

Upper Hutt City Council – IPI Hearing

S65 – Stephen Pattinson - Lay evidence

URBANISATION, FLOODS, SLIPS, FORESTRY – ITS ALL HERE IN PINEHAVEN

... AND IF THE PINEHAVEN FLOOD MODEL IS NOT RECTIFIED THEN ANY SUCH FUTURE DISASTER WILL BE OF HUMAN [COUNCIL'S] MANUFACTURE ...

Housing intensification does not occur in isolation from the environment. Rather, it has a significant impact on the environment. The suburb of Pinehaven is located in a small valley traversed by the Pinehaven Stream which originates high in the forested hills surrounding Pinehaven.

My Submission and Further Submission therefore have in mind the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) which considers the health of freshwater (in this case Pinehaven Stream, Hulls Creek, the Hutt River and Wellington Harbour) “From the Mountains to the Sea”.

I urge the Hearing Panel to consider my points not in fragmented, isolated and unrelated bits but rather wholistically in the full context of URBANISATION, FLOODS, SLIPS, FORESTRY – ALL HERE IN PINEHAVEN, and that my specific requests be accepted and the IPI be amended accordingly.

Also

With respect to change of zone from Residential Conservation to General Residential, there is one Residential Conservation property which I request be excluded from this zone change, and that is the Silverstream Spur ... For details see attached “SOH Submission - Appendix 1 re UHCC PC49-V1”.

Stephen Pattinson

17 April 2023

[Calls to halt pine forestry on unsuitable East Coast land after slash destroys infrastructure \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com)

Retrieved 20 February 2023

# Calls to halt pine forestry on unsuitable East Coast land after slash destroys infrastructure

Story by Alexa Cook • Yesterday 9:12 pm

49531 Comments

Federated Farmers is calling for a halt on pine forest operations until harvesting practices are improved after slash is believed to have destroyed billions of dollars of infrastructure.



An inquiry has been launched, but the damage has already been done.

From the air you can see pine trees that have been snapped and flattened by Cyclone Gabrielle. There's slash piled up on river banks and bridges wiped out by trees.

Up the Mangatokerau Valley there's a carpet of debris lining the river bed and it's so deep you can't see the ground. Linda Gough's land is littered with logs and waist-deep mud, her land is ruined.

"You just go into a bit of shock, it hasn't really hit me yet," she told Newshub.

After 26 years of living here, she's used to flooding - but said the mess left behind is forestry's fault.

"I would just like it to stop. I just want them to make sure their slash isn't left where it can go into river beds."



Calls to halt pine forestry on unsuitable East Coast land after slash destroys infrastructure© Provided by Newshub

Federated Farmers agrees. They want forestry operations halted on land that's caused problems until changes are made.

"We need to stop it. Forestry is important yes, but our community access and well-being of our people - forestry workers, farmers and the public - should take priority," said Toby Williams, president of Gisborne Wairoa Federated Farmers.

"Well that would depend where. I think the companies themselves, I know are gonna be looking at halting harvesting in some areas because quite frankly at the moment it's going to be weeks and months before some of the crews can

even get back in there," said NZ Forest Owners Association CEO David Rhodes.

The Forest Owners Association is welcoming an inquiry, which has been launched for the Tairāwhiti Region.

"They've gotta take a good hard look at their practices. We will be working with them but we will put a regulatory regime in place to ensure that harvesting practices meet the social licence and the social contract," Forestry Minister Stuart Nash said.

Federated Farmers said while some companies have good harvesting practices, many are leaving too much slash behind because it's too expensive to clean up.

"We've got mostly foreign-based landowners, and they want their money out when prices are good."

However, Rhodes said forestry has been busy making changes.

"So the companies have gone in and they've got risk management plans, they're looking at different species and they're looking at how they harvest."



Calls to halt pine forestry on unsuitable East Coast land after slash destroys infrastructure© Provided by Newshub

But experts say this East Coast land should never have been planted in pine.

"That forestry practice which is sustainable in the volcanic soils of the North Island has been transferred to the steepest and most erodible lands in the world and that clear-fell harvesting, that slash, is just failing with the soil underneath it," said climate scientist Nathanael Melia.

Flying over the hills on the East Cape you can see where native trees have survived the storm and pines haven't.

"So native forests are the right and natural land use for this area," Melia said.

And there are fears the slash left on river banks will cause problems in years to come.

"When the next Cyclone Hale or Gabrielle hits, it'll pick it all up, cart it down and smash into the new bridges we've just built. Is there any point building new bridges?" Williams asked.

A problem that he hopes the government inquiry will address.

[IPCC report: Climate activist slams United Nations for 'not doing their job' to tackle climate change, Greens say it's 'now or never' | Newshub](#)

Retrieved 21 March 2023

“... there's an urgent need for transformative action.”

## IPCC report: Climate activist slams United Nations for 'not doing their job' to tackle climate change, Greens say it's 'now or never'

50 minutes ago

William Hewett



Watch: Jim Salinger and Brianna Fruean speak to AM about the IPCC report on climate change. Credits: Video - AM; Images - Getty Images / AM

Watch: Jim Salinger and Brianna Fruean speak to AM about the IPCC report on climate change. Credits: Video - AM; Images - Getty Images / AM

A climate activist has hit out at the United Nations saying they're "not doing their job" to tackle climate change.

The United Nations released a "survival guide for humanity" on Tuesday, which said the world is rapidly approaching catastrophic levels of heating with international climate goals set to slip out of reach unless immediate and radical action is taken.

The synthesis report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the culmination of almost six years of work by thousands of scientists representing the most comprehensive summary of human knowledge on our climate.

The report breaks down how and why more extreme weather events will lead to higher death tolls, refugees seeking safety and food scarcity.

It also crucially declares we will "likely" fail to reach the 1.5-degree target aimed at preventing the most catastrophic consequences of climate change.



Climate scientist Jim Salinger. Photo credit: AM

Climate scientist Jim Salinger told AM on Tuesday his book published in the 90s said the same thing.

"We warned if greenhouse gas emissions were not curbed, this is 30 years ago, very costly impacts would occur in the 2020s, which is what we've just had," he told AM co-host Ryan Bridge.

"We're now looking at the globe being up 1.1 degrees centigrade, New Zealand up 1.3 degrees centigrade."

Salinger said if the world doesn't do anything, the planet will continue to rise in temperature, which could be "pretty dire".

UN Secretary-General António Guterres said humanity is on "thin ice and that ice is melting fast" when talking about the current state of the climate.

"Humans are responsible for virtually all global heating over the last 200 years," Guterres said.

"The rate of temperature rise in the last half-century is the highest in 2000 years. Concentrations of carbon dioxide are at their highest in at least 2 million years. The climate timebomb is ticking."



UN Secretary-General António Guterres. Photo credit: AM

Climate Change activist Brianna Fruean told AM on Tuesday the report shows everyone around the world is not doing their job.

"Nobody's doing their job. The UN itself is not doing its job and it's hard for me to hear the UN secretary-general talk about all this progress when they allow sponsors like Coca-Cola to sponsor COP last year," she told AM co-host Ryan Bridge.

"When they allow oil billionaires to enter these negotiation rooms where that very report is supposed to be saving. So is anyone doing their job? They're not."

Bridge questioned if changes are going to happen, then the people who wield power over it should be part of the decision-making.

But Fruean said that's been happening for decades and no improvements have occurred.



"They have been doing that for what, 27 COPs and we haven't seen any progress. We can tell the people we're bringing into the room are actually halting progress," she said.

"There need to be spaces where those who are most impacted can have these frank conversations and really name fossil fuels as the cause, which this report says, but yet we don't have fossil fuels in these agreements when we walk into COPs."



Climate Change activist Brianna Fruean. Photo credit: AM

She is calling on everyone around the world to make significant changes and sacrifices but warns if we don't climate change will choose to impact us.

"We also know we can choose change or change will choose us and that's something we discovered when we had the floods, when we had the cyclone recently," she told AM.

"Either way, there are sacrifices that need to be made and myself as an individual, I would rather choose and be in charge of the changes that I make than having my house flooded and having those changes choose me."

Climate Change Minister and Green Party co-leader James Shaw said the IPCC report shows it's "now or never" to get a Government that will confront the climate emergency.

"There is no time left for half-measures. It's now or never. Anything less than urgent action to cut climate pollution in every part of Aotearoa will not be sufficient," Shaw said.

"Scientists are telling us loud and clear that we have only a few years left to take the necessary action to limit warming to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels, or face more intense extreme weather. However, among the dire warnings is an optimistic note that it's not too late to make a difference."

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Analysis: Is climate change to blame for Aotearoa's summer of extreme weather?

Greenpeace had a similar view saying the report showed there's an urgent need for transformative action.

"Everyone deserves a flourishing environment, with a safe and stable climate. But climate change driven by industrial pollution is putting all we know and love at risk," Greenpeace Aotearoa climate campaigner Christine Rose said.

"This summer, we've had a brutal reminder of what climate change has in store, with devastating storms, cyclones, floods and drought, all made worse by climate change."

*Watch the full interview with Jim Salinger and Brianna Fruean in the video above.*

[Cyclone Gabrielle: Muriwai deaths are a wake-up call for climate change, experts say | Flipboard](#)

Retrieved 18 February 2023

# Cyclone Gabrielle: Muriwai deaths are a wake-up call for climate change, experts say

Story by Melania Watson • 13h ago

33131 Comments

**P**rofessors and climate change experts say the devastating Muriwai disaster highlights what needs to be done to ensure something similar doesn't reoccur.



Watch: Footage shows the extent of the damage in Muriwai from Cyclone Gabrielle.© Newshub

Cyclone Gabrielle has caused significant damage after tearing across the North Island, bringing landslides to Muriwai.

