

SITES AND AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO MĀORI - SASM

Overview

To ask how significant a specific *site* or area is for Ngāi Tahu whānui is a meaningless and redundant question. All landscapes and elements of the natural *environment* are significant, given that within a Ngāi Tahu worldview all landscapes hold stories, histories, and whakapapa links to atua Māori (deities). For this reason, no specific sites or areas of ‘significance’ to Māori are singled out and listed within the Gore District Plan, as this implies that non-listed sites and areas are places that Ngāi Tahu do not hold a relationship with. Instead, all *lands, waters*, and natural features within Gore District are recognised as culturally significant to Ngāi Tahu whānui - just at different intensities and for varied reasons. These reasons could include Māori concepts such as mana, tapu or mauri; relationships with Ngāi Tahu deities or creation narratives, historic events or cultural practices, *sites* recognised as part of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, or contemporary Māori expressions of rangatiratanga or kaitiakitanga.

The Gore District Plan manages the impacts of high-risk activities on Ngāi Tahu cultural values, as opposed restricting a wide range of activities at specific locations. This allows decisions and, where relevant, controls to be meaningful and tailored to the relevant Ngāi Tahu cultural values that are being impacted. Where an activity (or approach to undertaking an activity) does not impact place-based Ngāi Tahu cultural values, then it will be enabled in the Plan, regardless of the location. For more information on Ngāi Tahu cultural values within the Gore District, please refer to the MW – *Mana Whenua* chapter.

The SASM chapter consists of overarching objectives and policies that direct the ways the Gore District Plan recognises and protects the historic and contemporary relationship of Māori with the natural *environment* and places where cultural practices are undertaken within the Gore District. The rules that enable this recognition and protection are attached to specific activities throughout relevant chapters of this plan, and reinforced with objectives and policies that refer to the underlying relationship that Ngāi Tahu hold with the natural *environment*, or references to the practicing of Māori cultural activities. As indicated in other chapters, the below objectives and policies apply to activities throughout the district.

Objectives

- SASM-O1 All land, *waterbodies*, natural features, and *marae* within Gore District are recognised as *sites* and areas of cultural significance to *mana whenua* and/or tangata whenua, and are afforded appropriate considerations in relation to their management, development, and use.
- SASM-O2 Traditional and contemporary *mana whenua* and *tangata whenua* relationships with land, *waterbodies*, *natural* features, and cultural structures are recognised, retained, and strengthened.

PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN PROVISIONS

SASM-O3 Recognise and provide for the mātauranga and kaitiakitanga of *mana whenua* in decision-making relating impacts on the underlying relationship Ngāi Tahu hold with the natural *environment*.

Policies

SASM-P1 Use, *subdivision*, and development is enabled where adverse *effects* on Ngāi Tahu cultural values, including those listed in MW-2.3, are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

SASM-P2 The impact of proposed activities on Ngāi Tahu cultural values, and their underlying relationship with the natural environment is determined in partnership with Hokonui Rūnanga.

SASM-P3 Mātauranga relating to Ngāi Tahu cultural values is cared for as a taonga by Hokonui Rūnanga, and shared with Gore District Council on a case-by-case basis, as needed to support Council decision-making.

SASM-P4 The ability for Māori to engage in cultural practices in culturally appropriate places is recognised and provided for.

SASM-P5 Where appropriate, Ngāi Tahu cultural values and histories are incorporated into urban design of publicly accessible spaces.

Notes

Note 1 Provisions in Other Chapters

The objectives and policies in this chapter apply to the provisions of other chapters in the District Plan, including the following:

- Energy
- Infrastructure
- Transport
- Hazardous Substances
- Natural Hazards
- Public Access
- Zones – Setbacks from Streams, Reserve Land, buildings in Rural Zones exceeding height and coverage controls, and activities in the Natural Open Space Zone and Field Days Zone.
- Subdivision
- Activities on Surface of Water
- Earthworks
- Noise
- Temporary Activities
- Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity
- Natural Features and Landscapes