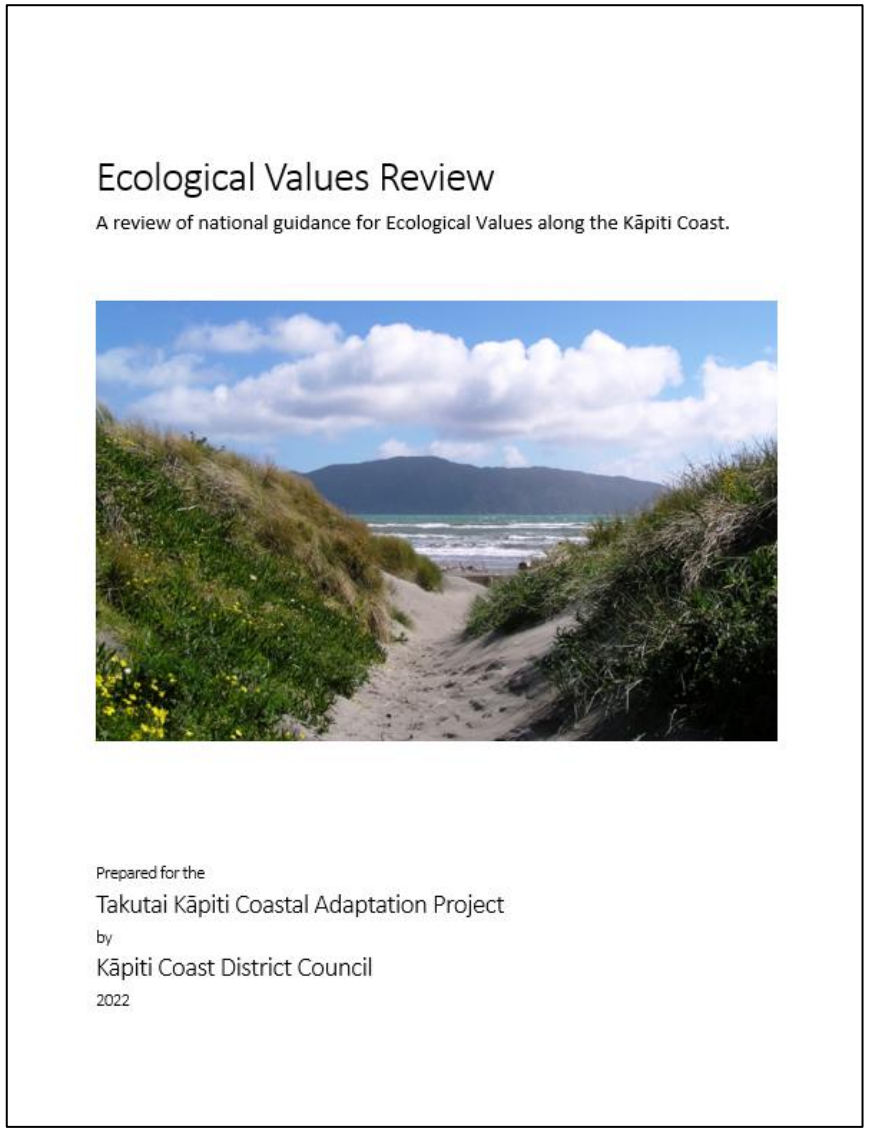
Takutai Kāpiti.

Ecological Values Review

Kāpiti Coast DISTRICT COUNCIL
Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Titiro Whakamua



- Purpose to outline the national, regional and local guidance which is directing the information that is available and why it is important
- Desktop review of available data sources
  From KCDC and GWRC
- Includes flora and faunal sites of significance present along the coast

