

State of the Environment (SOE) Report Templates – Updated examples 2004

Local Authority:	Horizons.mw
Report Name:	Measures of a Changing Landscape – State of the Environment Report Manawatu-Wanganui Region 1999
Report Date:	1999
General Approach:	This is a comprehensive baseline report and provides a clear overview of what the state of the environment is, key pressures on it and what the responses have been. It acknowledges gaps in knowledge. The report is easy to read and attractively illustrated and uses graphics and photos throughout.
Topics:	A sense of place, The land, erosion, ecology, pests, natural hazards, freshwater, coastal, air, on the horizon - summary.
Indicators/Information:	<p>The land, erosion, ecology, pests, natural hazards: <i>soil erosion</i>: % unstable hill country without protective vegetation, soil turnover in hill country, % fresh and healing over slip scars, what's being done and effectiveness of response, <i>plains, terraces, downlands</i>: area of cropping, soil loss from wind erosion, soil compaction; <i>ecosystems</i>: pests of indigenous habitats and native timber harvest, presence or absence of keystone species, state of vegetation in high value conservation areas, area of indigenous habitat protected through voluntary agreement; <i>natural hazards</i>: probability of occurrence and magnitude of hazards – earthquakes, tsunami, volcanic eruption, flooding,, mitigating or avoiding harm; <i>land stability</i>: occurrence and location of significant hazard events, mitigation measures, insurance claims, submissions made to District Council land use consents;</p> <p>Freshwater: <i>fluvial systems</i>: location and column of gravel extraction, resource consents issued, change in river channel geometry, particle size, compliance and incidents , controlling gravel extraction; surface water quantity: number of consents issued showing demand for water, river flows and rainfall, determining water availability, minimum flows; <i>water quality</i>: number of resource consents issued for activities that may affect water quality, enterococci, black disk visibility, ammonia, dissolved reactive phosphorous, dissolved oxygen, water temperature, green algal slimes, <i>ground water</i>: number of resource consents, ground water level, major cations and anions, turbidity, pH, nitrate nitrogen, conductivity, biocides; Coastal: <i>coastal issues</i>: number of resource consents granted in the coastal marine area, rate of beach progradation or degradation, natural dune vegetation, coastal sand dune profile, coastal water quality, sand country erosion control measures, <i>soil erosion</i>: protective vegetation cover, barrenness and revegetation, afforestation; Air: emission inventory, resource consents issued, complaints, levels of deposited particulate matter, visibility.</p>
Notes:	Won the Resource Management Law Association Award 1999 – because it illustrated best practice in the administration of the Resource Management Act. The judges liked the report because of its: presentation, full information on key environmental parameters and the extremely positive public response. Information on the report available at www.horizons.mw.govt.nz
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