



Landscapes and Coastal Environment Project

At Tasman District Council, we're working with our communities on a new resource management plan that will help to keep Tasman special for generations to come.

As part of the process to create the new Tasman Environment Plan, our most special places are being identified and will have extra protections to help preserve the uniqueness of the environment, the area's history, or provide people with access to the outdoors.

The finalised Tasman District Outstanding Natural Landscapes (ONL), Outstanding Natural Features (ONF), and/or Coastal Environment (CE) will take effect when the Tasman Environment Plan is publicly notified in about three years. During 2021 we are identifying issues and options and engaging with landowners, iwi entities, and stakeholder groups with a view to drafting the provisions in 2022.

Over the coming months, we want to work together to make sure we have the boundaries in the right place and any protective controls on activity are sensitive to future aspirations.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are Outstanding Natural Landscapes (ONL) and Outstanding Natural Features (ONF)?

An ONL or ONF is determined through a process that identifies whether the area has special values of a degree that it is outstanding. The assessment considers the level of naturalness and other values such as ecology, perception, cultural and historical values, and the way an area is used. We are required to recognise and provide for the protection of ONL and ONF from inappropriate

subdivision, use, and development.

The landscape of the Tasman District is very diverse and unique, both geologically and ecologically. Identifying and protecting these areas will contribute to the special character and cultural heritage of the district, have broad social and economic benefits, and meets the requirements of legislation.

What does it mean if there is a draft ONL or ONF on my property?

Importantly, this work is not about stopping existing, legally established activities – it's about safeguarding our valued landscapes and coast from specific future activities that would impact what makes them so special.

If your land is in a draft ONL or ONF that becomes finalised, there will be restrictions on your ability to do some new activities on your land, however the level of management of the area will depend on the values that make it outstanding. For example, some areas may have restrictions on buildings where these would have a significant impact on the visual qualities of that landscape, others may have restrictions on specific activities where that would change the naturalness of the area.

What activities may be restricted in an ONL or ONF?

There are a number of activities commonly restricted in ONL and ONF areas and they can vary depending on the values being protected. New rules introduced into the Tasman Environment Plan will not affect existing, legally established activities on your land. Over the coming months, we want to hear from landowners about your future plans and talk about restrictions that may apply to your area.

What is the Coastal Environment (CE)?

The new proposed CE includes the coastal marine area (CMA) extending out to the 12 nautical-mile limit and a relatively narrow fringe of land around the coast. The landward boundary has been drawn to include areas where “coastal processes, influences or qualities are significant” and is based on the requirements of the NZ Coastal Policy Statement.

Why is the Tasman District CE changing?

The current Tasman Resource Management Plan includes a Coastal Environment Area outlined on the planning maps for guiding the management of the District’s coastline and it extends from mean high water springs (high tide) to an arbitrary 200m inland; in this area there are restrictions on new buildings. This area must be reviewed and refined to meet requirements of the NZ Coastal Policy Statement.

How has the new draft CE been identified?

Council has contracted landscape planning specialists to review the District and determine the boundaries of the new CE using current information, appropriate criteria and best practice methods. The specialists have so far worked with a group of stakeholders representing a range of interests in the coastal space to gather info on relevant values for the area and we have planned ongoing engagement with iwi entities and communities.

What does it mean if my property is in the final CE?

If your property is within the final CE, there may be restrictions on your ability to do new activities on your land, however the level of management of the area will depend on the values identified for your area and other factors such as landscape and natural character values. Some areas may have restrictions on buildings where these would have a significant impact on the visual qualities of that area, others may have restrictions on specific activities where that would change the naturalness of the area.



Get involved

The project team are touring the District in May and June to share information, answer questions, and learn from landowners and affected parties about their future aspirations and views on whether the draft ONL, ONF, and CE boundaries are in the right place.

Outside of these events, feedback can be shared through the Tasman Environment Plan website, emailed directly to environmentplan@tasman.govt.nz, or via phone on 03 543 7655. Feedback can be submitted until the end of June.

The Landscapes and Coastal Environment Projects are part of the process to create the Tasman Environment Plan. It is likely that this new plan will contain a range of other protective overlays including natural character areas, significant natural areas, and aquifer recharge protection areas, and identification of natural hazards. We will keep landowners and communities informed as work progresses.

Contact details

Web: www.environmentplan.tasman.govt.nz/landscapes-and-coastal-environment-projects

Email: environmentplan@tasman.govt.nz

Post: 189 Queen Street, Private Bag 4, Richmond, Nelson, 7050

Phone: 03 543 7655