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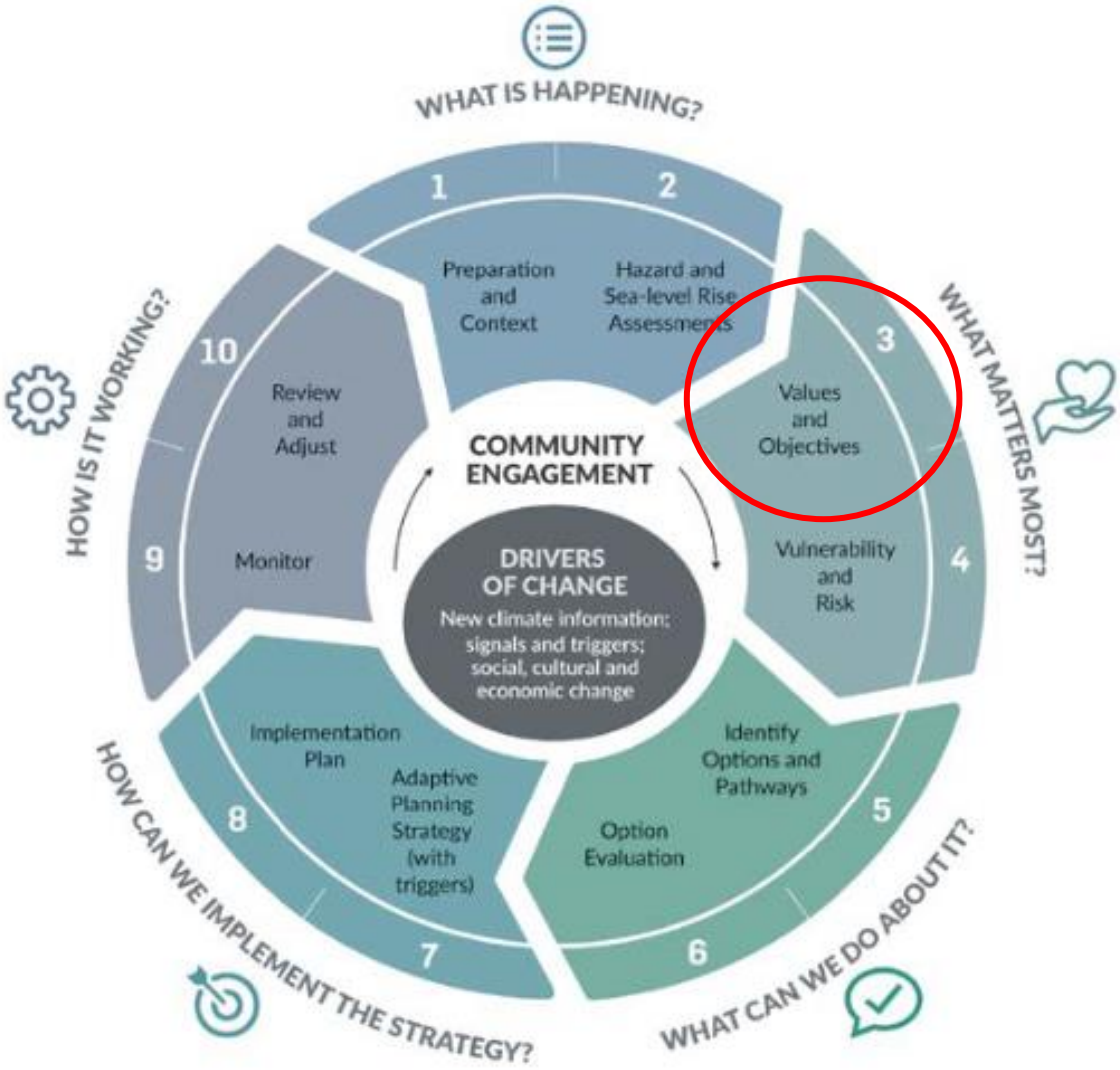
Coastal Hazards and Climate Change – Guidance for local Government in New Zealand, 2017



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Takutai Kāpiti Project

Stage	Phase One 2020 Project launch. Jacobs team commissioned	Phase Two: 2021-2023 Coastal Advisory Panel (CAP) and Technical Advisory Group (TAG) formed						Phase Three: 2024 Recommendations to Council and implementation planning.	
	Volume 1 Takutai Kāpiti	Volume 2 Takutai Kāpiti	Volume 3 Takutai Kāpiti							
Delivery of technical advice	Methodology	Hazard and Susceptibility Assessment	Decision Making Framework Report	Planning framework relevant to coastal hazards memo	Social Impact Assessment	Cultural Values Assessment	Natural Character report	Ecology report	Recommendation Report from CAP to Council	Officer's Report from Takutai Kāpiti Team to Council

