

Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

Relevant Policy and Rules

Policy P98: Accelerated soil erosion



Earthworks, vegetation clearance and plantation forestry harvesting activities that have the potential to result in significant accelerated soil erosion, or to lead to off-site discharges of silt and sediment to **surface water bodies**, shall use measures, including **good management practice**, to:

- (a) minimise the risk of accelerated soil erosion, and
- (b) control silt and sediment runoff, and
- (c) ensure the site is **stabilised** and vegetation cover is restored.

Rule R99: Earthworks– permitted activity

The use of land, and the discharge of **stormwater** into water or onto or into land where it may enter water from **earthworks** of a contiguous area up to 3,000m² per **property** per 12 month period is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) soil or debris from **earthworks** is not placed where it can enter a **surface water body** or the coastal marine area, and
- (b) **earthworks** will not create or contribute to instability or subsidence of a slope or another land surface at or beyond the boundary of the **property** where the **earthworks** occurs, and
- (c) work areas are **stabilised** within six months after the completion of the **earthworks**.
- (d) any **earthworks** shall not, after the **zone of reasonable mixing**, result in any of the following effects in receiving waters:
 - (i) the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums of foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or
 - (ii) any conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity, or
 - (iii) any emission of objectionable odour, or
 - (iv) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by animals, or
 - (v) any significant adverse effect on aquatic life.

Rule R102: Plantation forestry harvesting on erosion prone land – permitted activity

The use of land, and the discharge of **stormwater** into water or onto or into land where it may enter water from **plantation forestry harvesting on erosion prone land** is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) a harvest plan shall be prepared in accordance with Schedule O (forestry plan) and submitted to the Wellington Regional Council 20 working days prior to the **plantation forestry harvesting**, and
- (b) disturbed vegetation or soil is not placed where it can dam or divert a **surface water body**, and
- (c) slash is removed from a **surface water body** where it is blocking river flow or is diverting river flow and causing bank erosion, and
- (d) work areas are effectively revegetated within 18 months after the final completion of the **plantation forestry harvesting**.
- (e) any **earthworks** associated with **plantation forestry harvesting** shall not, after the **zone of reasonable mixing**, result in any of the following effects in receiving waters:
 - (i) the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums of foams, or floatable or suspended materials, and
 - (ii) any conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity, and
 - (iii) any emission of objectionable odour, and
 - (iv) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by animals, and
 - (v) any significant adverse effect on aquatic life.

Rule R103: Plantation forestry harvesting – controlled activity



The use of land, and the discharge of **stormwater** into water or onto or into land that may enter water from **plantation forestry harvesting** that is not permitted by Rule R102 is a controlled activity.

Matters of control

1. A harvest plan in accordance with Schedule O (forestry plan)
2. Methods for erosion and sediment control
3. Methods to manage and contain slash
4. Methods for stabilisation after harvesting
5. Design and location of river crossings and culverts
6. Methods for minimising bed disturbance
7. Impacts of sediment on receiving **surface water bodies** and any downstream receiving environment