is significant, with rates of around 1m/yr. In addition, slope instability on the backshore hills is resulting in shallow creep and deep seated failures of the slopes behind the camping ground. These present a hazard to camp occupants.*

**Ad hoc and uncoordinated protection works do not address erosion hazard and adversely impact on the amenity of the coastal environment.**



*Clifton is an important recreation area, particularly for the local community. Recreation activities include walking/relaxing, swimming, surfing and fishing. In particular, the boat club and associated facilities provide for recreational boating and fishing. The Camp Ground currently occupies the Clifton Domain and provides temporary accommodation for holiday-makers, though there is a high degree of permanent or semi-permanent occupation.*

**The loss of the campground to semi-permanent occupation.**

**Coastal processes are adversely impacting on the motor-camp.**

**The campground is perceived as a physical barrier to accessing Cape Kidnappers.**



### Road protection works

*Road access along the coast to Clifton is currently threatened by erosion. Protection works, including deposition of concrete rubble, has been undertaken in an effort to stay the encroachment of the coast.*

**Road access is threatened by physical processes.**

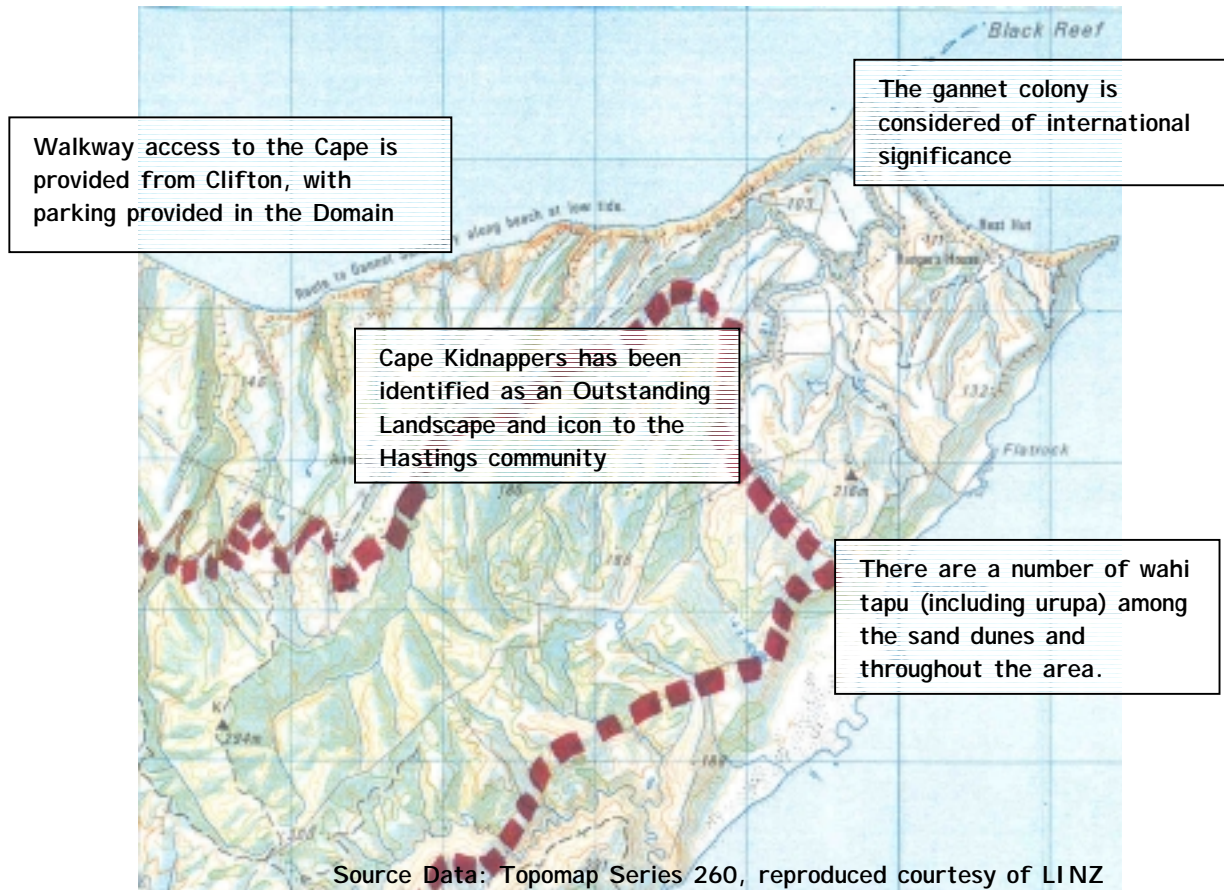
**Protection works for the road is poor and adversely impacts on amenity.**





#### 2.4.10. CAPE KIDNAPPERS

*Located on the south of Hawke's Bay, Cape Kidnappers comprises a narrow strip of coastal faces and steep cliffs and a headland and reef system (Black Reef). The hard coast consists of hard and soft sandstone and mudstone.*



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT



*Natural character value is derived (in part) from the following: the geology of the area is considered significant, the gannet colony is the most important gannet colony in New Zealand; the Cape is considered an 'icon' for the identity of the region; the Cape is represented in Maori tradition as Maui's fishhook; the Cape was named by Captain Cook for an attempt by Maori to kidnap a member of his company.*

**Recreation and public access has the potential to adversely impact natural character.**



*The Cape has been identified as an Outstanding Landscape of international significance. This landscape represents an icon for the Hawke's Bay, with an unbroken silhouette landform viewed from Hastings.*

**Those features which contribute to the Outstanding Landscape warrant protection.**



*The Cape is significant to tangata whenua, with a number of wahi tapu sites and the area important in Maori tradition. These sites and areas of significance have the potential to be damaged or lost by land use and development.*

**The special relationship of Maori to Cape Kidnappers has the potential to be adversely impacted by land use activities and reserve management.**



*The Cape is of regional significance both to Maori and Pakeha. Historically the Cape was a traditional Maori coastal walkway from the southern to northern settlements and was named by Captain Cook (see above). There are many archaeological sites on the Cape associated with historic activity.*



*The Cape is a popular recreation resource, with high numbers of national and international visitors. Facilities at the Cape include public shelter, signage, toilets, walking track, drinking water and picnic tables. Parking is provided from Clifton for access along the beach (low tide). Alternative access is provided through private land.*

**Public access is potentially constrained by private interests.**

**Poor visitor facilities detract from the recreation resource.**



**'Restricted' Access from Clifton**



*The predominant land use surrounding the Cape is rural, with the Sumerlee Station a single land-holding over much of the area. Future land use and rural development have the potential to impact on the landscape values of the Cape, for example rural subdivision or forestry development.*

**Land use and development has the potential to adversely impact on the landscape and natural character.**

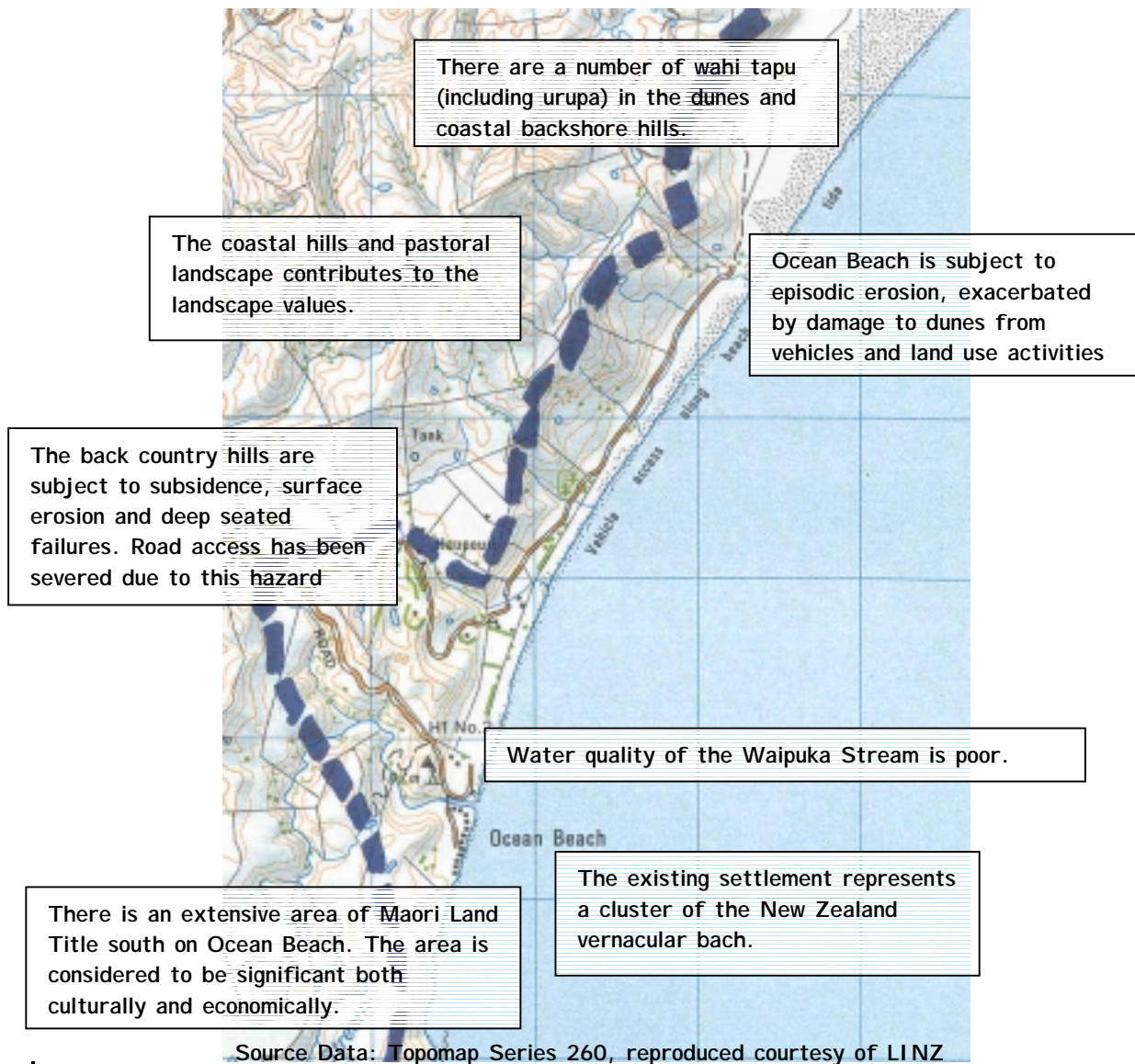


*Cape Kidnappers is considered a significant potential resource for tourism and development of tourism in the Hastings District.*

**Inappropriate use and development of the Cape threatens tourism.**

### 2.4.11. OCEAN BEACH

*Located around 20 minutes south of Hastings, Ocean Beach extends over some 15km, from Cape Kidnappers to the south. The sandy beach comprises coastal terraces and an extensive sand dune system, surrounded by steep pastoral hills, incised by stream valleys.*



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

*Ocean Beach has been identified as an area of high natural character value, as an area of wild or remote coast, with an open and undeveloped northern expanse. The dunes to the north of Waipuka Stream have been identified as ecologically significant (including an extensive area of pingao) and the coastal marine area has been identified by the Regional Council.*

**Natural character is significant and warrants protection.**

**Natural character is threatened by recreation and public access.**



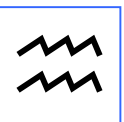




*The landscape has regional and district significance. Key elements of value are the dunes, sense of wilderness, undeveloped rural character, bold hills, pastoral landscape and discrete layout of the existing settlement.*

**Those features which contribute to the landscape warrant recognition and protection.**

**Landscape values are threatened by proposed residential development on the coastal flats.**



*Erosion at Ocean Beach is episodic and exacerbated by damage to the dunes from vehicles, pedestrians and point source stormwater discharges. The steep back country hills and coastal scarps are subject to surface erosion, subsidence and deep seated failures.*

**Land use and recreation is exacerbating erosion.**

**Road access is compromised by land instability**



*There are a number of wahi tapu sites and areas within the coastal environment. The area is also considered an important source of kai moana. To the south there is a significant area of land in Maori Land Title, which provides local hapu connection to their ancestral lands.*

**The special relationship of Maori to Ocean Beach has the potential to be adversely impacted by land use activities and reserve management.**



*The Haupouri Station, Whaling Station and remains of the whaling station gardens are historically significant. The existing settlement is also significant, providing a cluster of the traditional New Zealand bach, however perceptions of the existing settlement are mixed.*

**Does the existing residential settlement warrant protection?**



*Ocean beach is popular for recreation activities, particularly swimming, relaxing/sunbathing and surfing. While there is no existing reserve area there is provision for public parking, the surf club and a toilet block. Bathing in the Waipuka Stream is popular for young children, as a 'safe' bathing area.*

