

This entire chapter has been notified using the RMA Part One, Schedule 1 process ([P1 Sch1](#)). Text shown in **red** (both underlined and ~~struck-out~~) represents all changes recommended by the Panel from the notified Plan provisions.

~~This chapter contains provisions that have legal effect. They are identified with a  next to the provision. To see more about what legal effect means please click here.~~

Tūāhanga – Ngā Pūnaha Hauropi me te Kanorau Koiora Taketake

Infrastructure – Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity

INF-ECO Infrastructure – Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity

Introduction

~~This sub-chapter applies to infrastructure within the significant natural areas overlays identified within the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity Chapter. It applies in addition to the principal Infrastructure Chapter.~~

~~The Infrastructure – Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity sub chapter provides a specific policy framework and specific rules for infrastructure activities in significant natural areas identified within SCHED8.~~

~~However, this sub-chapter does not apply to the following infrastructure that is managed by other chapters:~~

- ~~• [The National Grid;](#)~~
- ~~• [Renewable electricity generation;](#)~~
- ~~• [Activities that fall under the definition of airport activities or airport related activities \(and are located within the Airport Zone\); or](#)~~
- ~~• [Activities that fall under the definition of port or operational port activities \(and are located within the Port Zone\)](#)~~

~~Note: The objectives, [policies and rules](#) of the Infrastructure chapter apply [in addition to those of this sub-chapter](#).~~

~~Other relevant District Plan provisions~~

~~It is important to note that in addition to the provisions in this chapter, the following Part 2: District-Wide chapters may also be of relevance, including:~~

- ~~- Subdivision – The Subdivision Chapter contains provisions which manage subdivision of land.~~
- ~~Light and glare – The Light Chapter contains specific provisions relating to light spill and the management of effects on residential areas.~~
- ~~Noise – The Noise Chapter contains specific controls in relation to noise, including effects standards NOISE-S1 (maximum noise levels).~~

~~Signs—The Signs Chapter contains specific controls in relation to signage, including official signs, the effects of signs on road safety, and third party signage.
 Contaminated land—The Contaminated Land Chapter manages the use and development of Contaminated Land or potentially Contaminated Land.
 Hazardous substances—The Hazardous Substances Chapter contains provisions to manage Hazardous Substances.
 Trees—The Notable Tree chapter contains specific provisions relating to the management of Notable Trees.~~

~~Resource consent may therefore be required under rules in this chapter as well as other chapters. Unless specifically stated in a rule or in this chapter, resource consent is required under each relevant rule. The steps to determine the status of an activity are set out in the General Approach chapter.~~

Policies	
Infrastructure – Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity	
INF-ECO-P33 INF-ECO-P1	<p>Operation, maintenance and repair of existing infrastructure within a significant natural area</p> <p>Provide for the operation, maintenance and repair of existing infrastructure within significant natural areas where the activity, including associated earthworks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Is of a nature and scale that</u> does not adversely affect the biodiversity values; <u>or</u> 2. <u>Provides significant national or regional public benefit; and</u> 3. <u>Has an operational need or functional need to be in that particular location and where there are no practicable alternative locations for the activity; and</u> 4. <u>Adverse effects are managed in accordance with the effects management hierarchy in ECO-P5.1 – ECO-P5.6.</u>
INF-ECO-P34 INF-ECO-P2	<p>Upgrades to <u>existing infrastructure</u> and <u>development of</u> new infrastructure in significant natural areas</p> <p>Allow for upgrades to existing infrastructure and for new infrastructure within significant natural areas where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is an operational need or functional need that means the infrastructure's location cannot <u>practicably</u> be avoided; and 2. Any adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values within a significant natural area are <u>managed applied</u> in accordance with ECO-P<u>5.1 – ECO-P5.6.</u>
INF-ECO-P35	<p>Operation, maintenance and repair of existing National Grid infrastructure within a significant natural area.</p> <p>-</p> <p>Provide for the operation, maintenance and repair of existing transmission lines within significant natural areas where the activity, including associated earthworks, does not adversely affect the biodiversity values.</p>
INF-ECO-P36	<p>Upgrading the National Grid within significant natural areas</p> <p>-</p> <p>Provide for upgrading of the National Grid within significant natural areas by applying the effects management hierarchy in ECO-P2.</p>
INF-ECO-P37	<p>New development of National Grid within significant natural areas</p> <p>-</p> <p>Give priority to avoiding adverse effects of the National Grid on significant natural areas by applying the effects management hierarchy in ECO-P2 when located within significant natural areas, by:</p> <p>-</p> <p>1. Having regard to the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection and techniques and measures proposed; and-</p>

