

Manawatū District Plan Change A: Rural & Flood Review

Manawatū district | November 2023

Summary of HortNZ's submission

What is Plan Change A: Flood & Rural review

Plan Change A includes the following amendments:

- A new chapter for the General Rural Zone which would replace existing Rural Zones 1 and 2. The General Rural Zone Chapter includes provisions for highly productive land, as directed by the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land.
- Existing Flood Channel Zones 1 and 2 would be removed and replaced with three new Flood Hazard Overlays. A new Natural Hazards Chapter includes rules to manage activities within the flood hazard overlays. The rules are based on *Hazard Sensitive Activities* and *Less Hazard Sensitive Activities*. The Natural Hazards Chapter rules override the rules in the other zone chapters. In most cases the General Rural Zone replace deleted the Flood Channel Zones.
- New subdivision rules are proposed for the General Rural Zone and Flood Hazard Overlay areas, including for highly productive land. The existing subdivision rules for the Rural and Flood Channel Zones would be removed.

Key changes /provisions

HortNZ is largely supportive of the draft plan change. The objectives set a clear expectation that the GRUZ is for rural activities and the rest of the plan.

HortNZ has sought to:

- Include definitions on:
 - Artificial Crop Protection Structures
 - Crop Support Structures
- Remove 'produce' from the definition of Intensive indoor farming.

HortNZ has also discussed the challenges of the NPS HPL and consideration of how to provide for buildings that support primary production such as independent post-harvest facilities (packhouses).

WHERE TO GO FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Manawatū District Council: [Public Notice: DRAFT PLAN CHANGE A: RURAL AND FLOOD CHANNEL REVIEW](https://www.mdc.govt.nz/Information/News/2023/11/01/Public-Notice-DRAFT-PLAN-CHANGE-A-RURAL-AND-FLOOD-CHANNEL-REVIEW) | Manawatū District Council (mdc.govt.nz)
- Keep an eye on HortNZ's website [Home | Horticulture New Zealand – Ahumāra Kai Aotearoa](https://www.hortnz.co.nz/) (hortnz.co.nz)
- Contact: Leanne.Roberts@hortnz.co.nz