Two firefighters were killed after investigating flooding in a house on Motutara Rd in Muriwai and the house was crushed from above by a landslide.

Dr Judy Lawrence from the Climate Change Research Institute said the disaster was a "tragedy" and that the power of water and sodden land is well-known at Muriwai.

And she warned another disaster is certain to happen before 2050.

"I predict tragedy for locations known to be risky areas, such as low-lying coastal locations at risk from sea-level rise," said Dr Lawrence.

Dr Lawrence said it's not just the heavy rainfall that is the issue - "what makes it worse is the ground material and the landforms combined with where houses are located," she said.

She said fixing the legislation now to strengthen what councils are empowered to do will help to avoid hazardous places.

"It will make climate change risk a primary factor in planning, consenting and housing people," she said.

She said the consequences of building in hazardous locations are too high.

"We cannot afford to have more houses located in dumb places," she stressed.

Meanwhile, University of Auckland geology Professor Martin Brook described it as a "moral hazard".

"For example, providing public compensation to private property owners affected by a landslide or a managed retreat programme, may increase incentives to build or develop further in high-hazard zones," he said.

When Newshub asked what Prof Brook thought of the Muriwai disaster on Monday he described it as "tragic".

"Particularly given the rainfall-triggered landslide deaths there in 1965," he said.

However, Muriwai's latest deaths raise questions about why homes are being built in areas with a history of deadly slips.

Prof Brook said there are two main reasons people continue to live in hazardous areas - people who think "it will never happen to me", and others who "may not have full knowledge of site issues".

He said to prevent more houses being built on damaged land, we need to rationally reflect on what has happened and apply a range of passive and active controls, for example:

### **Passive controls**

- Using area-wide landslide mapping based on high-quality digital elevation models, and once a produced map has been formed, utilizing it to inform future planning
- Once hazardous slopes have been identified use slope monitoring approaches such as a satellite radar to monitor slope movement
- Apply adequate setback distances above and below slopes, to remove houses from high-risk areas

### **Active controls**

- Understand what type of landslides are likely to occur and in what materials (solid and/or rock)
- Removing weak material from slopes above houses
- Catch fences or deflection walls to channelise landslide debris away from houses

Meanwhile, Professor of physical geology at Wellington University James Renwick described the recent Muriwai disaster as a new climate change wake-up call.

He said the storm this week is bound to have been made more damaging because of climate change.

"Large parts of the North Island have seen flooding and damage that is outside most people's experience. Combined with the unprecedented flooding

in Auckland last month, I think the whole country has had a clear 'wake-up call' about climate change," Prof Renwick said.

He said that extreme events, especially extreme high rainfall and coastal inundation, will only become more intense in future as the climate continues to warm.

"If people build back on sites that were damaged this week, they expose themselves to increasing risk," he warned.

"There needs to be a broad conversation across the country about what levels of exposure to hazards are acceptable in different regions, and who is prepared to pay when disaster strikes."

He said there is only one way to rein in climate change and that is to "stop burning fossil fuels and stop emitting greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide".

Prof Renwick said it is humanity that is driving the problem, and it is we who have the power to choose when to stop it.

"We know that once emissions of greenhouse gases go to zero, global warming will stop within a year or two. We are always in control, we just need to find ways to move away from fossil fuels - as fast as possible," he said.

Prof Renwick said to protect ourselves, people need to adapt to climate changes that have already happened.

"The effects of flooding, of coastal erosion, of droughts and heatwaves, but crucially, we also need to mitigate - to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases to zero," he said.

"We need to do this, as rapidly as possible, before the effects of climate change become unmanageable."

[Future of SH25A still unclear with slip that closed it now longer than a rugby field \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com)

Retrieved Tues 28 March 2023

## Future of SH25A still unclear with slip that closed it now longer than a rugby field

27 MARCH 2023

The future of State Highway 25A (SH25A), which cuts across the Coromandel Peninsula, is set to be announced in May.



Future of SH25A still unclear with slip that closed it now longer than a rugby field© Newshub / Asheigh Yates

The huge slip that closed it is now longer than a rugby field, creating one massive repair job to reconnect these coastal communities.

Geotechnical investigations are expected to finish this week and will help to determine the best repair option, out of the three solutions currently on the table.

The future of State Highway 25 A,

Video Player is loading.



"In terms of a slip, an underslip, this is huge. It's a very, very, big project," Waka Kotahi's Jo Wilton shared.

The project began at the end of January but was put on pause when the section of SH25A started to wash away in Cyclone Hale.

It forced the closure of the crucial road between Kopu and Hikuai with the slip roughly 130 metres long and around 30 metres deep.

Beca design engineer Nathan McKenzie shared that "nothing has slipped in the last few weeks other than very minor bits and pieces where people have been pushing things around and we know where they are and we avoid them".

Two drilling rigs are on site retrieving soil samples to determine what the ground conditions are like.

This work is expected to be completed this week.

"When we put them all together we can build a model of the site and that helps us to understand what materials are still present, the distribution of them, how strong they are and that then helps us to inform what remediation option that we can consider," McKenzie said.



There are three options they are looking into, retreating north and building a bypass around the top of the site, constructing a bridge or rebuilding the supporting ground with retaining walls.

"We are looking at having a decision made in May on which option we are going to progress with," Wilton said.

"We are looking at cost, we are looking at something that has to work, that has to meet design standards and we are also looking at something that can be done fast," added McKenzie.

The monster slip continues to cause lengthy detours for locals and tourists alike

Waka Kotahi has previously warned it could take up to 12 months before it reopens, but with winter looming it's a timeframe that's weather dependent.

"If it's going to rain the entire winter, then we will struggle to get work done. If it's a mild winter and if it's dry, then we will be able to do a lot of work," said Wilton.



[Lower Hutt home evacuated overnight after huge slip in Stokes Valley - NZ Herald](#)

Retrieved 17-4-2023

## Lower Hutt home evacuated overnight after huge slip in Stokes Valley

By

[Melissa Nightingale](#)

22 Jul, 2022 11:09 AM 4 mins to read



A home was evacuated in Lower Hutt overnight after a significant slip came down, threatening the property.

The residents have now been allowed back into their home, but have been warned there could be further slips.

The slips follow [a day of wild weather](#) in the Wellington region which left a ferry stuck in the harbour for hours, tore part of the wing mirror off a car, and grounded all flights in and out of the city.



Jaime Philips' house was evacuated last night, but she and her family have been allowed back inside today. Photo / Mark Mitchell

Stokes Valley woman Jaime Philips said she was asleep last night when emergency response teams banged on her front door about 11pm and informed her there was a massive slip on her property.

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"They said that we had lost a significant amount of the cliff face on the edge of our property," she said.

The family hadn't realised several metres of their property had crumbled away in the dark of the night, though Philips' partner thought he heard something about 7pm.

At least two slips had come down and blocked both lanes of Eastern Hutt Road, one of the main routes for people heading into central Lower Hutt from Stokes Valley.

While the slips were cleared off the road overnight, the road remains closed due to further slip risk.

Philips and her partner and teenager were told they had to evacuate the property until safety assessments could be done in the light of day.



Occupants of the home above the slip in Stokes Valley wave out the window. Photo / Mark Mitchell  
The family gathered their two elderly cats and a few belongings and were out of the house about 2am, going to stay with friends.

They were allowed back in today after assessments by engineers, but were told it's likely there could be more land lost.

As it is, they have lost 3-4 metres of the side of their yard, and have written off two vegetable planter boxes that are on the very edge of the slip.

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23 Jul 05:00 AM

Philips said she felt safe after the assessments, and spoke highly of the emergency response team who were "really empathetic" and understanding of how the family felt as they had to flee their home.



Jaime Philips said there was just a few metres between her house and the edge of the slip. Photo / Supplied

"Today we've gone from crying to laughing back to crying to laughing again," Philips said.

Another house on their street also had a significant slip come away from beneath its decking, but their slip was narrower.

Traffic out of Stokes Valley this morning was dire due to the road closure, with drivers stuck in queues for more than an hour just to leave the suburb.



One house had a slip come down from underneath its deck. Photo / Mark Mitchell  
One driver told the Herald he spent an hour in the car just to travel about 500m,  
and hadn't yet left Stokes Valley.

It is not known yet when the road will be reopened.



Two planter boxes have been written off due to their proximity to the edge of the slip. Photo / Supplied  
In Wellington, the main route into the suburb of Wadestown is also cut off, and will likely remain so until early next week.

Wellington City Council spokesman Richard MacLean said about 300 cubic metres of rock and dirt had come down and blocked Lennel Road, and there had been more come down overnight.

It was difficult to estimate how long it would take to clear it, but could be as late as Tuesday next week.

Luckily for residents there were several alternative routes in and out of Wadestown, he said.



The slip on Lennel Road, Wadestown. Photo / Supplied

"It's not like Wadestown's cut off but it's going to be inconvenient," MacLean said.

There have been multiple smaller slips around the region and MacLean urged people to use caution.

"Just be careful because you never know what's going to be around the corner," he said.

Wellington was plunged into weather-related chaos yesterday when a gale-force southerly hit the region.



Flights in and out of the city were grounded, ferry sailings were cancelled and trains to the Hutt Valley were replaced with buses, prompting traffic woes for Thursday evening commuters.



Huge swells battered parts of the Wellington region yesterday. Photo / Mark Mitchell

One Bluebridge ferry which departed Wellington in the morning spent hours in the harbour before being guided back to port by a tugboat.

Meanwhile huge swells battered the Hutt suburb of Eastbourne, with waves crashing up over the road and destroying an unoccupied catamaran.