Risk assessment completed for each adaptation area based on input from various technical experts, the community and discussions with the Takutai Kāpiti Team, Council, CAP and TAG:

- Northern Kāpiti Adaptation Area Risk Assessment
- Central Kāpiti Adaptation Area Risk Assessment
- Raumati Adaptation Area Risk Assessment
- Paekākāriki Adaptation Area Risk Assessment

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What classifies Ecology?

- Indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous flora and fauna
- Have been considered significant if they meet one or more of the criteria outlined in the Operative District Plan:

ECO-P1	Criteria For Identification Of Significant Biodiversity

Indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna in the District will be considered significant if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Representativeness: the ecosystems or habitats that are typical and characteristic examples of the full range of the original or current natural diversity of ecosystem and habitat types in the District or in the region, and:

    a. Are no longer commonplace (less than about 30% remaining); or
    b. are poorly represented in existing protected areas (less than about 20% legally protected).

2. Rarity: the ecosystem or habitat has biological physical features that are scarce or threatened in a local, regional or national context. This can include individual species, rare and distinctive biological communities and physical features that are unusual or rare.
3. Diversity: the ecosystem or habitat has a natural diversity of ecological units, ecosystems, species and physical features within an area.
4. Ecological context of an area: the ecosystem or habitat:

    a. enhances connectivity or otherwise buffers representative, rare or diverse indigenous ecosystems and habitats; or
    b. provides seasonal or core habitat for protected or threatened indigenous species.

5. *Tāngata whenua* values: the ecosystem or habitat contains characteristics of special spiritual, historical or cultural significance to *tāngata whenua,* identified in accordance with *tikanga Māori.*

Guiding National Guidance

- Resource Management Act (1991)
  - *Section 6(c) the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna*
  - *Section 7 other matters*
- Coastal Policy Statement
- National Climate Change Risk Assessment: *Framework, Methodology and Technical reports*
- Te Mana o te Taiao Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020
- National Policy for Freshwater Management
- National Adaptation Plan

Natural

Risks to coastal ecosystems, including the intertidal zone, estuaries, dunes, coastal lakes and wetlands, due to ongoing sea-level rise and extreme weather events.

Risks to indigenous ecosystems and species from the enhanced spread, survival and establishment of invasive species due to climate change.