**Public access is potentially constrained by private interests.**

**Recreation activities are poorly resourced and managed.**



*The predominant land use at Ocean Beach is rural. Activities include pastoral farming, feed lots, forestry and a woolshed. To the south the existing residential settlement occupies a single rural lot.*

**The existing residential settlement is threatened by erosion.**

**Residential and rural-residential growth has the potential to adversely impact natural character and landscape values.**



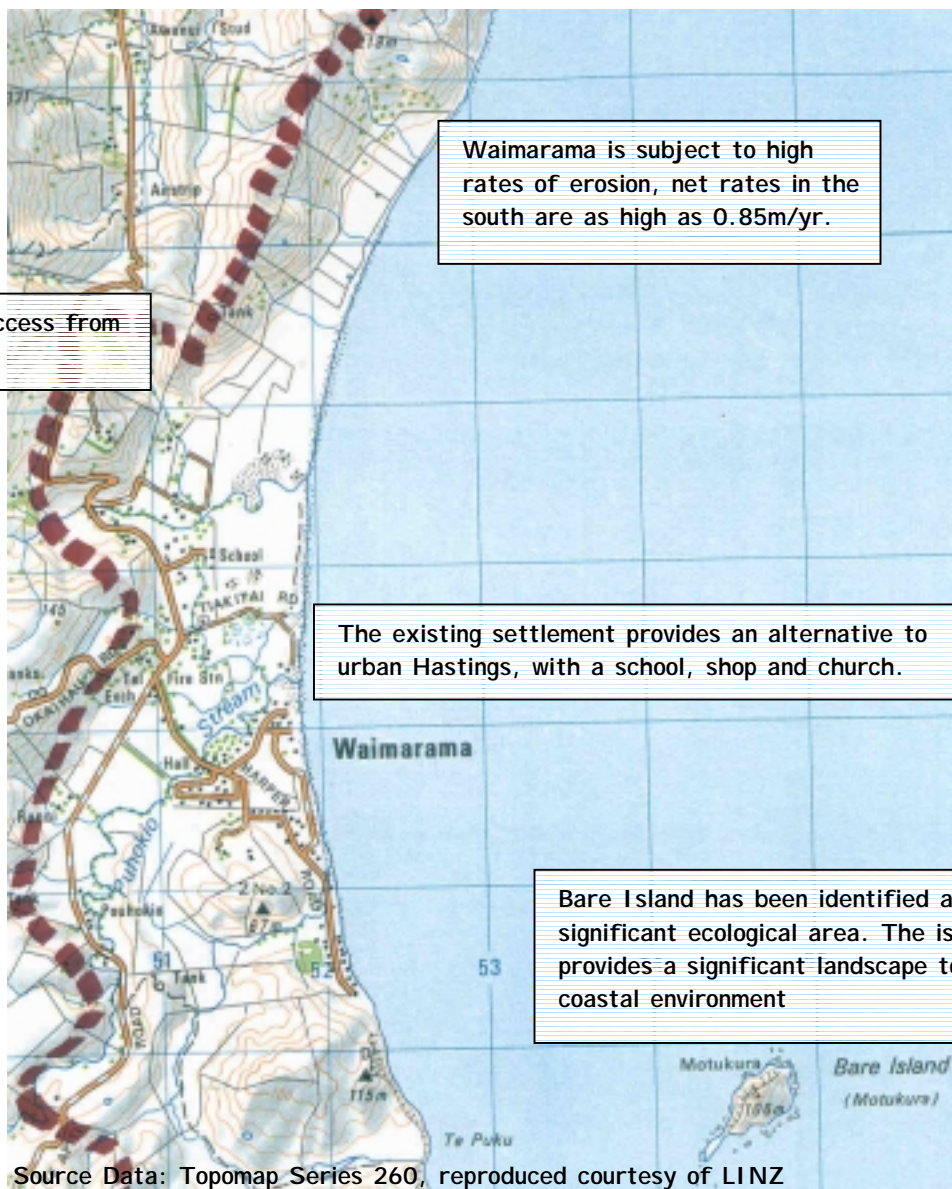
*Public road access to Ocean Beach currently occupies private land. This road is also threatened by the instability of the backshore hills. The existing residential settlement is self sufficient in terms of water supply and wastewater disposal. Monitoring indicates that infrastructure is failing and degrading water quality of the Waipuka Stream.*

**Failing infrastructure adversely impacts on recreation and natural character values.**

**Future land use and development will require appropriate infrastructure**

#### 2.4.12. WAIMARAMA

*South of Ocean Beach, Waimarama is the southern beach in the Hastings District. The residential settlement provides an urban alternative to Hastings and is popular for both holiday dwellings and retirement. The sandy beach at Waimarama extends some 5km with the northern end of the beach largely undeveloped and accessed by the beach or private property.*



#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE AND KEY ISSUES FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

*The marine environment to the north is considered ecologically significant. Bare Island is a significant conservation area providing habitat for marine fauna (including seals, lizards and penguin).*

**Natural character is significant and warrants protection.**

**Natural character is threatened by coastal protection works, recreation and public access.**





*Erosion at Waimarama is episodic and exacerbated by damage to the dunes from vehicles, pedestrians and residential activities. At the southern end of the beach erosion is high (recorded at 0.85m/yr).*



Riprap along the coast

**Land use and recreation is exacerbating erosion.**

**Ad hoc protection works are not addressing erosion hazard and create an adverse effect on the amenity of the coastal environment.**



*There are a number of wahi tapu sites and areas within the coastal environment. The area is also considered an important source of kai moana. To the north there are areas of land in Maori Land Title, which provides local hapu connection to their ancestral lands.*

**The special relationship of Maori to Waimarama has the potential to be adversely impacted by land use activities and reserve management.**



*Waimarama is popular for recreation activities, particularly swimming, relaxing/sunbathing and surfing. There are a number of reserves in the coastal environment, including the Domain. This reserve is being eroded threatening recreation facilities.*

**Public access is potentially constrained by private interests.**

**Recreation facilities are threatened by erosion**



*The existing residential settlement at Waimarama provides an important alternative to urban Hastings. This area is currently developing and there is potential for future residential growth.*

**The existing residential settlement is threatened by erosion.**

**Residential and rural-residential growth has the potential to adversely impact natural character.**

**Growth is constrained by poor infrastructural servicing.**



*The existing residential settlement has limited water supply and is self sufficient for wastewater disposal. There have been recent incidents where water shortage has been experienced, particularly in summer with the influx in the population. There is also anecdotal evidence that a number of septic tanks are failing, though water quality of the coastal marine area is not adversely effected.*

**Future land use and development will require appropriate infrastructure**

### 3. STRATEGIC ISSUES, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 3.1. BACKGROUND

See Figure 1.1. *Issues and Options*, Nov 1997

*Throughout the HCES consultation has been held with various stakeholders and the wider community. The Issues and Options Paper was released as an initial consultation document, outlining resource values and demands in each of the 12 specific management areas, as well as for the wider 'rural' coastal environment.*

See: *Hastings Coastal Environment Strategy: Community Perceptions Questionnaire, Summary of Questionnaire Results*, BCHF, October 1999

*Following the Issues and Options consultation, the community perceptions questionnaire was undertaken. One identified objective of the survey was to ascertain whether the feedback from the Issues and Options paper was reflective of the values and opinions of the wider Hastings community. As reported in the Summary of Questionnaire Results report, the resource issue statements from the Issues and Options consultation were generally supported in the wider community feedback.*

See Figure 1.1. *Priority Actions Paper*, Dec 1997

*The Priority Actions Paper (PAPs) emerged in response to the consultation. This Paper reflected the staged development of objectives and policies for the HCES and outlined further investigations required. The purpose of the PAPs was to direct the scope of future investigations for the HCES by identifying priority issues in the management of the coastal environment. It was intended that this document would ensure that areas of existing demand and resource conflict were prioritised in the HCES. This Paper reflects the first evolution of the Issues, Objectives and Policies for the HCES.*

See Figure 1.1. See *Technical Reports*, July 2000

*In response to the PAPs five Technical Papers were undertaken for the HCES, providing further detail and direction for the implementation of strategic objectives and policies. The conclusions and recommendations of these Technical Papers are summarised in further detail in section 4 of this report.*

#### 3.2. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

*On the basis of the management themes, the following summarises the strategic objectives and policies for the HCES.*

##### 3.2.1. NATURAL CHARACTER



*Although significantly modified in terms of landscape patterns, there are areas of significant natural character in the Hastings coastal environment. These include areas of 'wilderness' and 'remoteness', such as Ocean Beach, Aropaoanui and Waitangi/Ngaruroro, as well as areas of significant ecological value, such as Waitangi/Ngaruroro, Cape Kidnappers, Ocean Beach and Waimarama.*

See Technical Paper #1:  
Part II Matters, BCHF  
July 2000

*Technical Paper #1 of the HCES identifies the key natural character features of the specific management areas within the coastal environment. Based on these and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

### **Objective**

The maintenance and enhancement of the diverse natural and physical resources which contribute to the natural character values of Hastings coastal environment.

### **Policies**

1. To maintain and enhance the diversity of natural character values which existing in the Hastings coastal environment.
2. To focus subdivision, development and use of the coastal environment to those areas where the natural character values have already been compromised.
3. To protect significant remnants of indigenous vegetation, recognise the intrinsic values of coastal ecosystems and encourage habitat restoration.
4. To rehabilitate degraded remnants of indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna, promoting and enhancing ecological linkages where appropriate.
5. To ensure that subdivision, use and development does not detract or compromise those natural and physical features which afford the coastal environment natural character value.



### **3.2.2. LANDSCAPE**

*A number of landscapes in the Hastings coastal environment have been identified for significant value. The Hawke's Bay Regional Council has undertaken an assessment of regionally significant landscapes (LA4) and the Hastings District Council commissioned Isthmus Group Ltd. to undertake the 'Outstanding Landscapes Report'.*

See Technical Paper #1:  
Part II Matters, BCHF  
July 2000

*Technical Paper #1 of the HCES identifies the key landscape features and those elements that contribute to an areas landscape value for the specific management areas within the coastal environment. Based on this and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

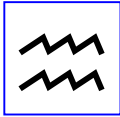
### **Objective**

To maintain and enhance the diverse landscape character and sense of place of the Hastings coastal environment.

### **Policies**

1. To protect Outstanding landscape features from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
2. To recognise that landscape values are dynamic and often collective with other natural and cultural values.





3. To recognise that diverse landscape character values warrant different management techniques.
4. To rehabilitate degraded landscapes where possible and appropriate.
5. To ensure that subdivision, use and development does not detract or compromise significant landscape features.

### 3.2.3. COASTAL PROCESSES

*The Hastings coastal environment is dynamic with erosion, accretion, flooding, inundation and tsunamis.*

See Technical Paper #4:  
*Erosion and Hazards*,  
BCHF, July 2000

*Technical Paper #4 of the HCES identifies the key coastal processes active within the specific management areas of the coastal environment. Based on these and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

#### **Objective**

To ensure that all subdivision, use and development has regard to natural hazards and the need to maintain and enhance natural systems for protection.

#### **Policies**

1. To avoid development in areas subject to natural hazards;
2. In areas where development has already taken place, to investigate measures to remedy or mitigate potential hazards, taking into account the value of the assets to be protected;
3. To ensure integration of coastal protection works with natural and physical resources of the coastal environment;
4. To integrate monitoring programmes for the coastal environment.



### 3.2.4. TANGATA WHENUA

*The Hastings coastal environment is very important, both physically and spiritually to Maori. This relationship is evident both historically, by the numerous archaeological sites situated along the coast, and currently, as large areas within the Hastings coastal environment are in Maori Land Title.*

See Technical Paper #1:  
*Part II Matters*, BCHF,  
July 2000

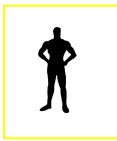
*Technical Paper #1 of the HCES goes some way to define those resources and resource values of significance to tangata whenua (though it is recognised that this management theme warrants further investigation). Based on this Paper and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

#### **Objective**

To recognise and provide for tangata whenua values and management systems in the sustainable management of the coastal environment.

### *Policies*

1. To promote tangata whenua access to ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.
2. To ensure that wherever possible, sites and areas, lands and resources of significance to tangata whenua are protected.
3. To encourage tangata whenua participation in decision making and management for ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.
4. To provide for tangata whenua, rights to exercise te tino rangatiratanga over their lands, forests and other taonga.