Fallen trees, slips and flooding also added to the disruption of the day, and one car even had part of its wing mirror ripped off by the wind.

Retrieved 28 Feb 2023

# Many flood-damaged homes should not be rebuilt, says climate risk expert

2 minutes ago

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**Hamish Cardwell**, Climate Reporter  
[@HamishCardwell](#) [hamish.cardwell@rnz.co.nz](mailto:hamish.cardwell@rnz.co.nz)



Esk Valley on 20 February following Cyclone Gabrielle. Photo: RNZ/ Nick Monro

Many homes devastated by floodwater and silt should not be rebuilt as they will almost certainly be affected again, says a climate risk expert.

The Esk Valley has been particularly hard hit by the cyclone.

Orchardist Paul Paynter has 45 hectares - about the size of 45 rugby fields - buried under more than a metre of silt.

"I wouldn't put any significant assets in that valley again without either some flood protection, or the rapid onset of insanity."

There was so much silt he was not sure if it was possible for it to all be removed, or if it was a good idea.

"What the river silt tends to do is build river terraces. And over time, given a generation or two, they turn into very nice free draining fertile soils.

"And those terraces move their way up above the river - the taller the river terrace, the less likely you are to flood next time."

## **'It doesn't make a lot of sense [to] ... rebuild' in some places**

Work to assess the damage and next steps for the places worst affected by the cyclone and recent weather bombs is still being done.



The aftermath of massive flooding that swept through the Esk Valley during Cyclone Gabrielle. Photo: RNZ/ Sally Murphy

Climate change makes the storms more damaging, and more likely.

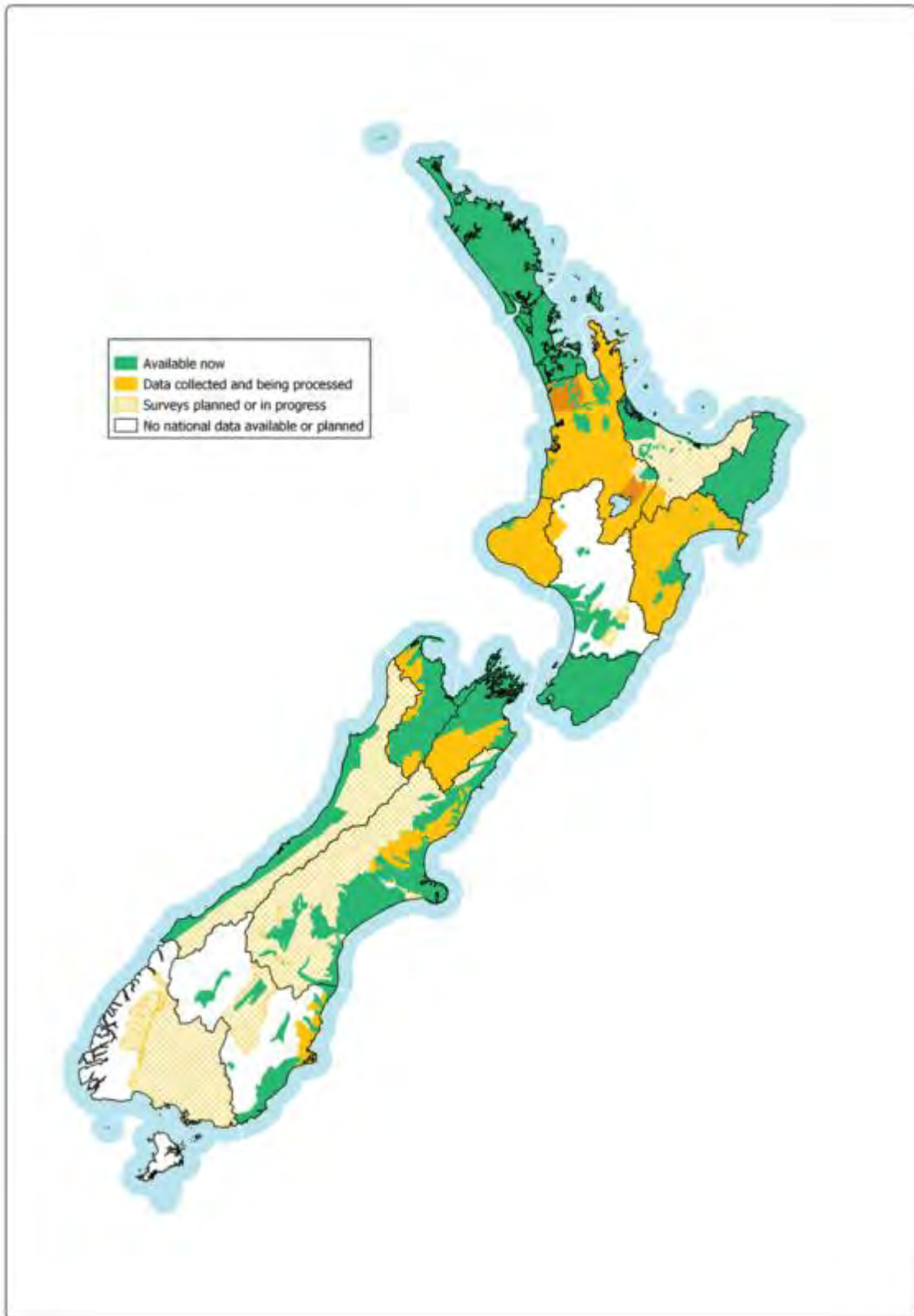
Climate Sigma climate economist and modeller Belinda Storey said homes in floodplains that were inundated regularly, or quickly, would likely keep getting struck again and again unless expensive protections were built.

"If a house has been devastated in these events, then it doesn't make a lot of sense for us to rebuild that house."

While it was understandable to want to rush to help people rebuild after a crisis, in the long run it could make things worse because it encouraged people to remain in harm's way, Storey said.

## **Pay for mapping or let flooding reveal the risky places**

Laser topographical mapping - called LiDAR - gave details down to the centimetre and could be used to help accurately plot flood risk, Storey said.



Belinda Storey says ideally the map should be all green. Photo: Land Information New Zealand

It had been done extensively in Te Tai Rāwhiti , but in Hawke's Bay it was a different story, she said.

"We currently have better understanding of the topography of the moon than we do of Hawke's Bay."

Storey said it was far cheaper to invest in nationwide laser mapping, than pay for it by letting nature reveal the places most vulnerable to flooding after the next inevitable weather bomb.

## **National conversation needed on fair compensation for those who must leave**

Victoria University Emeritus Professor of public policy Jonathan Boston said tens of thousands of people might need to move out of harm's way by the end of the century.

He warned there were no easy answers but there needed to be a national conversation, and cross-party consensus, about the fairest way to split costs.



Flood damage in the Esk Valley in Hawke's Bay after Cyclone Gabrielle. Photo: RNZ / Tess Brunton

"I appreciate this is very, very difficult for people have to come to terms with, but we must," Boston said.

**"For many people in the last year or so in New Zealand ... climate change has arrived, and it's been devastating, and we need to take that really seriously."**

Victoria University economics of disasters and climate change chair professor Ilan Noy said any compensation package needed to be as unattractive as possible to dissuade holdouts.

**"You [could] end up with the ... worst of all possible worlds where ... because some people decided to stay, you still need to try and protect the communities ... provide them the services: water and electricity and so forth, but it's a much-diminished community."**

Noy said insurers needed to allow homeowners to take payouts and rebuild elsewhere out of harm's way.

Cyclone Recovery Minister Grant Robertson is **already indicating some devastated areas may not be rebuilt**, with a decision to be made possibly within a month.

Meanwhile, the government is part way through creating a nationwide plan for managed retreat, with decisions from Cabinet due later in the year.

## **Democracy could be undermined by poor policy choices - Boston**



People had to be rescued from rooftops in Esk Valley after torrential rain from Cyclone Gabrielle caused severe flooding. Photo: Supplied / NZDF



Boston said with the danger of sea level rise also looming, countries faced unprecedented challenges, and durable plans on how to respond were needed.

"If we don't have them, we will flounder," he said.

"We will run the risk of undermining public confidence in our democratic institutions, potentially with profound implications for the future of democracy."

He recently co-wrote a [paper on managed retreat for the Environmental Defence Society](#).

Central government would need to provide a substantial part of any compensatory package, Boston said.

He believed the government should negotiate to purchase the properties of those affected, with a cap on the total amount that any particular property owner could receive.

People's principle home should get greater compensation than baches or rentals, he said.

"These are detailed matters that really need to be thought about very carefully, because almost anything you do is going to have both positive and negative implications.

"And whatever [**the government**] **might propose ... [for] pre-emptive managed retreat**, there are going to be serious problems.

"There's no right solution here, no easy fix."

He said another fishhook was that pre-emptive moves also could be far more expensive as insurers would not be kicking in for that.

# NZ's lakes and rivers in 'appalling' state, new Govt report paints bleak picture ...

By [Michael Neilson](#)

12 Apr, 2023 11:22 AM

[NZ's lakes and rivers in 'appalling' state, new Govt report paints bleak picture as scientist accuses Labour of broken promises - NZ Herald](#) Retrieved 15-4-2023



Pollution at Lake Ngaroto in Waikato. Photo: Supplied

## Key points:

- 45 per cent of lake monitoring sites worsened between 2011 and 2020, with just 36 per cent improving.
- 45 per cent of New Zealand's total river length is unswimmable, according due to risk of bacterial infection.
- 48 per cent of the country's river network is at least partially inaccessible to migratory fish.
- About two-thirds of freshwater native bird species were either threatened with extinction or at risk of becoming threatened in 2021.
- More than 4200 reported wastewater overflows in the 12 months from July 2020 to June 2021.