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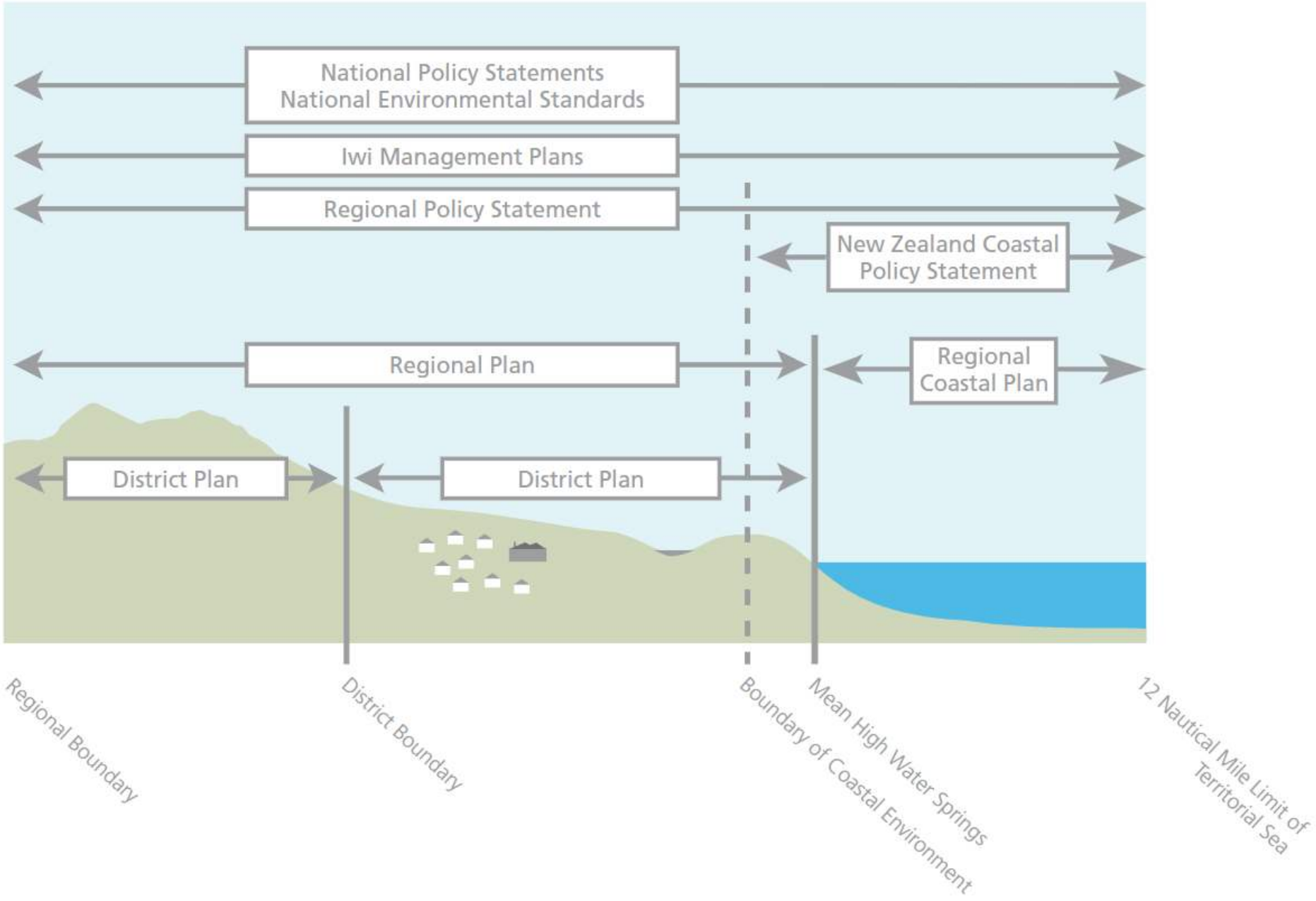
Regional Guidance



Local/District Guidance

- Coastal Strategy (2010)
- Operative District Plan (2021)

DO-O2	Ecology and Biodiversity

To improve indigenous biological diversity and ecological resilience through:

1. protecting areas of *significant indigenous vegetation, and significant habitats of indigenous fauna*;
2. encouraging restoration of the ecological integrity of indigenous ecosystems;
3. enhancing the health of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems; and
4. enhancing the *mauri* of *waterbodies*.

- Reserve Management plans
  - *i.e. Te Horo Gravel Beach Interim Pest Plant Control and Restoration Strategy*
  - *Waikanae Beach, Kapiti Coast Best Practice Guidelines for Reshaping and Planting Foredunes*

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Ecological Information Available

Based on National Climate Change Risk Assessment we derived 5 values that were readily available to us to use:

- Dunes – *GWRC data*
- Wetlands – *GWRC data*
- Significant bird sites – *GWRC data*
- Ecological sites – *KCDC data*
- Key indigenous trees – *KCDC data*

- Acknowledges gaps such as
  - Privately owned sites of potential significance
  - Populations of small flora are difficult to track
  - Mixed management systems = competing ideas
  - Incoming national guidance likely changing how te Taiao is managed
- Doesn’t include:
  - Sites of significance for Māori
  - i.e. fishing and kaimoana collecting sites
  - Kāpiti Island

Biodiversity systems are complex

Te Mana o te Taiao (2020) notes systems are not currently working as well as they should be.

Due to a lack of no single, overarching point of governance, leadership, or coordination, roles and responsibilities are carried out individually, leaving no overarching accountability.

This review is not here to point out every species of flora and fauna but instead identify sites which will be of interest to protect and consider when working through the Risk Assessment process.