### **3.2.5. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL**

*This management theme includes a number of elements and natural and physical resources in the Hastings coastal environment which are afforded protection and consideration under the Resource Management Act 1991. Specifically these resources and resource values include:*

- *Heritage and historical sites and areas;*
- *Sites of special spiritual/cultural significance,*
- *Amenity values,*
- *Kaitiakitanga and the ethic of stewardship, and*
- *Other special character values (e.g. sense of place).*

*Technical Paper #1 of the HCES goes some way to define those resources and resource values of social and cultural significance (though it is recognised that this management theme warrants further investigation). Based on the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

### ***Objective***

**To maintain and where possible enhance the diversity and depth of social and cultural values in the Hastings District coastal environment.**

### ***Policies***

1. To maintain and enhance the special character and amenity values of the coastal environment, providing this does not compromise other significant values.
2. To recognise and protect heritage sites and trails in the Hastings coastal environment.
3. To recognise the diversity of special character values in the coastal environment.

See Technical Paper #1:  
*Part II Matters*, BCHF,  
July 2000





### 3.2.6. RECREATION AND ACCESS

*The coastal environment remains New Zealanders most popular outdoor recreation location. As discussed in Technical Paper #5 of the HCES, the Hastings coastal environment is valued for a variety of recreation activities (including walking, swimming, relaxing, fishing and shellfish gathering). The maintenance of public access to and along the coastal marine area has been identified as a matter of national importance.*

See Technical Paper #5:  
*Reserves and Recreation*, BCHF, July 2000

*Based on Technical Paper #5 and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

**Objective:**

**To maintain and enhance the role of the Hastings coastal environment as a major recreation resource.**

**Policies:**

1. To promote public access to the coastal environment while recognising that constraints will be needed where access may adversely impact on other significant values and resources;
2. To maintain and enhance a diverse range of recreational opportunities and experiences in the coastal environment;
3. To maintain and enhance public access in existing settlement areas;
4. To maintain and enhance the provision of facilities in the coastal environment for recreation activities;
5. To prioritise the provision of public access on the basis of demand.



### 3.2.7. LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

*Major land uses in the Hastings coastal environment include rural, industrial and urban. Within these areas there are a number of different land use activities, ranging from agriculture to viticulture, rural residential to urban satellite settlement and light industrial to heavy. There is competition both between land use activities and these activities and other resource demands in the coastal environment.*

See Technical Paper #2:  
*Coastal Residential*, BCHF, July 2000

*Technical Paper #2 of the HCES addresses coastal residential activity, as a priority issue for land use and development. Based on this Paper and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

**Objective**

**To sustain the vitality and special character of existing coastal settlements and to ensure that coastal residential development and expansion is carefully managed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects.**

**Policies**

1. To focus residential development to those areas where the landscape and natural character have already been compromised;

2. To discourage residential development and land use where this may detract from significant natural character or outstanding landscape value;
3. To ensure that land use and development avoids, remedies or mitigates potential natural hazards;
4. To enable growth and development in areas with suitable infrastructure and resources;
5. To avoid adverse effects and promote resource efficiency by ensuring that any urban expansion beyond existing coastal settlements is justified in terms of demand and supply relative to alternative options and locations;
6. To ensure land use and development to maintain and enhance water quality of waterways and the coastal environment.

### 3.2.8. INFRASTRUCTURE



See Technical Paper #3:  
*Coastal Infrastructure*,  
BCHF, July 2000

*Land use and development is supported by infrastructure and infrastructural servicing. At the same time, failing and/or inadequate infrastructure is a significant resource issue for the sustainable management of the coastal environment.*

*Technical Paper #3 of the HCES specifically addresses infrastructure issues in the coastal environment. Based on this Paper and the issues identified in section 2 of this report, the following Strategic Objectives and Policies are provided:*

#### ***Objective***

To ensure that infrastructure and its development are integrated with wider planning for the use and development of the coastal environment.

#### ***Policies***

1. To recognise infrastructural capacity limits as a constraint for residential development;
2. To prioritise infrastructural development and investment to areas where such development will positively impact on other resources and resource values;
3. To ensure that subdivision, use and development provides or funds infrastructural development consistent with the projected level of impact;
4. To ensure that infrastructural investment does not fuel growth pressures in inappropriate locations.



### 3.2.9. ECONOMIC

*The PAPs concludes that there are no priority issues in regard to economic value and the coastal environment. This is in response to the general consensus in consultation that economic value is currently a driving force for change in the coastal environment.*

*The following objective has been developed for the recognition of economic value and its important to the Hastings community.*

***Objective***

**To encourage economic benefits that can be gained by maintaining and enhancing the natural resources and attributes of the Hastings coastal environment.**

## 4. EFFECTING THE STRATEGY: AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND OUTCOMES

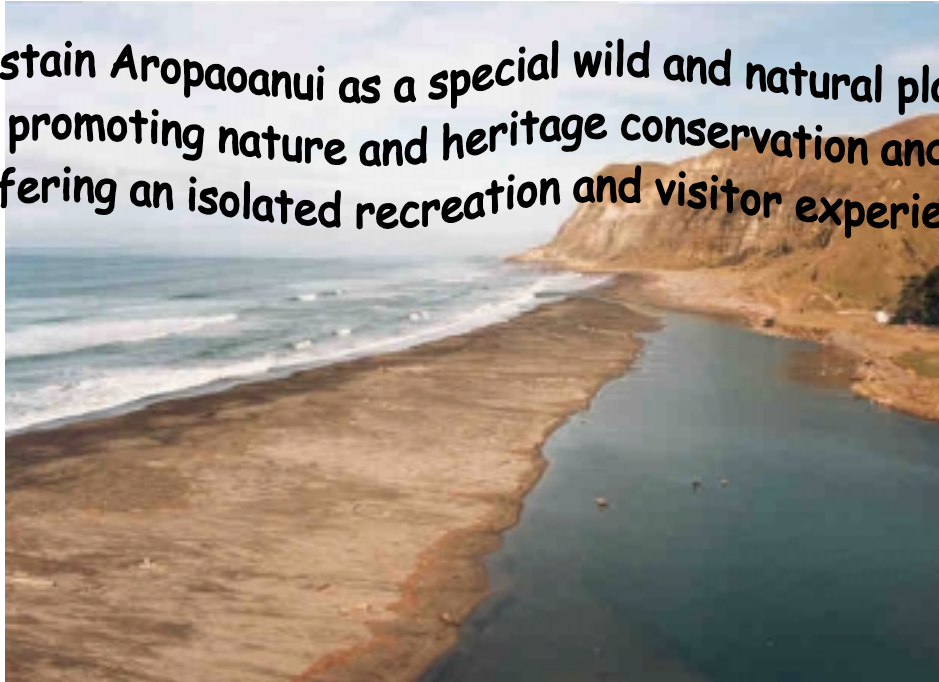
### 4.1. INTRODUCTION

*Having regard to the Strategic Objectives and Policies in Section 3, the following section sets out the area specific objectives and policy outcomes within each of the specific management areas. It is intended that these objectives and policies will provide a framework for the development of future land use planning and management (for example area specific structure plans, reserve plans and asset management plans).*

## 4.2. AROPAOANUI

### STRATEGY TO 2020

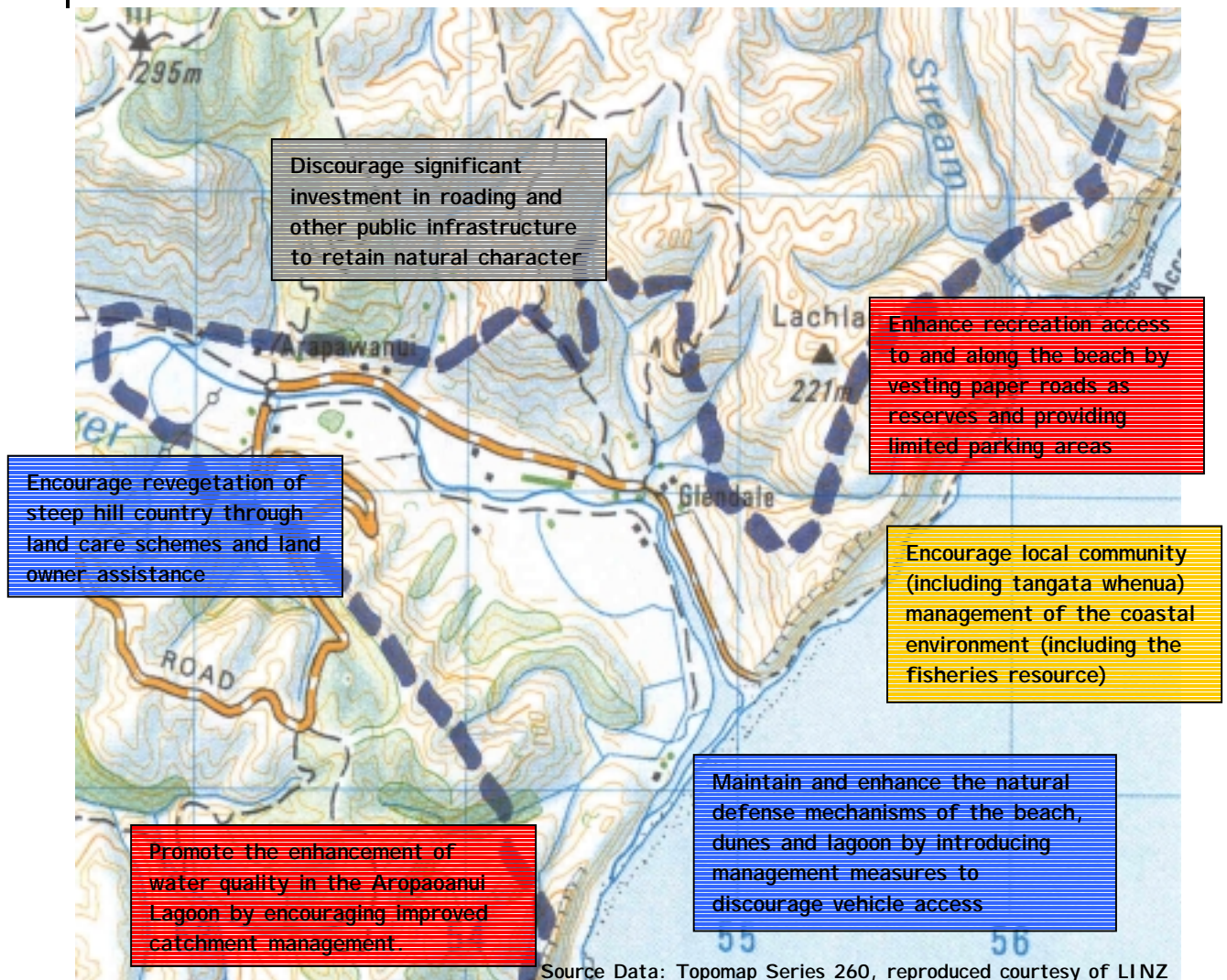
**Sustain Aropaoanui as a special wild and natural place, promoting nature and heritage conservation and offering an isolated recreation and visitor experience.**



### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *To maintain and enhance the wilderness and remoteness values of Aropaoanui in recognition of both natural character values and the protection of this area to provide an alternative recreation experience.*
- *To limit development (including infrastructural investment) to maintain the natural character of the area.*

## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Land Care Schemes and Community Assistance:** These could include financial assistance, provision of plant stocks, farm plan and/or conservation lot subdivision incentives.

**Encourage improved catchment management:** Methods could include financial assistance, provision of plant stocks, education material, co-ordination of voluntary work schemes.

**Maintenance and enhancement of natural defense mechanisms:** Methods appropriate to Aropaoanui are more 'informal', for example a chain link fence at the end of the access road to control vehicle access to the beach.