Scientists are accusing Labour of broken promises on improving the dismal state of the country's lakes and rivers with the latest stocktake painting an "appalling" picture with most measures worsening despite nearly six years in Government.

Environment Minister David Parker meanwhile says some of the statistics are an "indictment" on the country and an "intergenerational challenge" to turn around. He also said as the data used was from 2020 it did not capture the impacts of tighter water regulations that came into force in the latter half of that year.

[\*Our freshwater 2023\*](#), produced by the Ministry for the Environment and Statistics NZ, shows while there have been some minor improvements, on most measures the country's freshwater sources are becoming increasingly polluted, further threatening native species on the verge of extinction and causing more people to become sick.

The report, part of a monitoring series produced every three years, found 45 per cent of lake monitoring sites between 2011 and 2020 had become more polluted with nutrients and algae, and 45 per cent of the country's entire river length was deemed unswimmable due to risk of bacterial infection over the period 2016 to 2020.

The report noted the increasing pressures from changing land use, including still increasing levels of fertiliser being used, intensification of farming - more livestock in smaller spaces - alongside thousands of urban wastewater discharges.

Freshwater scientist and Victoria University senior researcher Dr Mike Joy said Labour had campaigned on turning around the country's water woes yet had failed to tackle the heart of the problem.

"A lot of people say [freshwater water issues] is what won them the 2017 election, or at least helped National lose.

"Well nothing has improved, because nobody wants to tackle the source of the problem."

Joy said Labour's attempts to fix the country's water woes equated to putting towels around a pot to stop it boiling over.

"Nobody is turning the gas down, and the gas is intensive farming.

"The number one impact on water quality is way too much fertiliser, way too much cattle."

Joy likened it to the difficulties in getting action on climate change with the economy so tied in with fossil fuels.

“As long we ignore the source nothing is going to change.”

The report itself does shy away from that fact, noting Aotearoa has experienced one of the highest rates of agricultural land intensification over recent decades internationally.



Freshwater scientist Dr Mike Joy.  
Photo / Alexander Robertson

Between 1996 and 2018, almost 60,000 hectares of exotic grassland was converted from low-producing to high-producing land - an area 2.5 times the size of Abel Tasman National Park.

Urban land swallowing up previously highly-productive land had also contributed to an increase in intensive farming on remaining land.

Dairy cattle numbers increased by 82 per cent nationally from 3.4 million to 6.3 million between 1990 and 2019.

Irrigated land doubled between 2002 and 2019, with around 73 per cent of this increase attributable to dairy intensification.

The report found water quality was more degraded when there was more high-intensity pasture and horticultural land upstream.

The report also identified increased sediment loads - illustrated recently on the East Coast after successive cyclones - where there was land dedicated to pastoral agriculture and plantation forestry upstream.

Dr Tim Chambers of Otago University's Department of Public Health said the report outlined the "core pressures" that led to the degradation of freshwater, and with it the serious economic, socio-cultural and health implications.

The national ground water monitoring programme shows that 68 per cent and 19 per cent would fail the drinking water standards for bacterial and nitrate contamination, respectively.

For bacterial contamination, 82 per cent of all sites were either getting worse (50 per cent) or showing no improvement (32 per cent). For nitrate, 51 per cent were either getting worse (35 per cent) or not improving (16 per cent).

An estimated 45 per cent of our river length was not suitable for swimming due to bacterial contamination.

In 2017, 1200 people got sick after reporting contact with recreational water.

And more than two-thirds (68 per cent) of groundwater sites monitored failed drinking water standards at least once during the period measured.

"The report does clearly show that further action is required to protect our freshwater for our physical and economic wellbeing," said Chambers.

Environment Minister David Parker said to have nearly half the country's rivers deemed unswimmable was an "indictment".

"It is something that I and most New Zealanders are not prepared to accept."

On criticisms of Labour's lack of progress, Parker said because of time lags involved in producing the data, the report mainly covered the period before the launch of the Government's Essential Freshwater reforms in September 2020.

"The Government said the reforms will take a generation to reverse the damage done to our waterways in the past decades, but we expect to see material change within five years."

A report on the Essential Freshwater programme would be published in the near future, he said.

"Making substantial improvements to water quality is an intergenerational challenge that requires a determined and sustained effort.

“We are now well under way on this massive task, which is at the heart of what we value and upon which we depend as New Zealanders, and so we just need to keep going.”

Green Party environment spokeswoman Eugenie Sage said the report made it clear the Government was not doing enough to ensure rivers, lakes and aquifers were healthy.

“Thousands of us remember growing up swimming in local creeks and rivers.

“Today’s report is yet another reminder that in many parts of the country, people can no longer do that or take kai without risking their health and wellbeing.

“Not only are too many of our lakes and rivers unswimmable, many of the native freshwater fish species that depend on clean rivers, lakes, wetlands, and estuaries are also threatened with extinction.”

Sage said changes to the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management in 2020 - off the back of advocacy from iwi, environmental groups and the Green Party - would have an impact but more change was needed.

“Intensive farming, including the use of synthetic fertiliser, poor land use controls on earthworks for urban subdivision and poor stormwater management continue to be major causes of water pollution.

“The Government needs to progressively phase out synthetic fertiliser use, implement the intensive winter grazing rules, and increase support for regenerative farming practices to reduce nutrient pollution and sediment run-off.”

Greenpeace campaigner Christine Rose said the report highlighted a clear link between intensive agriculture, particularly dairy, and poor water quality.

“Rapid deintensification of the dairy industry is critical to making that change. That means decreasing the number of cows, cutting synthetic nitrogen fertiliser, and transitioning to a way of farming that works with, instead of against, nature.”

Joy said while the report did not shy away and “unflinchingly identifies the appalling state of lowland freshwaters of Aotearoa”, he was disappointed with the statistical reporting quality.

The latest data it uses is from 2020, despite 2023 data existing. He also said it failed to take a more holistic approach, which the authors themselves identified as a data and research gap.

### **Read More**

- [Fresh water? Dire warning for New Zealand's lakes, ...](#)
- [Future of freshwater management under review...](#)
- [Nitrate pollution: Concerning levels in 60% of NZ freshwater ...](#)
- [The Conversation: New questions about the freshwater ...](#)
- [Horizons roadshow provides updates on how Government ...](#)
- [Freshwater farm plan regulations: A tsunami or a surfable ...](#)

The Government has signalled the new legislation replacing the Resource Management Act (RMA) will help address freshwater pollution issues, which Environment Minister David Parker has likened to “death by a thousand cuts” due to its piecemeal approach.

The [new Natural and Built Environments Act](#) would set environmental bottom lines, along with moving from an effects-based approach to one based on outcomes.

Joy said he didn’t think this would have much of a difference as it still ignored the root cause of the pollution.

“It’s the same with Three Waters reforms, none of it tackles the real problem. Dairy is like a religion in this country.”

Ministry for the Environment spokeswoman Natasha Lewis said while freshwater ecosystems and water quality were improving in some places and for some measures, others were worsening.

“Many lakes, rivers and other water bodies are under pressure, mostly due to the way we’re using land and water, and from the changing climate,” she said.

Statistics NZ spokesman Jason Attewell said the report provided evidence-based data to enable informed decision-making and prompt discussion about the present and future.

[Another large slip in Wellington leaves house near edge of hill | Newshub](#)

Retrieved 17-4-2023

## Another large slip in Wellington leaves house near edge of hill

10/08/2022 RNZ



The slip on Wednesday morning left a house near the edge. Photo credit: RNZ/Kevin McCarthy

“ ... Wellington’s had 400 slips so far this year ...” (10 August 2022)



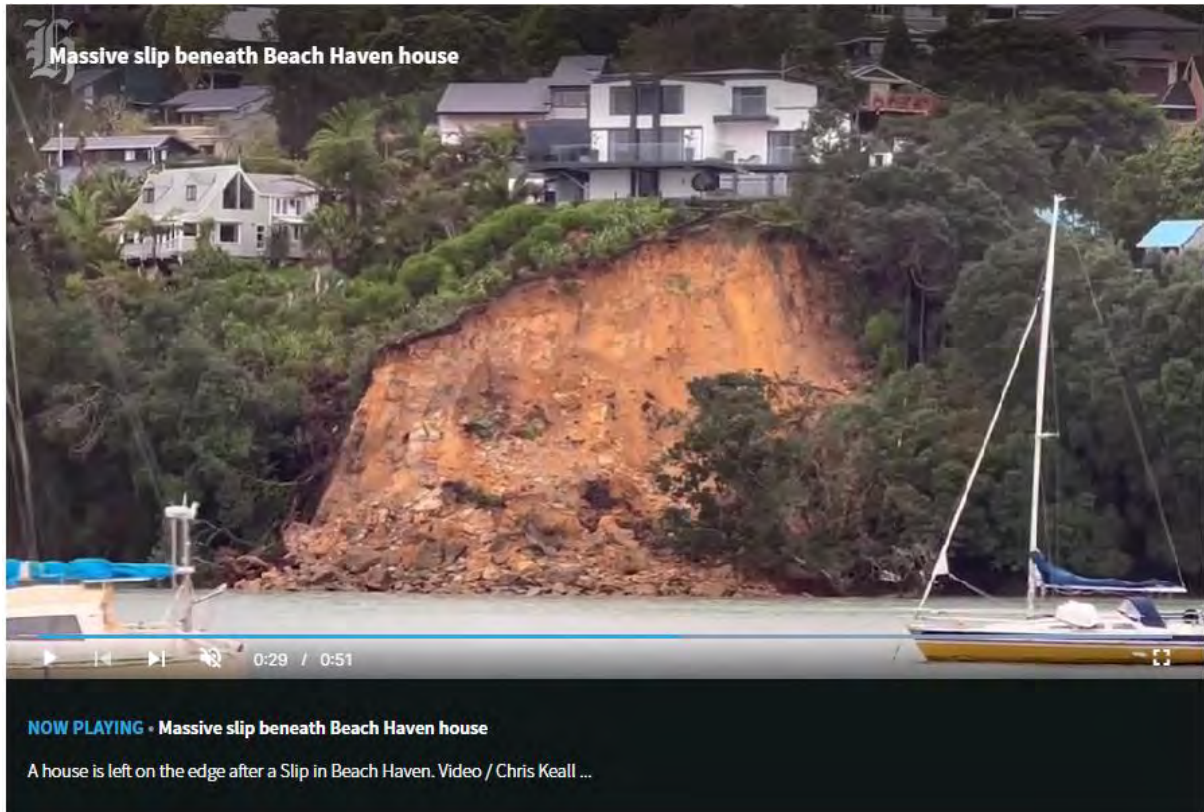
The slip in Karori took out a mature section of bush, and covered part of Woodhouse Avenue. It follows numerous slips in recent days following heavy rainfall, including a large landslide in the central city on Monday.



