

Planning for the *Future*

DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW

Ongoing progress is being made with the District Plan review which is on track to be publicly notified in 2012. Methods drafting was the main focus of this year's work with workshops involving Councillors from Southland District and Environment Southland taking place to complete the third stage of the project.

The District Plan sets out Southland District Council's policies and objectives for managing the natural and physical resources of the Southland District. Consisting of maps, objectives, policies and rules, the District Plan sets out which activities are permitted and which require resource consent in the area. The public notification stage, which is set to take place in a few months time, is the final phase of the review.

"The District Plan is the primary document that manages land use and development within the Southland District,"

senior policy planner Luke McSoriley said. "The document is extremely important as it outlines how all properties within the District may be utilised."

Council is required to prepare a District Plan under the Resource Management Act 1991. "The new District Plan will be the second generation Southland District Plan since the RMA was enacted," Mr McSoriley said. "Once the proposed Plan is notified to members of the public next year, they will have the opportunity to make submissions."



DPR WEBPAGE UPDATE

Council has recently updated the Southland District Plan review webpage which can be accessed via the District Plan review button on the homepage of Southland District Council's website.

Updates on the progress of the District Plan review project and key dates will be posted on the webpage on an ongoing basis.



DPR Contact List

Council established a District Plan review contact list during the Issues and Options stage of the project in 2009.

Updates on the review project will be sent to people and organisations on this list as the project progresses.

If you would like to add your contact details to the list please contact Council's resource management team.

DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW AND LANDSCAPES



Section 6 of the Resource Management Act 1991 requires the protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development as a matter of national importance.

Southland District Council needs to identify outstanding landscapes and develop methods for their sustainable management through the revised Southland District Plan.

The Act also recognises a second tier of landscapes under Section 7 - landscapes with important visual amenity values.

During 2005/2006, Southland District Council and Environment Southland jointly commissioned Boffa Miskell Limited, a planning, ecology and landscaping

consultancy firm, to assess the landscape values along the Southland Coast and within the Te Anau Basin.

The landscape reports review the landscape values including character, sensitivity and visual elements.

The reports recommend a range of planning approaches for managing landscape values along the Southland Coast and within the Te Anau Basin, providing a basis for the second generation Southland District Plan approach to landscapes.

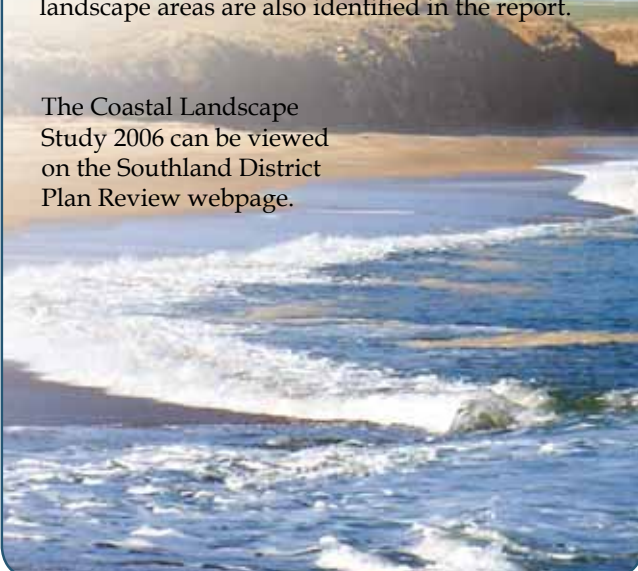
COASTAL

COASTAL LANDSCAPE STUDY 2006

The Southland Coastal Landscape Study assesses landscape values within the Coastal Resource Area of the existing Southland District Plan.

The report identifies four distinct character areas within the coast - Te Waewae, Riverton, Estuaries and Southwest Catlins - highlighting outstanding natural landscapes and features within these character areas. A number of significant visual landscape areas are also identified in the report.

The Coastal Landscape Study 2006 can be viewed on the Southland District Plan Review webpage.



TE ANAU

TE ANAU LANDSCAPE CAPACITY REPORT 2006

The Te Anau Landscape Capacity Report 2006 assesses landscape values within the Te Anau Basin.

Council has commissioned a further landscape study relating to the Te Anau Basin. The draft Te Anau Scenic Resource Area Visual Assessment Study is currently being reviewed and is due to be approved by Council in January 2012.

This study will refine Southland District Council's approach to landscapes within the Te Anau Basin.

The report can be viewed on the Southland District Plan Review webpage.

