



Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance

Information Sheet 7

Model Heritage Rules for RMA Regional¹ and District Plans (Places and Areas of Significance to Maori)

The protection of places and areas of significance to Maori, including wahi tapu, is a matter of national importance. The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi will be relevant with regard to places and areas of significance to Maori.

The protection and physical conservation of places and areas of significance to Maori is paramount. Appropriate maintenance should be encouraged as a permitted activity. Repair work needs to be carefully assessed and managed as part of a consent.

Wherever possible, the destruction, damage or modification of places and areas of significance to Maori and wahi tapu places or areas should be discouraged and avoided.

If the site is also an archaeological site, integration with archaeological authority processes under the Historic Places Act 1993 is an important consideration when assessing effects involving places and areas of significance to Maori under the RMA. The NZHPT should be contacted in the early stages of a proposal as an archaeological authority from the NZHPT may be required.

If the place/area is registered as a wahi tapu area, the consultation procedure under section 33A of the Historic Places Act 1993 is relevant.

¹ For regional coastal plans, see Guide No. 2 *Regional Plans* and information sheet No. 23

NZHPT Best Practice Guidance - Rules for Regional and District Plans Places and areas of significance to Maori	
Activity	Consent Status
Maintenance	Permitted with performance standards (or controlled)
Erection of a new sign obstructing a listed place or area of significance to Maori or within the setting of a listed place or area of significance to Maori	Restricted discretionary
Subdivision of land containing or affecting a listed place or area of significance to Maori	Discretionary
Land disturbance (including repair) within the setting of a place or area of significance to Maori	Non-complying
Destruction of a place or area of significance to Maori	Non-complying-prohibited
Note: if the place or area of significance to Maori pertains to, or includes, a building, the listed historic places (buildings rules) apply	

Source: NZHPT, *Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance Series*, Guide No.3 District Plans, 20 July 2007

The NZHPT welcomes any feedback and comments on this information sheet.

Comments can be provided to information@historic.org.nz. (Attention: Sustainable Heritage Guidance)