[Massive slip beneath Beach Haven house - NZ Herald](#) 19 Aug, 2022 03:41 PM

Retrieved 17-4-2023 NZ Herald Video / Chris Keall

# Massive slip beneath Beach Haven house



A house is left on the edge after a Slip in Beach Haven ...

[Weather: West Auckland residents lose everything after houses destroyed in Cyclone Gabrielle | Newshub](#)

Retrieved 17-4-2023



Watch: West Auckland residents lose everything after houses destroyed in Cyclone Gabrielle. Credits: Newshub.

Slips have isolated the West Auckland beach villages of Piha and Karekare - with houses destroyed and

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Weather: West Auckland residents lose everything after houses destroyed in Cyclone Gabrielle 14/02/2023 Newshub Amanda Gillies

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“More than 200mm of rain fell in just 24 hours ...”

['Awesome' te reo Māori teacher moves town for job due to closed gorge | Stuff.co.nz](#)

Retrieved 17-4-2023

Stuff 

national



Denise Piper · 05:00, Feb 28 2023



NZTA

Drone footage of slips at the Mangamuka Gorge on State Highway 1 taken soon after heavy rains in the Far North caused significant damage in August 2022. (This video has no sound)

[Watch: Large slip blocks Coromandel road | nzherald.co.nz - Bing video](#)

Retrieved 17-4-2023



People forget until the next storm or flood happens ...

[Auckland residents living in fear of next flood | nzherald.co.nz - Bing video](#)

[New Zealand families experiencing persistent flooding - Bing video](#)

[Floods, slips and evacuations as heavy rain continues - Bing video](#)

[New Zealand floods forces hundreds to evacuate - Bing video](#)

[Dozens of NZ communities identified at risk of flooding - Bing video](#)

[New Zealand calls state of emergency over torrential flooding | DW News - Bing video](#)

[Hundreds evacuated in New Zealand's Canterbury region floods - Bing video](#)

[New Zealand flooding leaves streets and cars submerged after torrential rain - Bing video](#)



**Slip near logging road and forestry harvesting on 8 December 2019 (above No.136A Pinehaven Road)**

## Proposed Plan Change 49—Open Spaces—Variation 1

Submission by Save Our Hills (Upper Hutt) Incorporated

### Appendix 1: Silverstream Spur illegitimately zoned as RCON (Residential Conservation)

When Upper Hutt City Council acquired the Spur land it was known as the “Silverstream Spur” [so named in a Memorandum to UHCC Ordinary Council Meeting 26 February 1992]. The total area of the Spur is 35.14ha. It was purchased in 1991 from Council Reserve funds. It was zoned as “Town Belt”(Fig. 1). It was part of the city’s ‘Green Belt’ (see Figs. 6a, 6b).

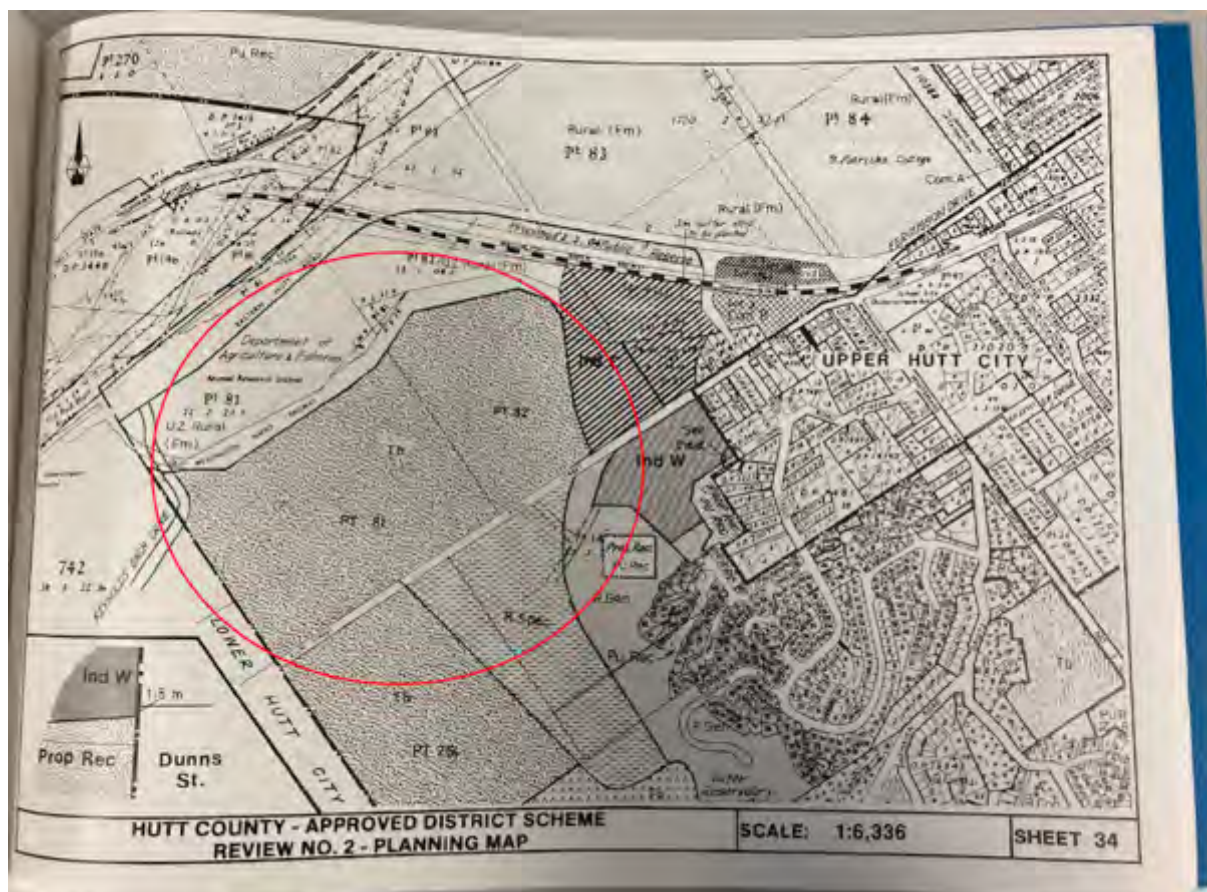


Fig. 1 - Silverstream Spur in 1991 – Part of “Town Belt” zone – a reserve , i.e. part of the city “Green Belt” - See PC49 submission by Submitter No. 27 - Silver Stream Railway.

On 24 September 1991 Council publicly notified a District Scheme Review (No.4) in the Upper Hutt Leader (Fig. 2). A Planning Map in that review (Urban Map No. 2 – see Figs. 3a & 3b) showed about 15.84ha of the Spur changed to "Rural Hill" zone and about 19.30ha of the Spur changed to Residential Conservation zone.