### 4.3. WAIPATIKI

#### STRATEGY TO 2020

**Develop Waipatiki as a unique secluded holiday settlement that can be enhanced through investment sensitive to the picturesque, natural values which predominate**



#### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *To enable further residential development in a manner which maintains and enhances the natural and amenity values of the settlement.*
- *Protect and enhance the natural character values of the coastal environment, in particular the water quality of the river and lagoon, the picturesque approach to the coastal environment and the sense of open space from the beach.*

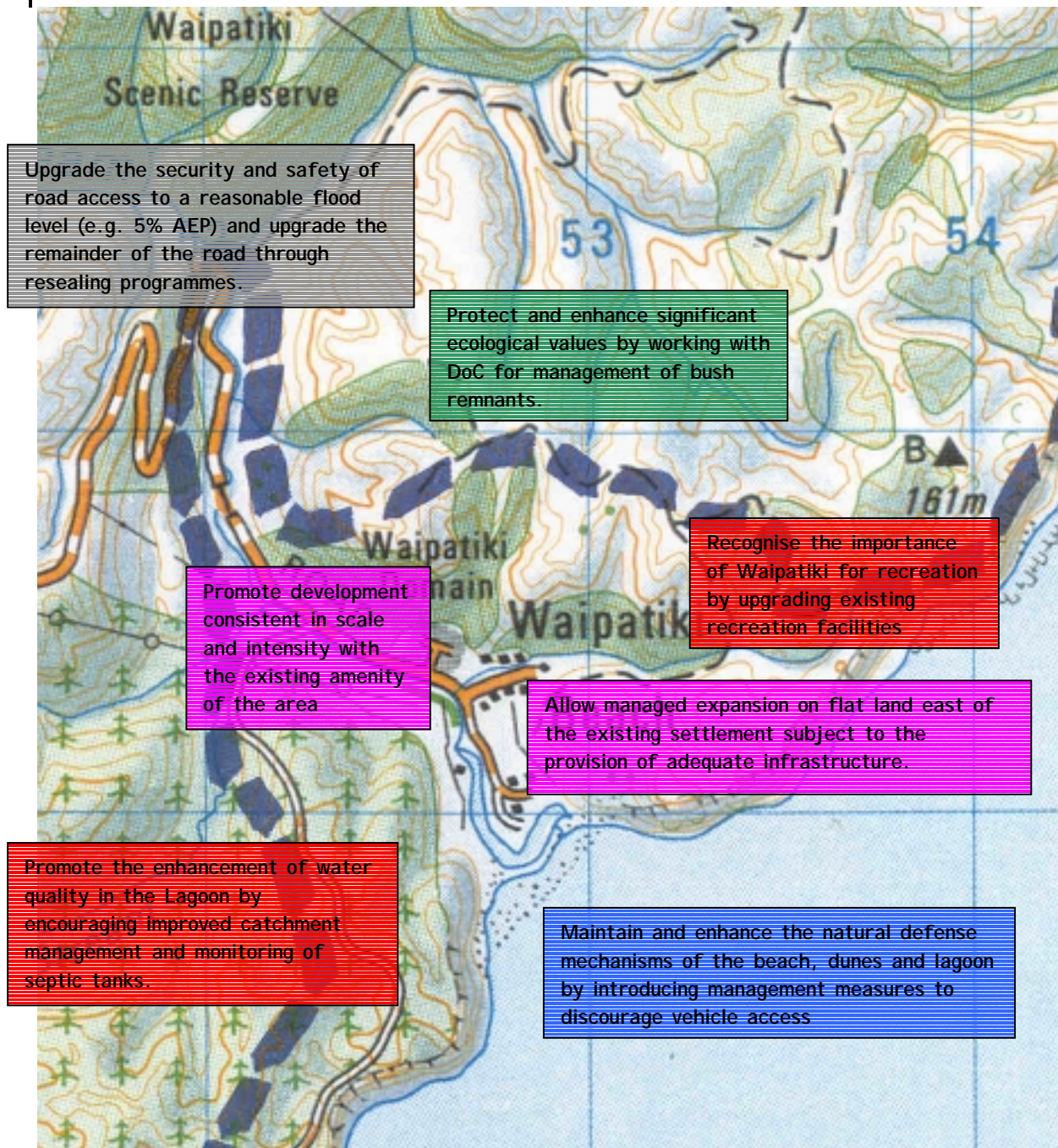
#### IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Land Care Schemes and Community Assistance:** *These could include financial assistance, provision of plant stocks, farm plan and/or conservation lot subdivision incentives.*

**Encourage improved water quality:** *Methods could include financial assistance, provision of plant stocks, education material (land use and septic tank maintenance/management).*

**Residential Amenity:** *Appropriate methods include development controls and assessment criteria to maintain low density and low visibility of structures from the beach (e.g. height limits, coverage, bush retention).*

## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



**Maintenance and enhancement of natural defense mechanisms:** Methods appropriate to Waipatiki include building setbacks from coastal hazard zone (CHZ), controlling vehicle access to the beach (e.g. beach access points and chain link fencing), clearly identified car parking and dune planting.

**Allow managed residential expansion:** Technical Paper #2 (Volume II) provides detail on recommended areas for rezoning and Technical Paper #3 (Volume II) identifies the need for investigation of community wastewater options and water supply.

#### 4.4. TANGOIO

##### STRATEGY TO 2020

Protect the special natural landscape values of Tangoio whilst appreciating the unique vernacular of the ageing baches

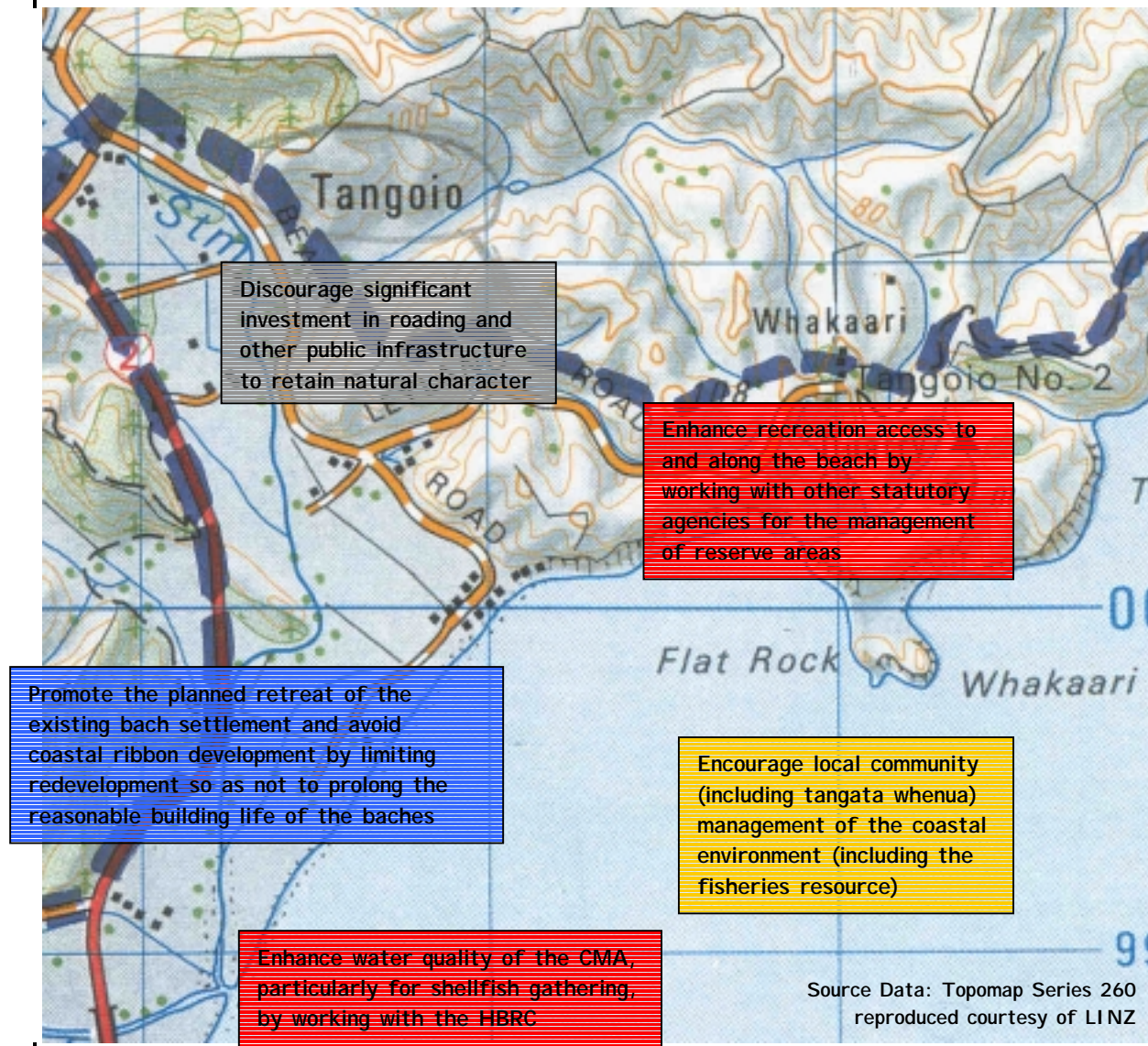


##### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *To recognise the transitory value of the existing bach settlement as an example of vernacular coastal development but discourage new or intensified development at Tangoio.*
- *Maintain and enhance the wilderness and remoteness values, in recognition of natural character and recreation values.*
- *Protect and enhance those features that contribute to the Outstanding Landscape values of Tangoio.*



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Water Quality:** Methods could include monitoring of rural catchment use of pesticides and fertilisers, improved soil conservation and riparian zone management practices, education programmes, and enforcement.

**Enhanced Recreation Access:** Methods include formalisation of public access to reserve, vesting of paper roads as reserve, signage, and provision of limited parking areas.

## 4.5. WHIRINAKI

### STRATEGY TO 2020

Develop the urban fabric and infrastructure of Whirinaki to support its role as a significant coastal settlement for the Heretaunga Plains



### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *To promote Whirinaki as a significant coastal residential community serving the northern Heretaunga Plains.*
- *Protect and enhance the natural character of the Esk River Mouth.*

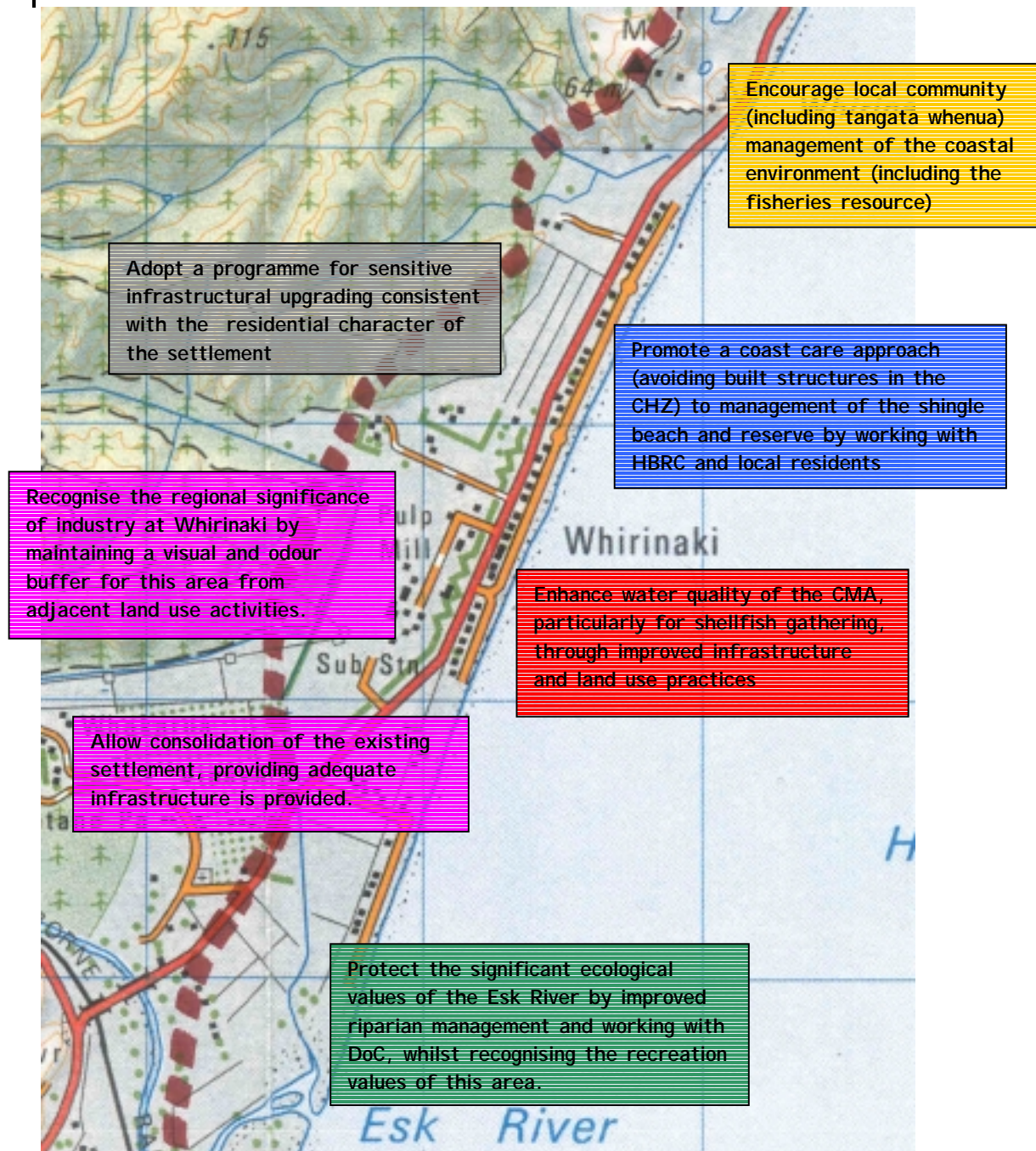
### IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Enhanced Recreation Access:** *It is recommended that consideration is given to options to improve physical and legal access to the Esk River, providing such access does not compromise the areas natural values. The enhancement of water quality for the Esk River should also be promoted through land use practices (particularly rural runoff).*

**Residential Development:** *Monitor demand to determine if additional land for growth is required and initiate a structure plan for Whirinaki to guide any development (should a need for greenfield sites emerge).*



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Infrastructural Upgrading:** It is recommended that further investigation is undertaken to evaluate community wastewater schemes sized to accommodate projected residential growth. Other infrastructure requirements include road improvements, water supply (upgrading), and community buildings. However, development must be sensitive to the existing casual character of the area.

