

Mineral Extraction

Te Tango Kohuke



What are the Mineral Extraction chapters about?

There are two chapters in the Proposed District Plan – Decisions Version, the Mineral Extraction chapter and the Mineral Extraction zone chapter.

The Mineral Extraction chapter contained in Part 2 – District Wide Matters includes objectives and policies that apply to mineral extraction activities across the District.

The Mineral Extraction zone chapter identifies all known quarrying and mineral extraction activities and provides rules and standards for activities within the Mineral Extraction zone.

Additionally, there are rules within each zone chapter applying to mineral extraction activities and farm quarries in the Rural Production zone.

Together the provisions ensure that:

- Mineral extraction on land containing existing quarries is provided for and can continue subject to appropriate management of effects.
- The effects of new mineral extraction activities are managed.

What do I need to know?

- The PDP-DV uses a dedicated Mineral Extraction chapter and zone chapter to enable and manage quarrying and mining activities.
- Takes a spatial and enabling approach, identifying key areas while allowing activities elsewhere if effects are appropriately managed.
- Focuses on protecting resources and managing effects.

What does the Proposed District Plan – Decisions Version (PDP-DV) do?

The PDP-DV:

- Enables mineral extraction activities, including exploration, quarrying and processing, to meet the district's resource needs while managing adverse effects.
- Provides a spatially-based framework focused on identified Mineral Extraction zones, while also allowing activities outside these areas where certain criteria are met.
- Protects mineral resources and existing operations from reverse sensitivity and land sterilisation caused by incompatible subdivision and development.
- Sets a clear policy approach to avoid extraction in highly sensitive environments (e.g. outstanding landscapes and coastal areas) and manage effects elsewhere.
- Requires management planning (e.g. Mineral Extraction Activity Management Plans) to address operational, environmental and rehabilitation matters.
- Focuses on managing effects such as noise, dust, traffic, landscape, ecology, natural hazards and amenity, while supporting economic and social benefits.

What's changed from the Operative District Plan (ODP)?

The PDP-DV:

- Replaces the combined 'Soils and Minerals' approach with dedicated Mineral Extraction and Mineral Extraction zone chapters, separating mineral extraction from soil/land use management.
- Introduces a more enabling framework for mineral extraction, explicitly recognising its economic importance, rather than primarily managing it as a rural/ancillary activity.
- Strengthens provisions to manage reverse sensitivity and resource sterilisation, which were less explicit in the OPD.
- Aligns more strongly with higher-order direction (Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and national standards), including recognition of regionally significant mineral resources and constraints such as coastal and outstanding landscapes.

When do I need a Resource Consent?

- When the expansion of an existing mineral extraction activity within the Mineral Extraction zone and within other zones is proposed.
- When new or any mineral extraction activities in other zones is proposed.