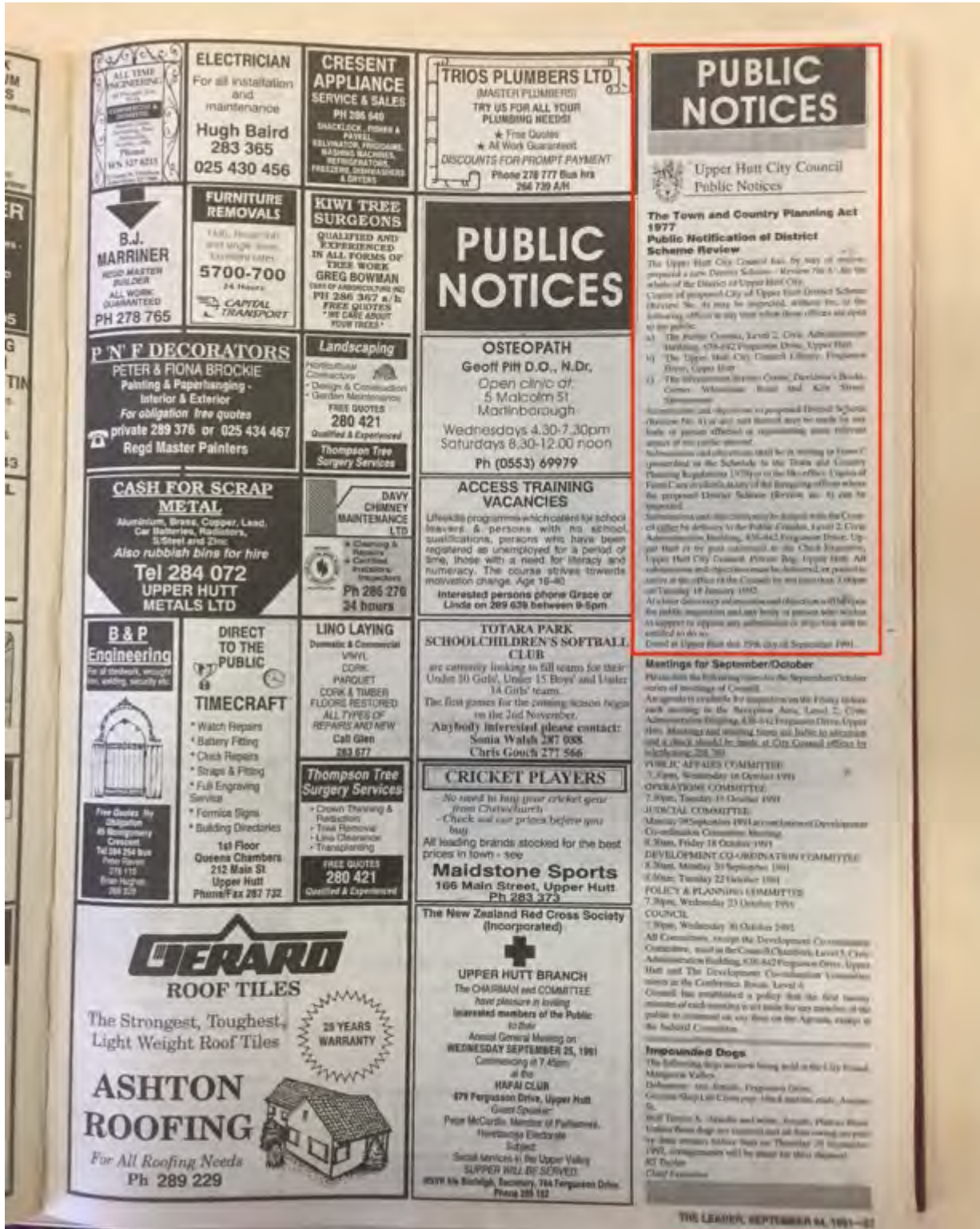


Fig. 2 – Public Notification of UHCC District Scheme Review No. 4 on 24 September 1991

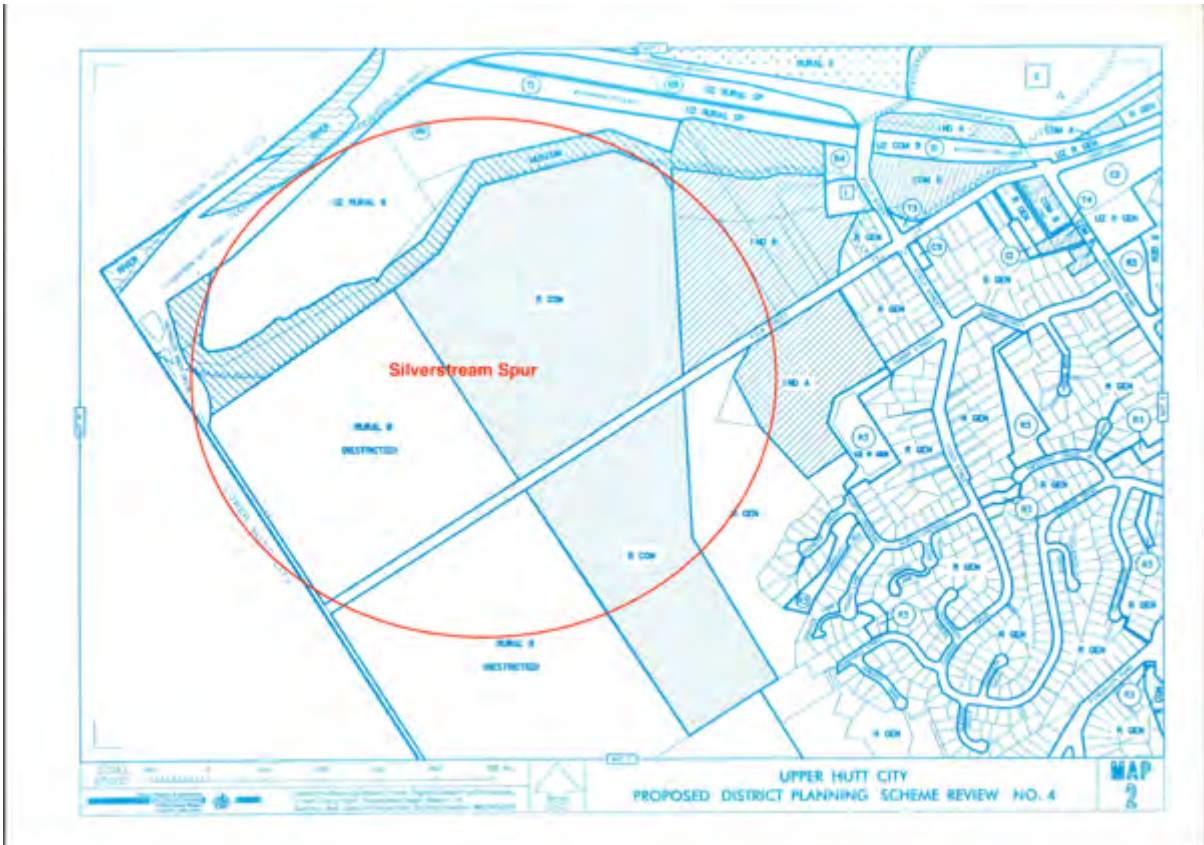


Fig. 3a - Scheme Review No.4 - Map 2 - half the Spur changed to "Residential Conservation"

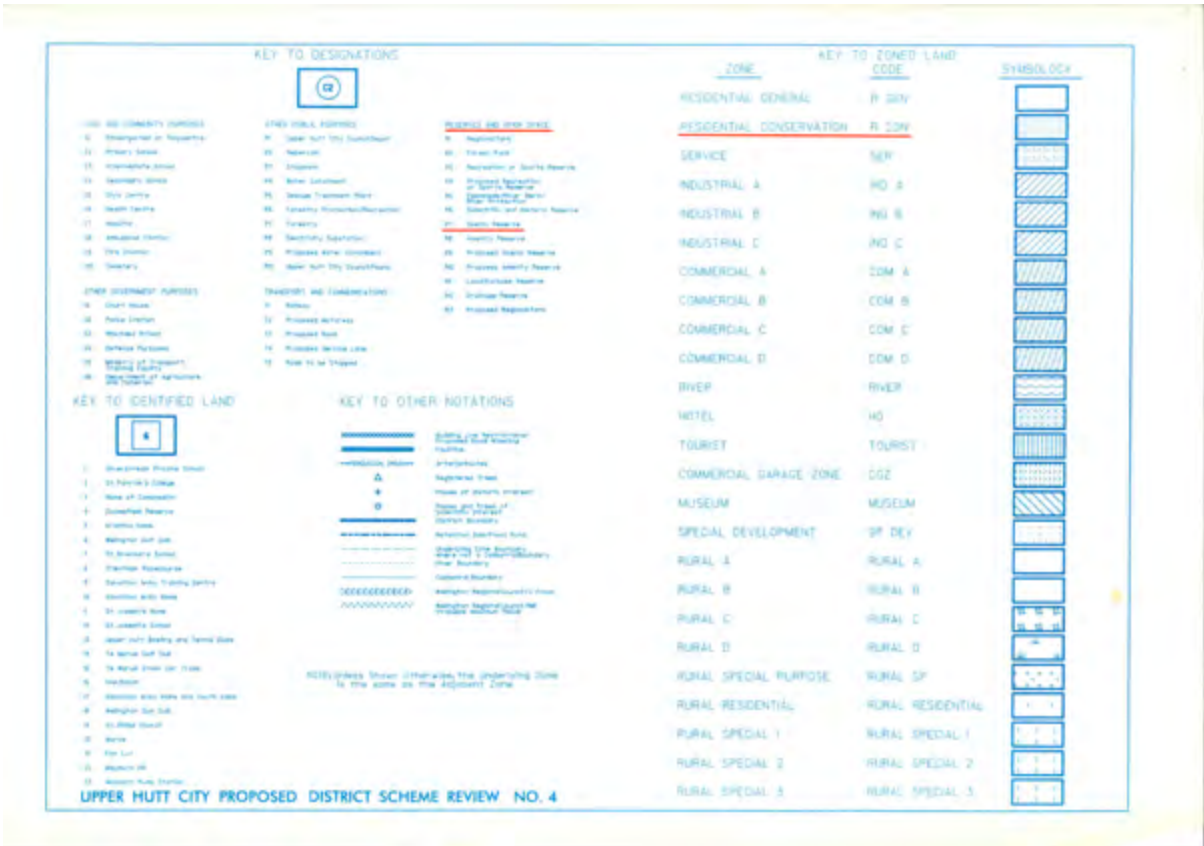


Fig. 3b - Scheme Review No.4 – LEGEND: R CON = Residential Conservation; Designation R7 = Scenic Reserve



The developer of Sylvan Way subdivision which was being planned at that time, Mr W. S. Wyatt, wrote to Council on 21 February 1992 pointing out that the Residential Conservation zone on his land was also shown incorrectly on the Spur land (Fig. 4a & 4b). Mr Wyatt asked that his correspondence be accepted as a late submission in the District Scheme Review.