**Enhancement of Water Quality:** Methods include infrastructural upgrading and investigation of community wastewater schemes, monitoring of point source discharges and improved soil conservation and riparian zone management practices, education programmes, and enforcement.



#### 4.6. WAITANGI / NGARURORO

##### STRATEGY TO 2020

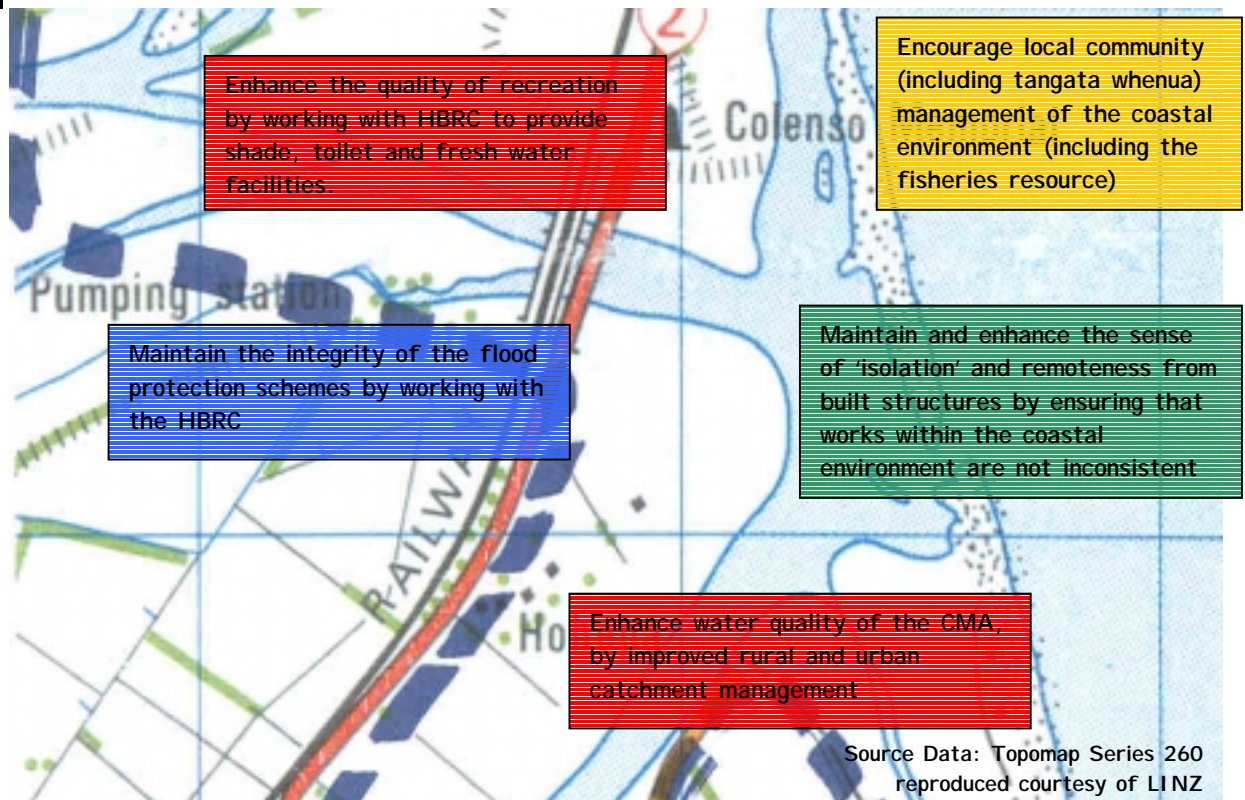
Enhance the untamed Waitangi/Ngaruroro coastal and river environs as an accessible recreation asset for the community of the Heretaunga Plains



##### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Maintain and enhance public access to and along the Waitangi/Ngaruroro coastal marine area;*
- *Maintain and enhance the wilderness values and special recreation experience of the Waitangi/Ngaruroro area*

## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Flood Protection:** Methods include integration of District Plan policy and rules with HBRC management plans and monitoring of the effectiveness of rules in the District Plan for the Flooding RMU (including minimum floor levels) (see Technical Paper #4).

**Enhancement of Water Quality:** Methods include infrastructural upgrading, monitoring of point source discharges (in conjunction with the HBRC) and improved soil conservation and riparian zone management practices, education programmes, and enforcement.

**Protection and Enhancement of Natural Character:** Methods include working with the HBRC to ensure coastal protection works (including the groyne field) are constructed in a manner consistent with natural character, recreation and amenity values.

#### 4.7. CLIVE / WAIPUREKU ENVIRONS

STRATEGY TO 2020

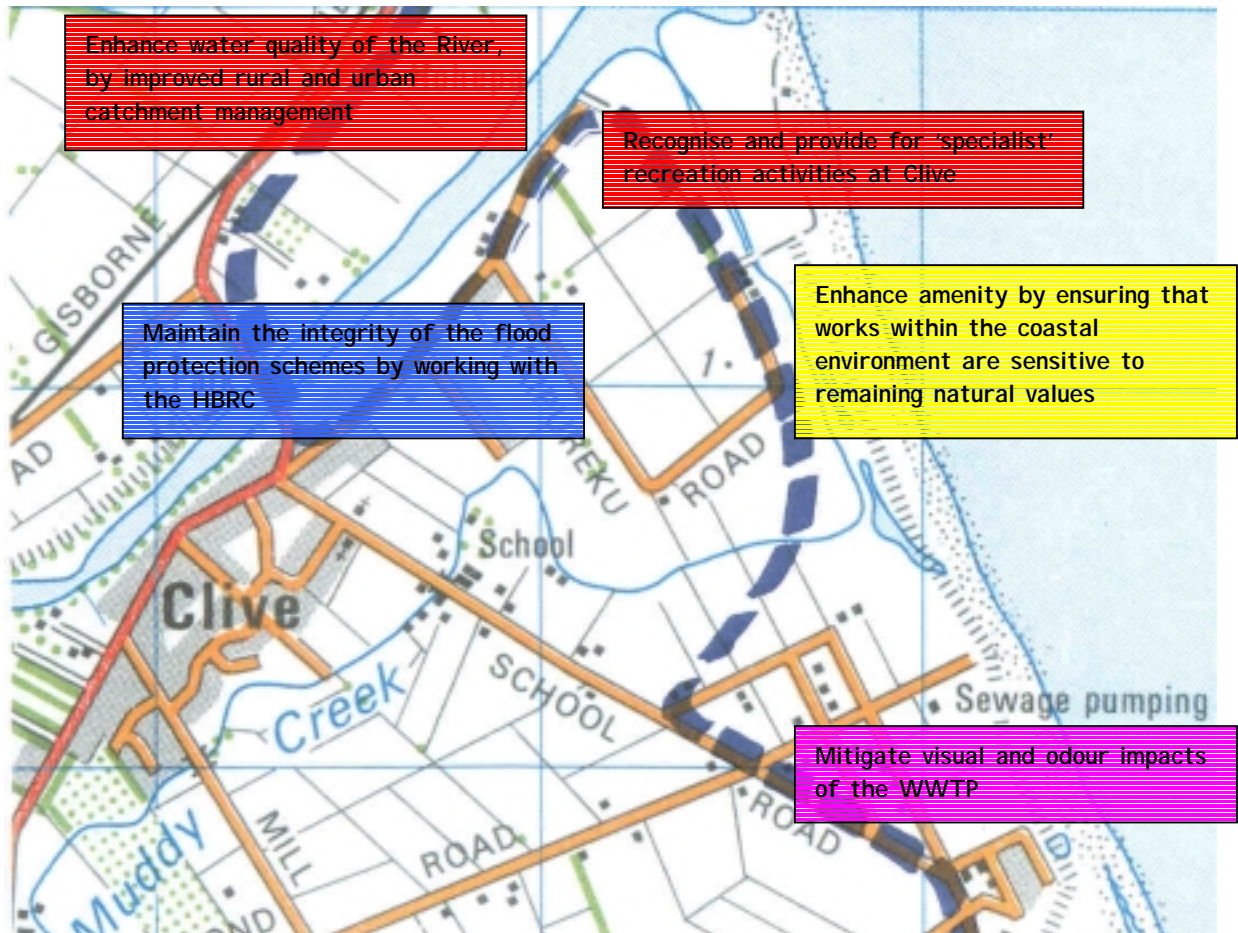
Recognise the functional characteristics of Clive/Waipureku  
while restoring the areas natural values



##### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Maintain and enhance public access to and along the Clive river and coastal environs;*
- *Recognise the importance of infrastructure including the wastewater treatment plant, and the need for adequate buffering*

## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Flood Protection:** Methods include integration of District Plan policy and rules with HBRC management plans and monitoring of the effectiveness of rules in the District Plan for the Flooding RMU (including minimum floor levels) (see Technical Paper #4).

**Enhancement of Water Quality:** Methods include infrastructural upgrading, monitoring of point source discharges (in conjunction with the HBRC) and improved soil conservation and riparian zone management practices, education programmes, and enforcement.

**Enhancement of Amenity Values:** Methods include working with the HBRC to ensure coastal protection works (including the groyne field) are constructed in an appropriate manner.

**Recreation:** Methods include signage for recreation users, identification of designated use areas (e.g. water skiing, jet skiing and rowing), improved facilities for specialised recreation activities.

**WWTP Buffering:** Methods include discouraging further residential development at East Clive and along the coast, improved treatment and management of treatment processes and screen planting and odour management (e.g. odour beds).



## 4.8. HAUMOANA

### STRATEGY TO 2020

**Develop solutions to the infrastructural and physical problems which hamper Haumoana's potential to develop as a special coastal community**



### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Enhance Haumoana as a significant coastal community settlement, central to the Heretaunga Plains.*
- *Promote and enhance the natural character of the lagoon.*
- *Promote and enhance the recreational experience of Haumoana.*