	2. Considering the constraints arising from the operational needs and functional needs of the National Grid, when considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects.
Rules	
INF-ECO-R41  INF-ECO-R1	Operation, maintenance, repair and removal of existing infrastructure within a significant natural area
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Permitted</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance is achieved with the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. INF-ECO-S19 INF-ECO-S1; and ii. INF-ECO-S20 INF-ECO-S2.
All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance with any of the requirements of INF-ECO-R41.1 INF-ECO-R1.1 cannot be achieved.</p> <p>Matters of discretion are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The matters in INF-ECO-P1; and 2. The extent and effect of non-compliance with any relevant standard not met as specified in the associated assessment criteria for the infringed standard.
INF-ECO-R42  INF-ECO-R2	Upgrades to existing infrastructure within a significant natural area
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Matters of discretion are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The matters in INF-ECO-P33 INF-ECO-P2; and 2. The extent and effect of non-compliance with any relevant standard not met as specified in the associated assessment criteria for the infringed standard.
INF-ECO-R43  INF-ECO-R3	New infrastructure within a significant natural area
All Zones	1. Activity status: Discretionary
Rules – National Grid (NG) & Gas Transmission Pipeline Corridor (GTPC)	
INF-ECO-R44 	Operation, maintenance and repair of existing National Grid (NG) & Gas Transmission Pipeline Corridor (GTPC) infrastructure within a significant natural area
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Permitted</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance is achieved with the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. INF-ECO-S19; and ii. INF-ECO-S20.

- All Zones	<p>2. Activity Status: Controlled</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Trimming, felling or removing any tree or vegetation is undertaken to reduce the risk to a transmission line within significant natural area.</p> <p>Matters of control are:-</p> <p>-</p> <p>1. Replanting;</p> <p>2. Disposal of trees and vegetation; and</p> <p>3. Ecological effects assessment in accordance with the effects management hierarchy in ECO-P2.</p>
- All Zones	<p>3. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:-</p> <p>a. Compliance with the requirements of INF-ECO-R44.1 or INF-ECO-R44.2 cannot be achieved.</p> <p>Matters of discretion are:</p> <p>-</p> <p>1. The extent and effect of non-compliance with any relevant standard not met as specified in the associated assessment criteria for the infringed standard; and</p> <p>2. The matters in INF-ECO-P33.</p>
INF-ECO-R45 	Upgrading of existing National Grid (NG) infrastructure within a significant natural area
- All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Matters of discretion are:</p> <p>-</p> <p>1. The matters in INF-ECO-P36.</p>
INF-ECO-R46 	Upgrading of existing Gas Transmission Pipeline Corridor (GTPC) infrastructure within a significant natural area
- All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Restricted Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. The infrastructure is located underground; or</p> <p>b. The infrastructure is located within an existing road reserve.</p> <p>Matters of discretion are:-</p> <p>-</p> <p>1. The matters in INF-ECO-P36.</p>
- All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: Discretionary</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance with any of the requirements of INF-ECO-R46.1 cannot be achieved.</p>
INF-ECO-R47 	New National Grid (NG) & Gas Transmission Pipeline Corridor (GTPC) infrastructure within a significant natural area
- All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: Discretionary</p>
Standards	
INF-ECO-S19 INF-ECO-S1	Trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation or trees within a significant natural area

<p>All Zones</p>	<p>1. Trimming or removal of indigenous vegetation or trees within a significant natural area must be limited to 2m within the footprint of existing infrastructure, access tracks or fences.</p> <p>2. Trimming or removal associated with the creation of a new access track required to undertake operation, maintenance or repair of infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Must not be greater than 2.5m in width; and b. Must not involve the removal of a tree with a trunk greater than 15cm in diameter as measured 1.4m above ground. <p>This standard does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Indigenous vegetation located within the formed width of an existing road; or b. Works undertaken in accordance with Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003 or the Telecommunications Act 2001. 	<p>Assessment criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operational or functional needs of infrastructure; and 2. The effect of the activity and removal on the identified biodiversity values of the significant natural area and the measures taken to avoid, minimise or remedy the effects and where relevant the ability to offset biodiversity impacts.
<p>INF-ECO-S20 INF-ECO-S2 Earthworks within a significant natural area</p>		
<p>All Zones</p>	<p>1. Earthworks within a significant natural area must not exceed <u>100m³</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. More than 50m³ per transmission line support structure; or b. 100m³ per access track. 	<p>Assessment criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operational or functional needs of infrastructure; and 2. The effect of the activity and removal on the identified biodiversity values of the significant natural area and the measures taken to avoid, minimise or remedy the effects and where relevant the ability to offset biodiversity impacts.