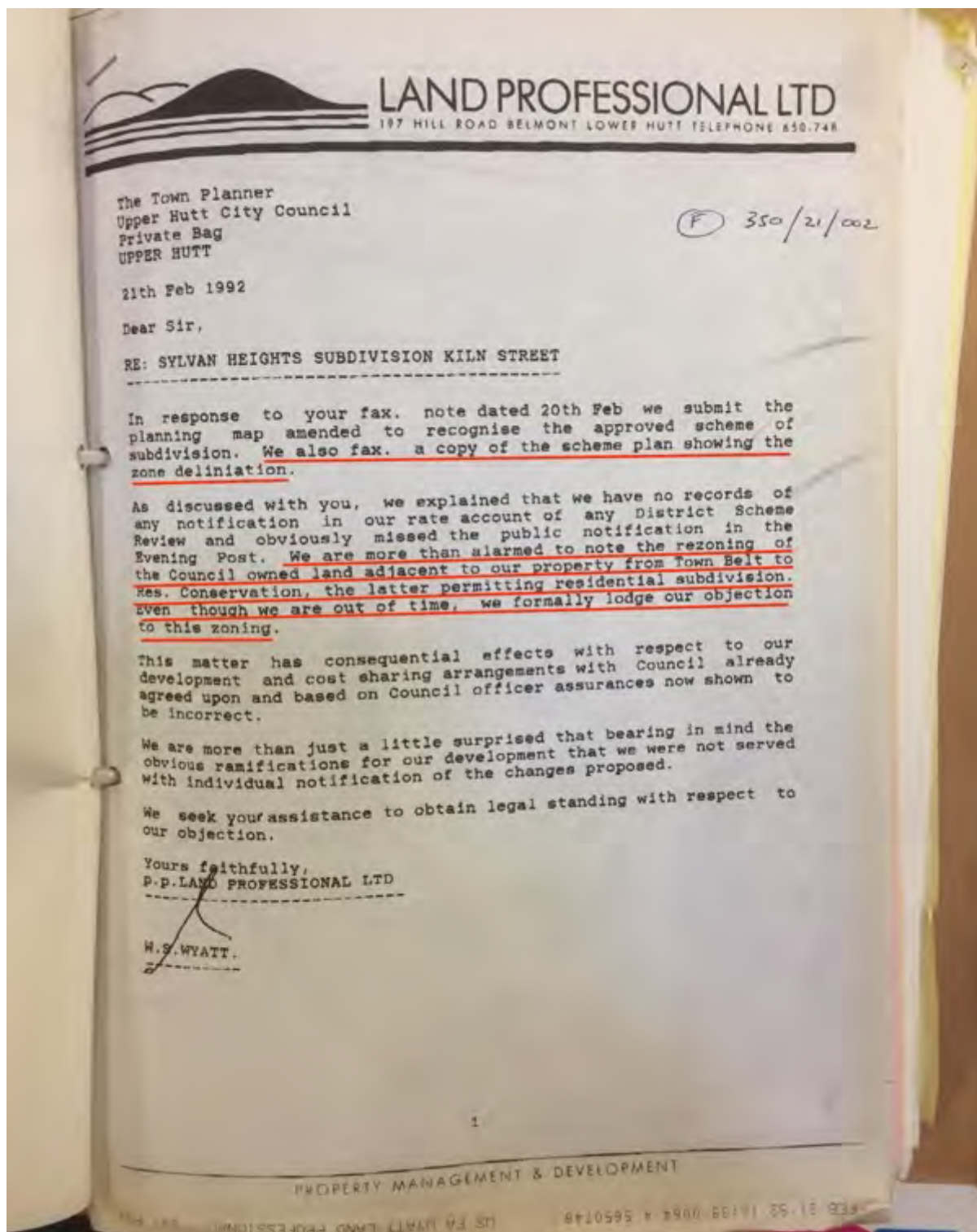


Fig. 4a - Correspondence Mr Wyatt to UHCC, 21 Feb 1992, about incorrect zone on the Spur

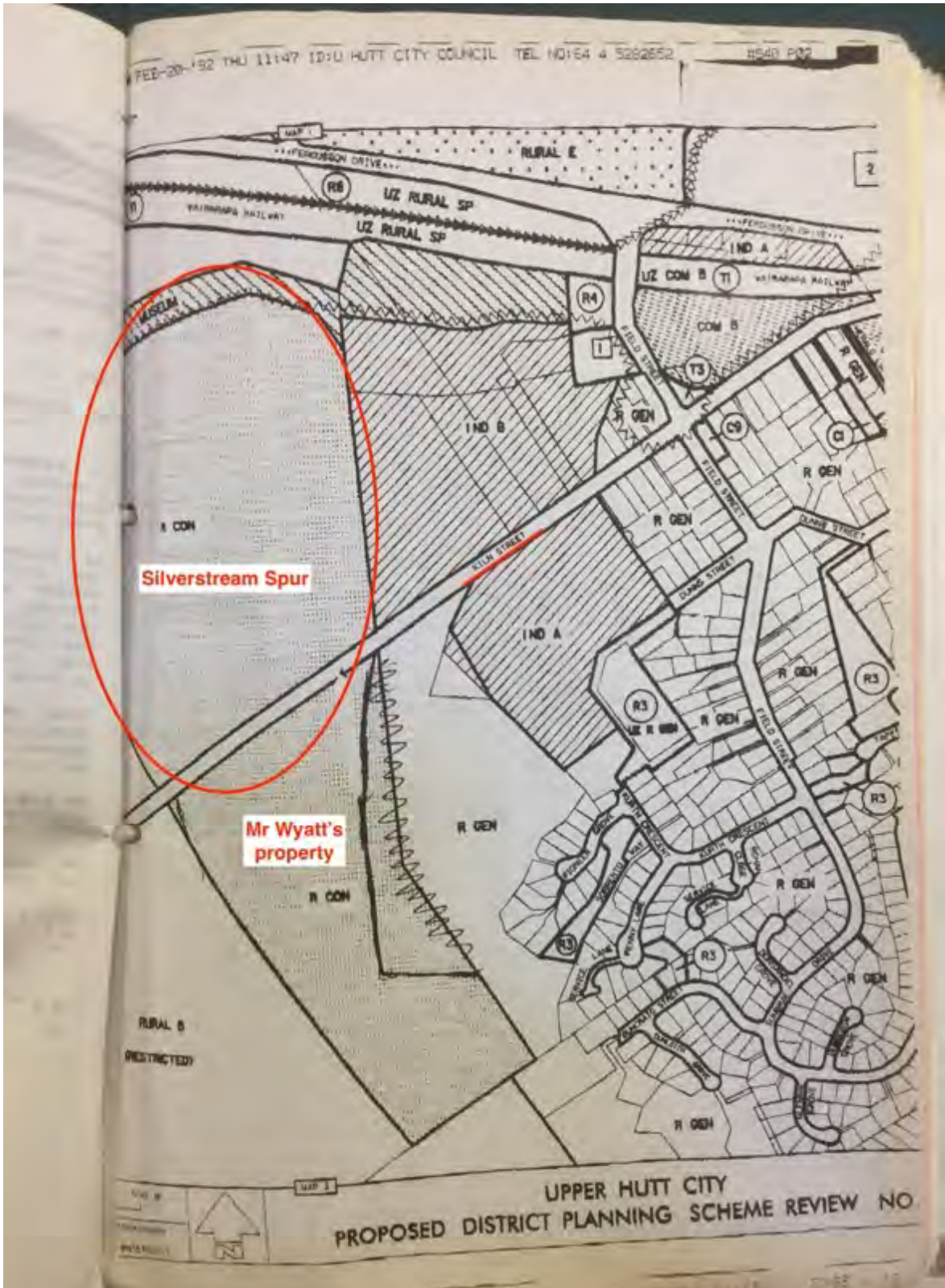


Fig. 4b - Correspondence Mr Wyatt to UHCC – R CON on north side of Kiln Street is the Spur

The City Planner responded to Mr Wyatt acknowledging that the Residential Conservation zoning on the Spur was an error and that it would be altered (Fig. 5).

UPPER HUTT  
CITY COUNCIL

838-842 Fergusson Drive,  
Upper Hutt  
Private Bag Upper Hutt  
Tel (04) 5288-769  
Fax (04) 5282-652

Mr W.S. Wyatt,  
Land Professional Ltd.,  
197 Hill Road,  
Belmont,  
LOWER HUTT

Ref: 350/21/002  
RGB/pj

(E)

Contact: Mr Birkinshaw


25 February 1992

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter received by Facsimile on Friday, 21 February, I can advise that the notation of the land to the north of your subdivision zoned Residential Conservation is incorrect and will be altered, also the eastern boundary of your subdivision where it adjoins the Residential General zone is to be altered in order that it conforms with the actual survey.

I regret these errors caused you concern and appreciate you bringing them to our attention.

Yours faithfully,



R.G. Birkinshaw  
CITY PLANNER

Fig. 5 - UHCC City Planner's reply to Mr Wyatt acknowledges the incorrect zoning on the Spur and advises that the zoning will be altered [corrected].