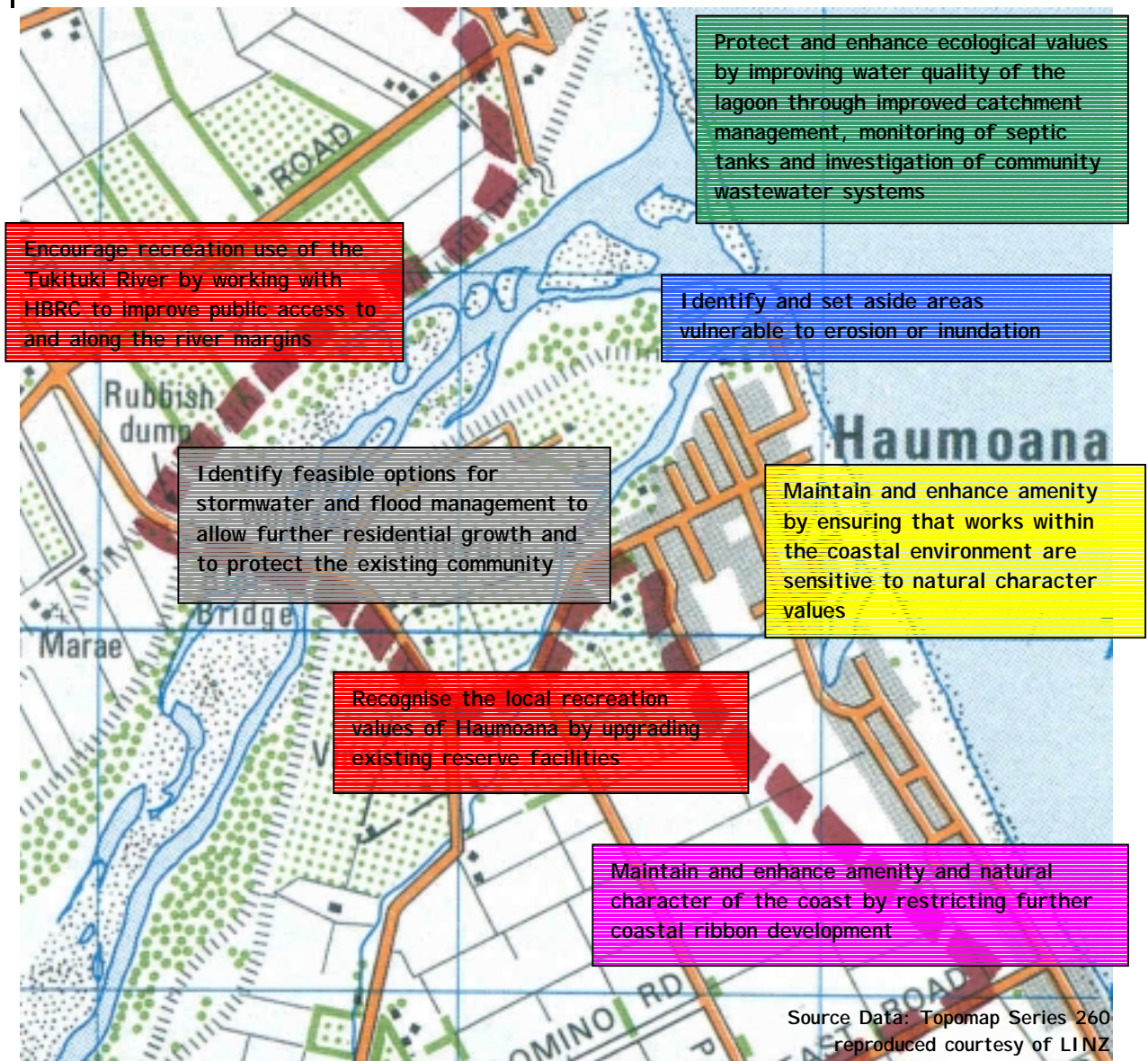
### IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Setting aside of land:** Methods include identification of a Coastal Hazard Zone, planned retreat (for example through 'Transferable Development Rights') (see Technical Paper #4) promotion of community coast care schemes to rehabilitate natural defense mechanisms including the lagoons and wetlands, and establishment of reserves on vulnerable areas.

**Encourage improved water quality:** Methods could include monitoring of pollutant sources, monitoring of rural pesticide and fertiliser application, improved septic tank maintenance and management, education programmes and enforcement.



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



**Managing Flood Hazard:** Further investigation on the effectiveness of the rules proposed in the District Plan's Haumoana Inundation RMU, including minimum floor levels (see Technical Paper #4).

**Maintenance and Enhancement of Amenity Values:** Methods include working with the HBRC to ensure coastal protection works (including the groyne field) are constructed in a manner consistent with natural character, amenity and recreation values.

#### 4.9. TE AWANGA

##### STRATEGY TO 2020

Promote Te Awanga as a special place to live and visit  
at the Gateway to Cape Kidnappers

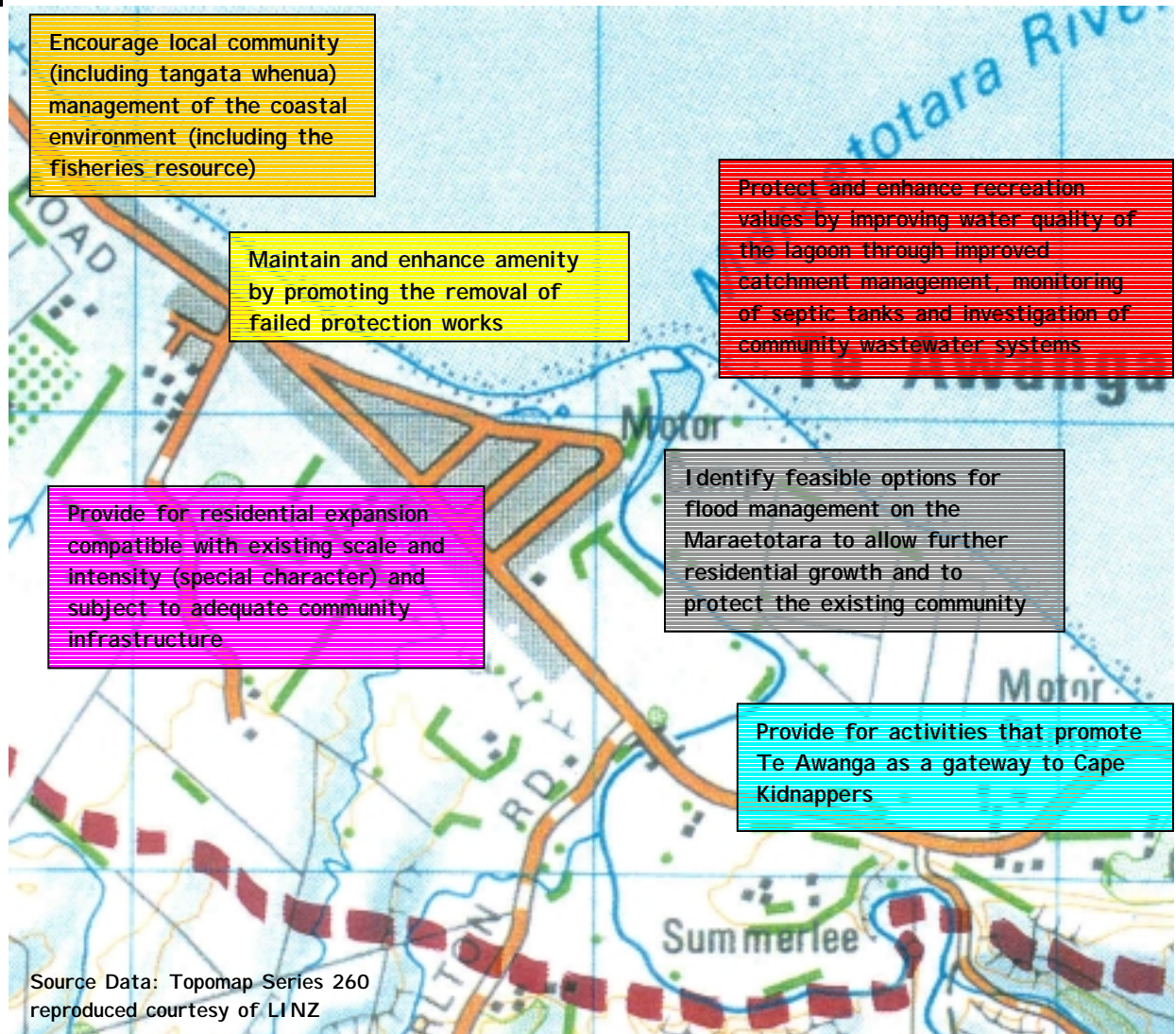


##### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *To enable residential development at Te Awanga which is compatible with the special character and amenity values of this Plains coastal community.*
- *Promote and enhance the recreational experience of Te Awanga and its value as a gateway to Cape Kidnappers.*
- *Promote and enhance the natural character of the lagoon and river as habitat for indigenous fauna.*



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Encourage improved water quality:** Methods could include monitoring of pollutant sources (specifically septic tank discharges), monitoring of rural pesticide and fertiliser application, improved septic tank maintenance and management, education programmes and enforcement.

**Managing Flood Hazard:** Further investigation on the effectiveness of the rules proposed in the District Plan's Flooding Inundation Resource Management Unit, including minimum floor levels (see Technical Paper #4).

**Maintenance and Enhancement of Amenity Values:** Methods include working with the HBRC to enforce the removal of illegal and failing coastal protection works.

**Residential Amenity:** Appropriate methods include development controls and assessment criteria to maintain low density and appropriate scale (e.g. height limits, coverage, density) and the application of design guidelines.

**Cape Kidnappers Gateway:** Methods to encourage economic development include establishment of an 'enterprise' zone for appropriate tourist related activities, signage and visitor information, place marketing and Hastings Landmarks Project initiatives.

## 4.10. CLIFTON

### STRATEGY TO 2020

Work with nature not against it to restore the pleasantness and character of Clifton as a gateway to Cape Kidnappers

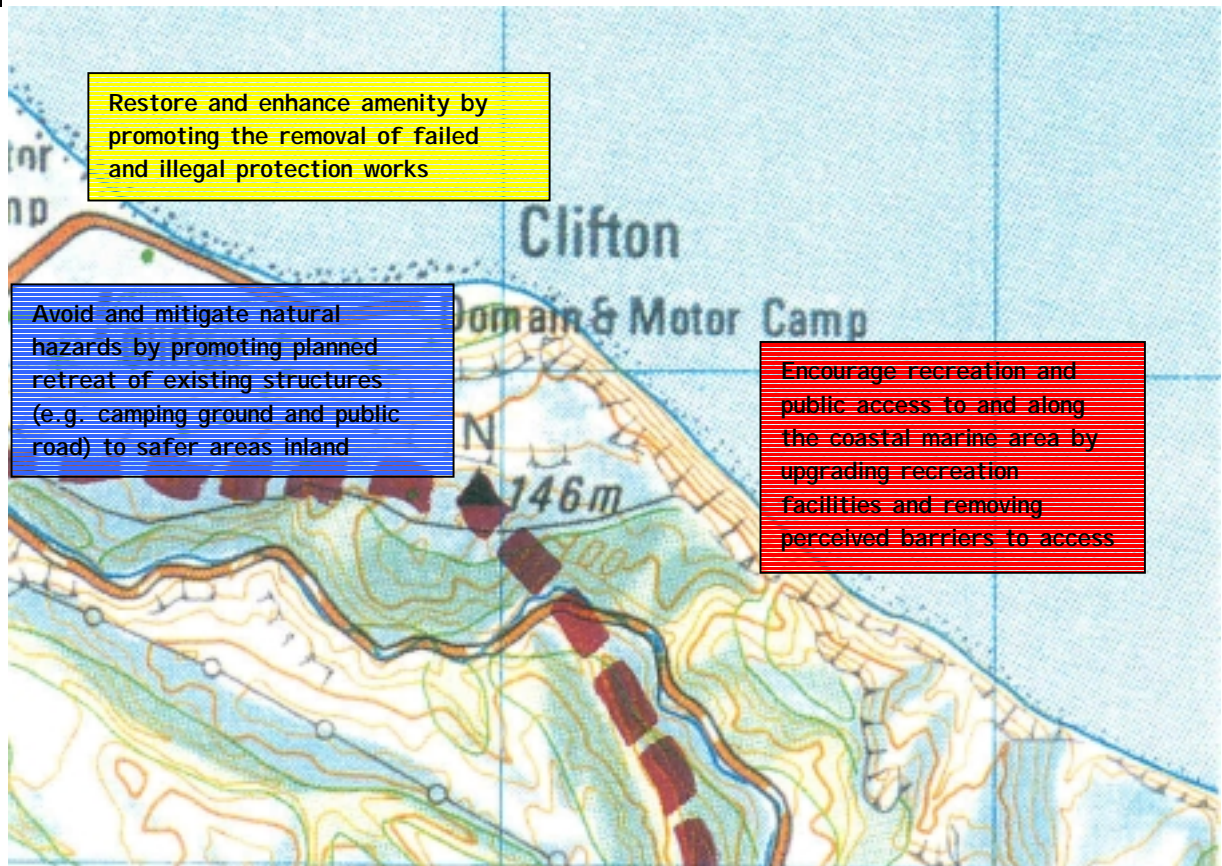


### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Maintain and enhance public access to the coastal environment in recognition of the importance of Clifton as a gateway to Cape Kidnappers.*
- *Restore and enhance the amenity values of the coastal environment of Clifton.*
- *Recognise the need to retreat from the coastal edge to avoid dynamic coastal processes.*



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Restoration and Enhancement of Amenity Values:** Methods include working with the HBRC to enforce the removal of illegal and failing coastal protection works and better internal management of local authority works on the coastal edge.

**Encourage Recreation Access and Facilities:** Methods include provision of public recreation infrastructure (e.g. ablution block, shade, fresh water, signage) and facilities (e.g. car parking). Methods to enhance the gateway include visitor signage, improved parking areas and suitable landscaping.

**Planned Retreat:** Options include relocation of camping ground to the existing overflow sites, or purchase of additional farmland.



#### 4.11. CAPE KIDNAPPERS

##### STRATEGY TO 2020

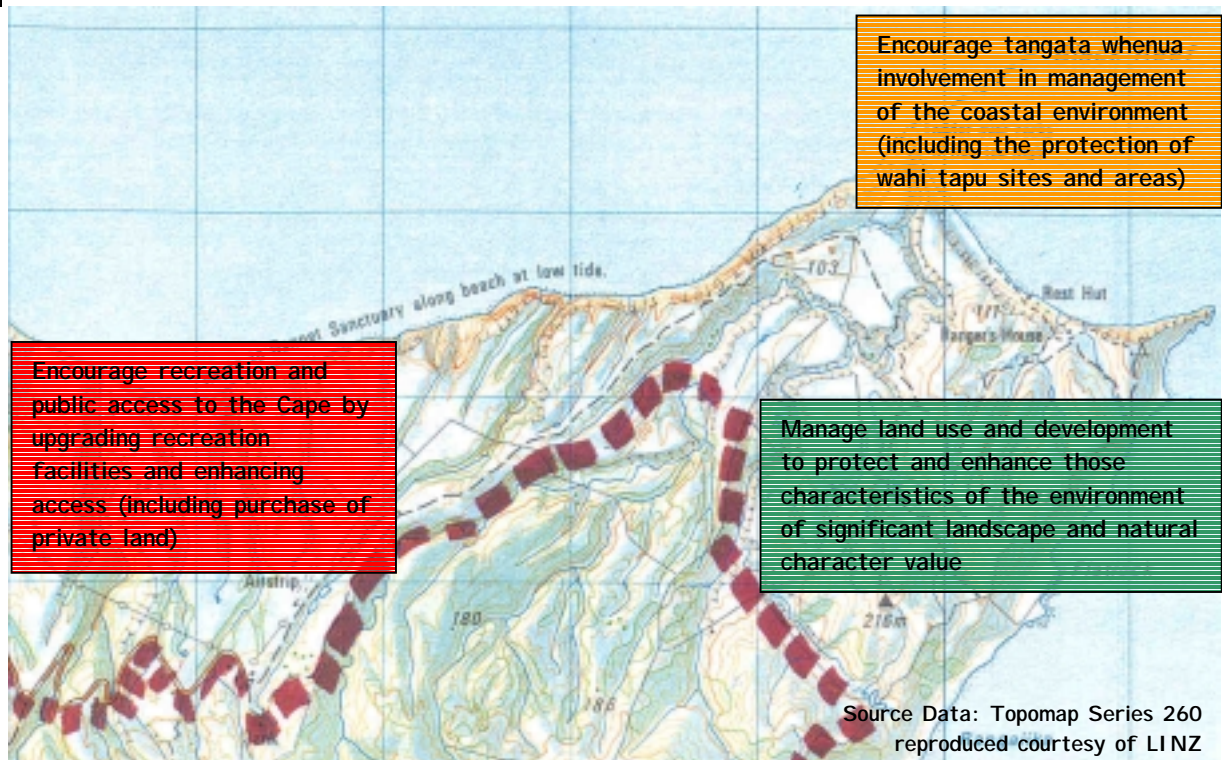
Promote Cape Kidnappers as a national treasure  
and icon for the people of Hawke's Bay



##### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Maintain and enhance public access to the coastal environment of Cape Kidnappers.*
- *Promote Cape Kidnappers as a tourist destination for national and international visitors whilst protecting the natural, cultural and spiritual values.*
- *Protect and enhance those features which contribute to the Outstanding Landscape values of Cape Kidnappers*

## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



## IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Encourage Recreation Access and Facilities:** Methods include working with the Department of Conservation to provide public recreation infrastructure (e.g. ablution block, shade, fresh water, signage) and facilities (e.g. car parking). Methods to enhance access include purchase of private land.

**Land Use and Development Controls:** Methods include restriction on any hard coastal protection works, control on location and scale of built structures (e.g. ridgeline controls), careful management of rural land use activities (e.g. location and harvesting practice for forestry, scale and density of ancillary farm structures).

**Tangata Whenua Management:** Further investigation on mechanisms to incorporate tangata whenua involvement in management, for example Iwi Management Plans or establishment of collective management bodies (e.g. HBRC, DoC, Iwi representatives and HDC).

## 4.12. OCEAN BEACH

### STRATEGY TO 2020

**Promote Ocean Beach as a special place  
and use the areas natural assets as the foundation  
for guiding conservation landuse and development**



### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Maintain and enhance the sense of wilderness and remote open space of the Ocean Beach coastal environment in recognition of the natural character, landscape and social/cultural values.*
- *Maintain and enhance public access to and along the coastal marine area, except where this adversely impacts on natural character and tangata whenua values.*
- *Maintain and enhance the special character and recreation value of Ocean Beach as an alternative recreation experience.*

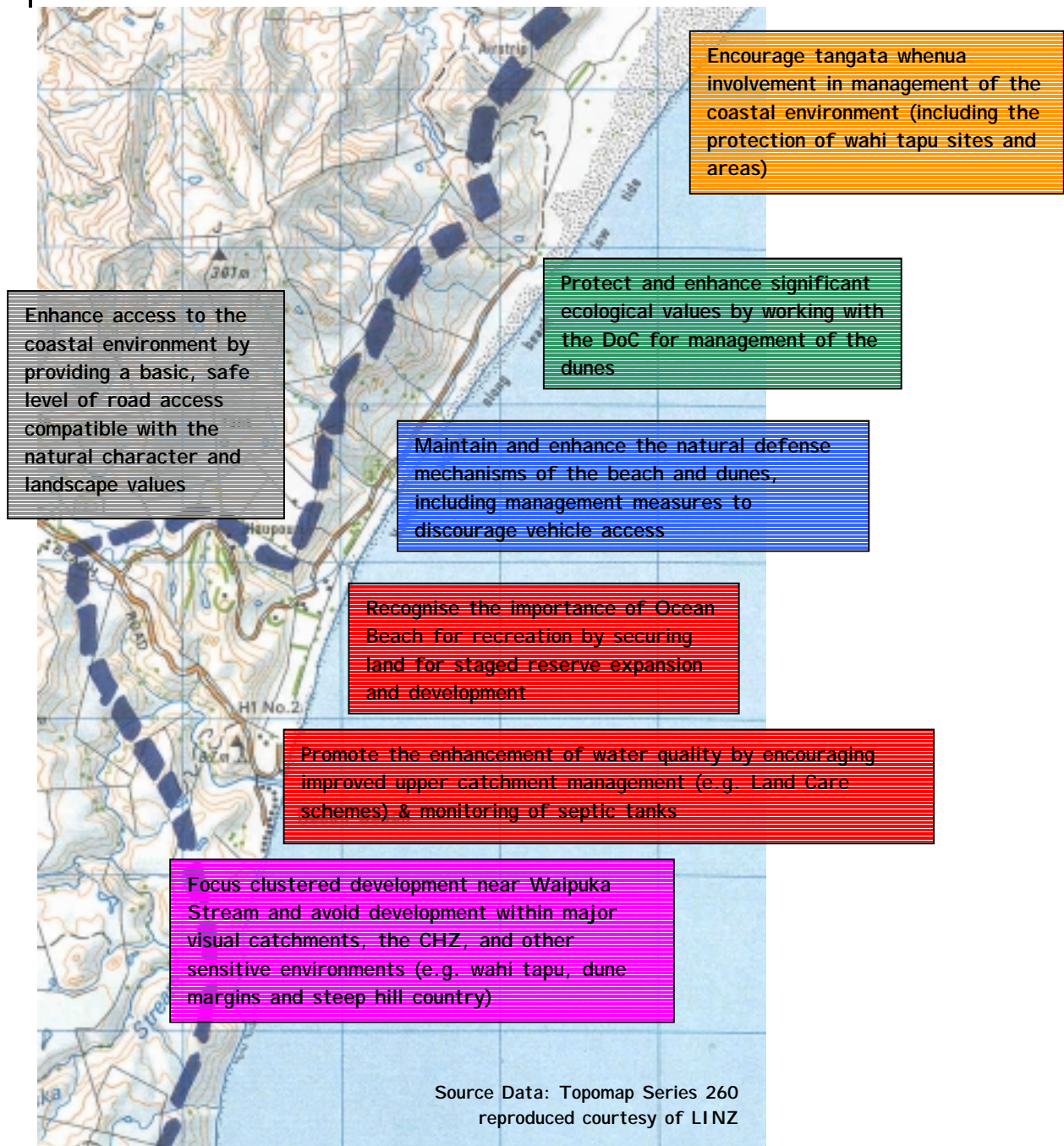
### IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Land Care Schemes and Community Assistance:** *These could include financial assistance, provision of plant stocks, farm plan and/or conservation lot subdivision incentives.*

**Encourage improved water quality:** *Methods could include financial assistance, provision of plant stocks, education material (land use and septic tank maintenance/management).*



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



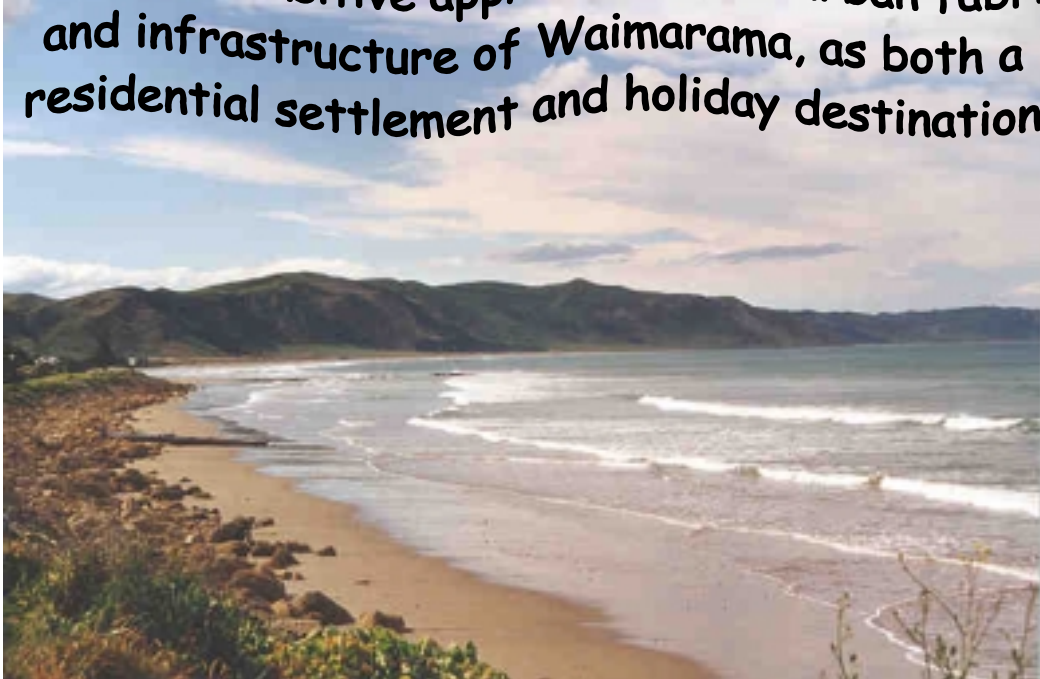
**Maintenance and enhancement of natural defense mechanisms:** Methods appropriate to Ocean Beach include building setbacks and planned retreat from coastal hazard zone (CHZ), controlling vehicle access to the beach (e.g. beach access points and chain link fencing), clearly identified car parking and dune planting.

**Reserve Development:** Investigation of options for the purchase or lease of land as recreation reserve, clustered around the road access and extending incrementally to the north. Recreation facilities to include ablution block, car parking, public access points across dunes, fresh water and shade (see Technical Paper #5 and the Ocean Beach Strategy and Structure Plan Study, October 1999).

#### 4.13. WAIMARAMA

##### STRATEGY TO 2020

**Develop a sensitive approach to the urban fabric and infrastructure of Waimarama, as both a residential settlement and holiday destination**



##### AREA SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Promote Waimarama as a significant coastal community serving the southern section of the Hastings District.*
- *Maintain and enhance public access to and along the coastal marine area, except where this adversely impacts on tangata whenua values.*
- *Protect and enhance the natural character of the northern coastal environment.*
- *Recognise the need to retreat from the coastal edge to avoid dynamic coastal processes.*

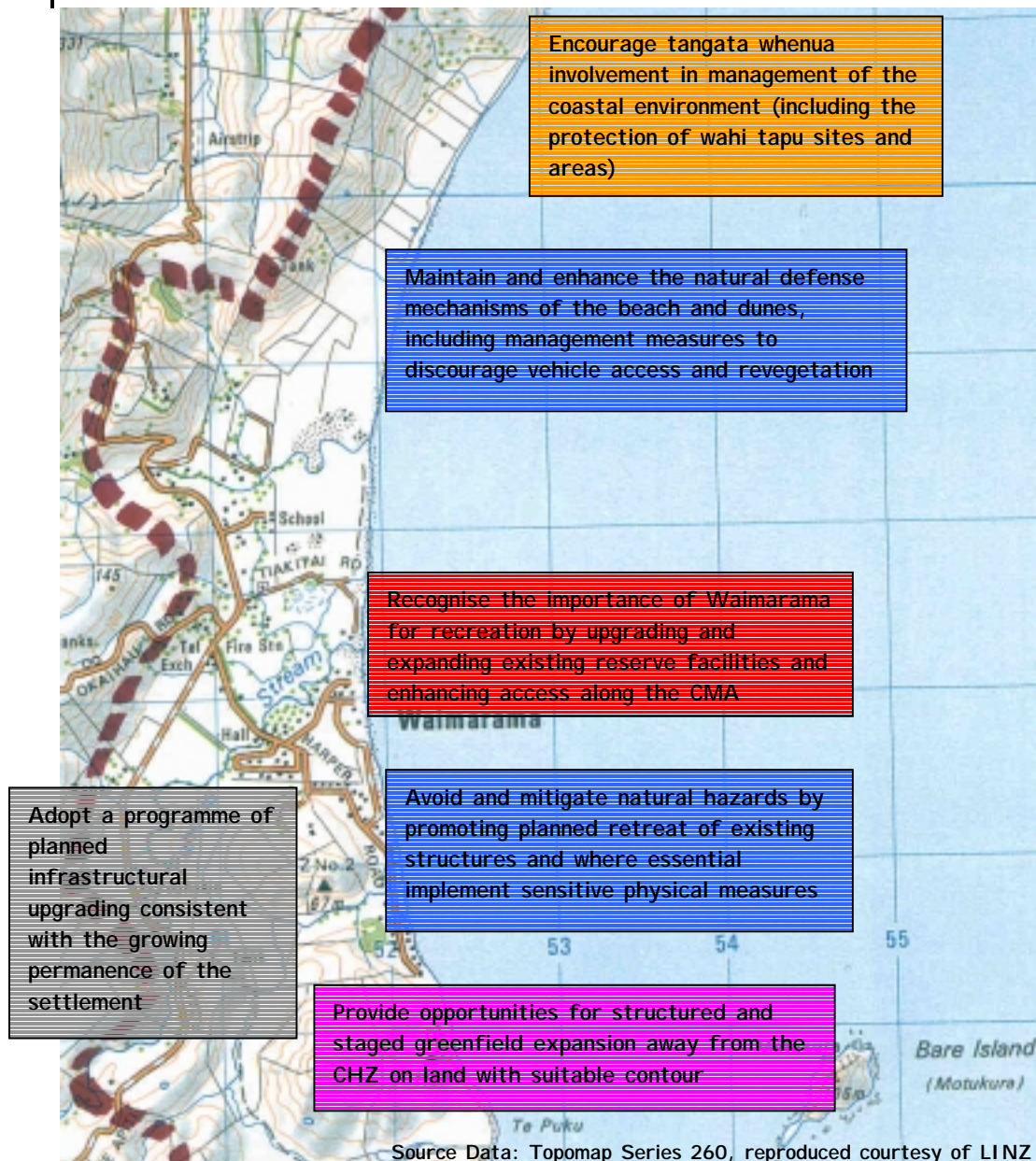
##### IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

**Coastal Protection Works:** While preference should be given to 'soft' protection works, in cases where existing development is threatened a number of different 'hard' management measures may be necessary. Refer Technical Paper #4, Volume II.

**Residential Development:** Technical Paper #2 (Volume II) provides detail on recommended areas in southern Waimarama for future rezoning.



## POLICIES AND OUTCOMES



**Maintenance and enhancement of natural defense mechanisms:** Methods appropriate to Waimarama include building setbacks and planned retreat from coastal hazard zone (CHZ), controlling vehicle access to the beach (e.g. beach access points), clearly identified car parking and dune planting (see Technical Paper #4).

**Reserve Development:** Investigate options for vesting of paper roads as public access reserves and retirement (as reserve) of areas susceptible to hazard.

**Infrastructure Development:** It is recommended that further investigation is undertaken to evaluate community wastewater schemes sized to accommodate projected residential growth. Other infrastructure requirements include roading, footpaths, water supply (upgrading), and community buildings.

## 5. EFFECTING THE STRATEGY: IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

### 5.1. GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION

*On the basis of the strategic objectives and policies, and on the area specific objectives, policies and outcomes, the following provides additional recommendations on the wider implementation framework to give effect to the HCES. This section has been divided into the key management themes as this is considered the most usable framework in terms of Council structures and internal divisions.*



#### 5.1.1. NATURAL CHARACTER

*The following implementation measures are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for natural character:*

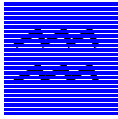
1. *Undertake discussion with Napier City Council, Hawke's Bay Regional Council and the Department of Conservation regarding the potential to integrate management, conservation and enhancement of natural areas. This is considered particularly relevant to management of the following coastal areas:*
  - *Aropaoanui;*
  - *Waipatiki;*
  - *Whirinaki;*
  - *Waitangi/Ngaruroro;*
  - *Haumoana;*
  - *Cape Kidnappers;*
  - *Ocean Beach; and*
  - *Waimarama.*



#### 5.1.2. LANDSCAPE VALUES

*The following general recommendations are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for landscape values:*

1. *In consultation with landscape architects and the community, explore alternative methods to protect landscape values, recognising the complex and dynamic nature of these values.*

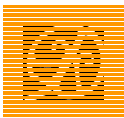


### 5.1.3. COASTAL PROCESSES

*The following general recommendations are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for coastal hazards:*

1. **Adopt a pre-cautionary approach to development in the coast** given the current lack of understanding of coastal processes and a lack of technical and monitoring data. If doubt exists regarding a potential hazard the onus must remain with a developer or proponent to demonstrate that a hazard is avoided, remedied or mitigated and that liability for damage is understood and accepted.
2. **In consultation with HBRC promote the adoption of a consistent and logical approach to assessing the various management options for coastal erosion hazard** and determining if there is a justifiable need for physical intervention in the form of hard protection works. Technical Paper #3 of the HCES (Appendix 1) provides a model, highlighting the key steps for this assessment and it is recommended that this be used as a basis for discussions with HBRC.
3. *Ensure stormwater from development and other point and non-point source discharges (eg septic tank field effluent) is carefully managed and does not contribute to localised erosion or damage to natural defenses.*
4. *Improve the understanding of coastal processes and trends by encouraging academic case studies in the Hawke's Bay and by maintaining and enhancing the existing beach monitoring programmes.*
5. *Promote partnerships between public authorities and landowners and provide tangible assistance for land retirement, conservation management and coast care schemes.*
6. *Investigate the best educational and promotional tools (including signage) for protecting dune systems and other natural defenses from visitor interference and vehicle damage.*

Technical Paper #3:  
*Erosion and Hazards*,  
BCHF, July 2000

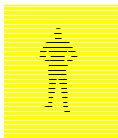


### 5.1.4. TANGATA WHENUA

*The following general recommendations are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for tangata whenua values:*

1. *Hold discussions with local Iwi and other tangata whenua groups to canvas options for greater tangata whenua involvement in management and monitoring programmes in the coastal environment, in particular at the following locations:*
  - *Aropaoanui;*
  - *Tangoio;*
  - *Whirinaki;*
  - *Waitangi/Ngaruroro;*

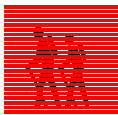
- *Haumoana;*
  - *Clifton;*
  - *Cape Kidnappers;*
  - *Ocean Beach; and*
  - *Waimarama*
2. *Undertake further technical investigations and technical papers to increase understanding of archaeological and wahi tapu sites and areas within the coastal environment, particularly in areas of development demand.*
  3. *Investigate the best educational and promotional tools (including signage) for protecting wahi tapu sites and areas and other taonga in the coastal environment.*



#### 5.1.5. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL VALUES

*The following recommendations are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for social and cultural values:*

1. *That further technical investigations and technical papers are undertaken to increase understanding of historic, archaeological and other cultural sites and areas within the coastal environment, particularly in areas of development demand.*
2. *That discussions be held with local community and interest groups to canvas options for local community involvement in management and monitoring programmes in the coastal environment.*

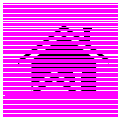


#### 5.1.6. RESERVES AND RECREATION

*The following recommendations made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for social and cultural values:*

1. *Update and establish Reserve Management Plans for existing and future reserve areas in the following high priority areas:*
  - *Waipatiki;*
  - *Haumoana;*
  - *Ocean Beach;*
  - *Waimarama.*
2. *Establish area specific Reserve Management Plans for the following areas:*
  - *Aropaoanui (road reserve vested as reserve);*
  - *Tangoio (in conjunction with DoC and HBRC);*
  - *Te Awanga;*
  - *Clifton (existing camping ground and domain);*

- *Cape Kidnappers (future reserve acquisition).*
- 3. *Undertake discussions with Napier City Council for the co-management options for reserves in the northern sectors of Hastings coastal environment, recognising the importance of these areas as a recreation resource for the Napier community.*
- 4. *Establish a working committee with the Hawke's Bay Regional Council to promote enhancement of water quality in waterways and lagoons in the coastal environment.*
- 5. *Encourage coast-care and community groups for the local management of the coastal environment and recreation reserves.*



#### 5.1.7. LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

*The following recommendations are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for land use and development:*

1. *Area specific Strategy and Structure Plans be prepared for the following preferred growth areas:*
  - *Waipatiki;*
  - *Whirinaki;*
  - *Te Awanga;*
  - *Waimarama (north and south).*
2. *Review the strategic direction for Haumoana (limited growth) if infrastructural constraints can be overcome.*



#### 5.1.8. INFRASTRUCTURE

*The following recommendations are made for implementation of the strategic objective and policies for infrastructure:*

1. *To undertake a publicity campaign to educate householders on the maintenance requirements for septic tank use.*
2. *Undertake discussions with Napier City Council in regard to the Bayview Wastewater Scheme and its potential impact upon development at Bayview and whether it has any potential to service part or all of the Whirinaki area.*
3. *Investigate options to enforce maintenance and management of individual wastewater systems (e.g. septic tanks).*





### 5.1.9. ECONOMIC VALUE

*The following recommendations made for implementation of the strategic objective for the economic management theme:*

1. *Undertake investigation and identify a strategy for the promotion and enhancement of Hastings coastal environment as a tourist attraction, including facilitation of appropriate tourist activities and trails (e.g. eco-tours, walkways, farm stays).*

### 5.2. MONITORING

*To ensure the appropriateness and success of the strategic objectives and policies in the HCES, it is recommended that the following monitoring measures are put in place:*

1. *A monitoring programme be introduced for coastal residential housing (building consents) and subdivisions to gain a more accurate assessment of on-going residential demand and supply. This should be incorporated in Council's GIS referencing of development sites.*
2. *The Housing Market Survey, Consents and Sales Review and Demographic Review be repeated at least every five years to determine if the adopted Coastal Residential Strategy (see Technical Paper #2) continues to be relevant to demand and supply.*
3. *Establish a complaint's register for the following issues, as a means of gauging the appropriateness and adequacy of investment in the respective areas:*
  - *Coastal hazards;*
  - *Reserves and recreation facilities; and*
  - *Infrastructure and servicing.*
4. *In conjunction with the HBRC, undertake regular monitoring of water quality to identify the adverse effects of stormwater and wastewater disposal systems and any failures in these systems.*

Technical Paper #2:  
*Coastal Residential*,  
BCHF, July 2000.

## 6. WHERE TO FROM HERE

*The release of the HCES Report is a significant milestone for coastal management and planning in the Hastings District. However, as a 20 year strategic planning tool, the HCES cannot, by itself, achieve the desired outcomes for the Hastings coast. In fact, it is really the first stage in an ongoing implementation process and provides the 'integrated framework' necessary to steer a wide variety of implementation mechanisms, as illustrated in [Figure 6.1](#) below. Without a clear commitment to implementation, the HCES risks becoming just 'another report on the shelf'. In our opinion, the following steps will aid in the smooth and efficient implementation of the Hastings Coastal Environment Strategy:*

- *Establishment of an interdepartmental Council task force to better co-ordinate activity and planning in the coastal environment.*
- *Maintain the Forum Group to meet at least 6 monthly to discuss issues impacting on the HCES and progress with implementation.*
- *Undertake a review of the HCES every 5 years, including the following key components:*
  - *Residential development and building trends;*
  - *Progress with reserve management planning and implementation;*
  - *Identification of emerging issues and new resource conflicts;*
  - *Demographic change (through Census information);*
  - *Progress and compatibility of infrastructural programmes with HCES recommendations;*
  - *Monitoring and evaluation of physical process trends (in particular coastal erosion);*
  - *Assessment of any change in local or central government structures and other planning or statutory mechanisms.*

Figure 6.1 Implementation of the HCES