The City Planner then wrote a memo to the Mayor, Chief Executive and City Solicitor pointing out this error in the zoning of the Spur on Urban Map No. 2, stating that it would be corrected to show the Spur "designated" as "Scenic Reserve". He wrote, quote:

*"Two errors were found on Zoning Map 2 by Mr Warwick Wyatt ...*

*i) The ex: Hutt County Green Belt area bounded yellow on the attached map [the half of the Spur shown zoned as Residential Conservation] should be designated (R7) Scenic Reserve and not Residential Conservation."*

*Memo from City Planner to the Mayor, Chief Executive and City Solicitor, dated 25 February 1992. (Figs. 6a & 6b)*

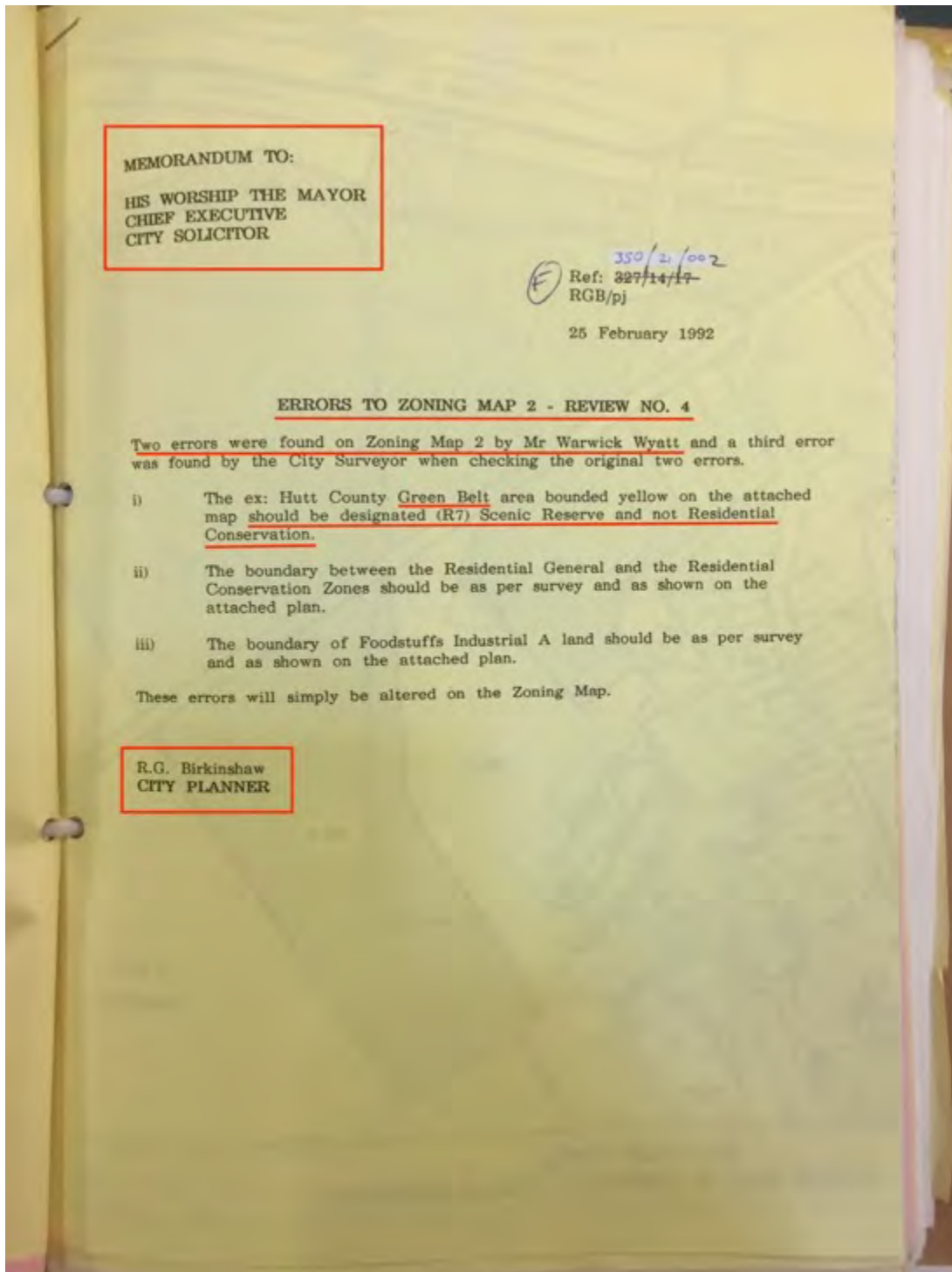


Fig. 6a - UHCC City Planner's Memo to the Mayor, Chief Executive and City Solicitor advising of the error in the zoning of the Spur and stating it would be designated "Scenic Reserve".

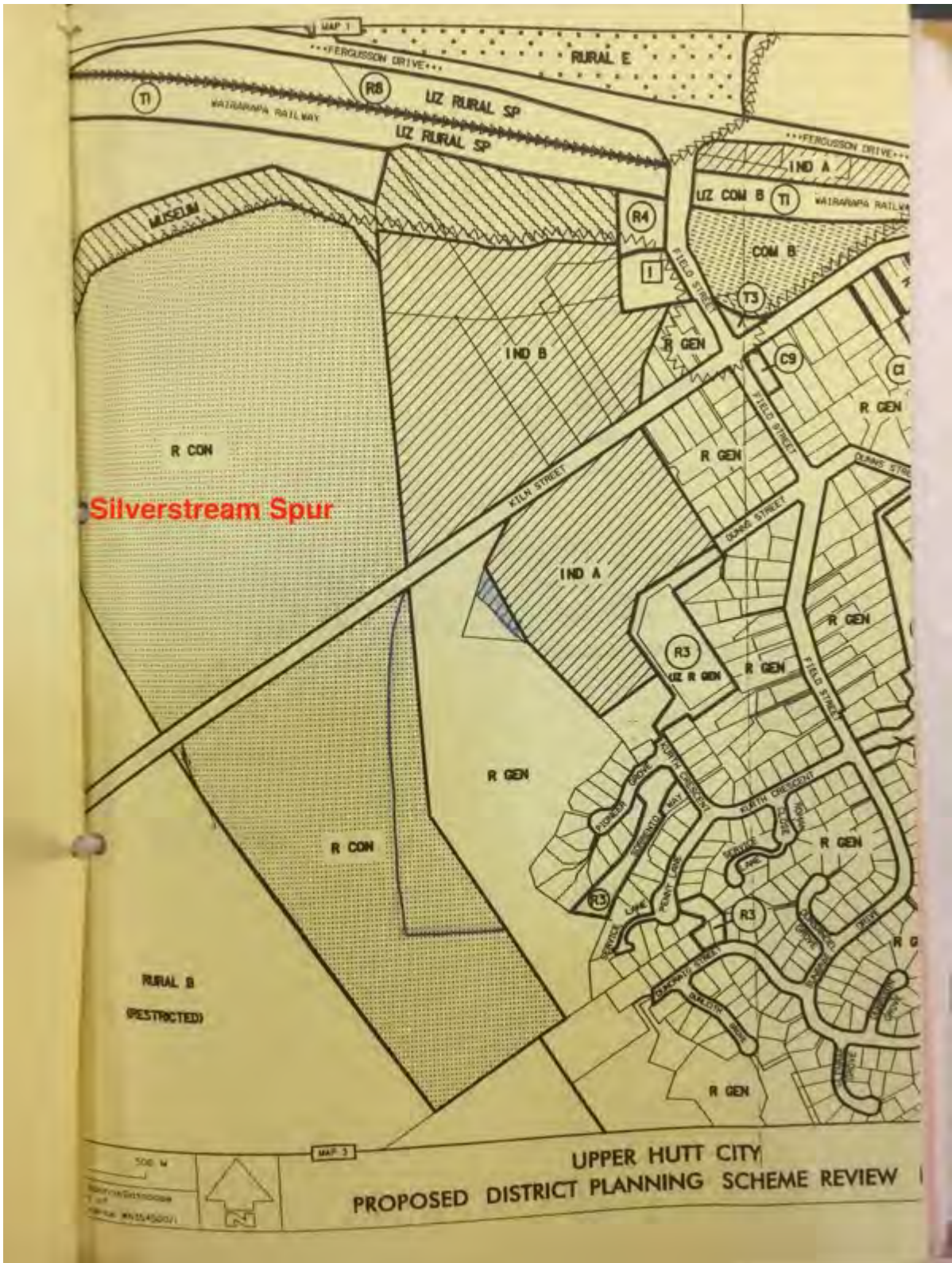


Fig. 6b - UHCC City Planner's Memo to Mayor, Chief Executive and City Solicitor – yellow highlighting around the “R CON” zoning on the Spur is the zoning “error” to be corrected. [NB: Yellow highlighting on yellow paper – the highlighting around the R CON area on the Silverstream Spur is faint after 30 years but is still discernable]

The City Solicitor then wrote to all Councils in the Wellington region, the Minister for the Environment and the Department of Conservation pointing out that the zoning of the Spur land as Residential Conservation on Urban Map No. 2 was an error and advising that Council would correct it to show the Spur land as “Rural B Restricted” with a designation as “Scenic Reserve”, stating:

*“UPPER HUTT CITY COUNCIL – PROPOSED DISTRICT SCHEME (REVIEW NO.4)*

*I refer to my letter dated 19 September 1991 with which I enclosed a copy of the public notification of Review No. 4.*

*A number of objections or submissions were received. Council has prepared a summary of alterations proposed by those submissions or objections. The Summary will be publicly notified in the “Leader” on 10th March 1992.*

*... I enclose a copy herewith.*

*Summary of Requests for Alterations ...*

*The Council is ... required to publicly notify a summary of all requests for alterations to the proposed District Scheme (Review No. 4) contained in the submissions or objections received. The summary is set out below. ...*

*Requests for Alterations to Planning Maps: ...*

*11. The Upper Hutt City Council seeks the following alterations ...*

*Correct Map 2 as follows:*

*a) change zoning of land on northern side of Kiln Street [Silverstream Spur] from Residential Conservation to Rural B (restricted) and record its designation as R7 (Scenic Reserve).*

*UHCC City Solicitor letter, 3rd March 1992 (Figs. 7a – 7e)*

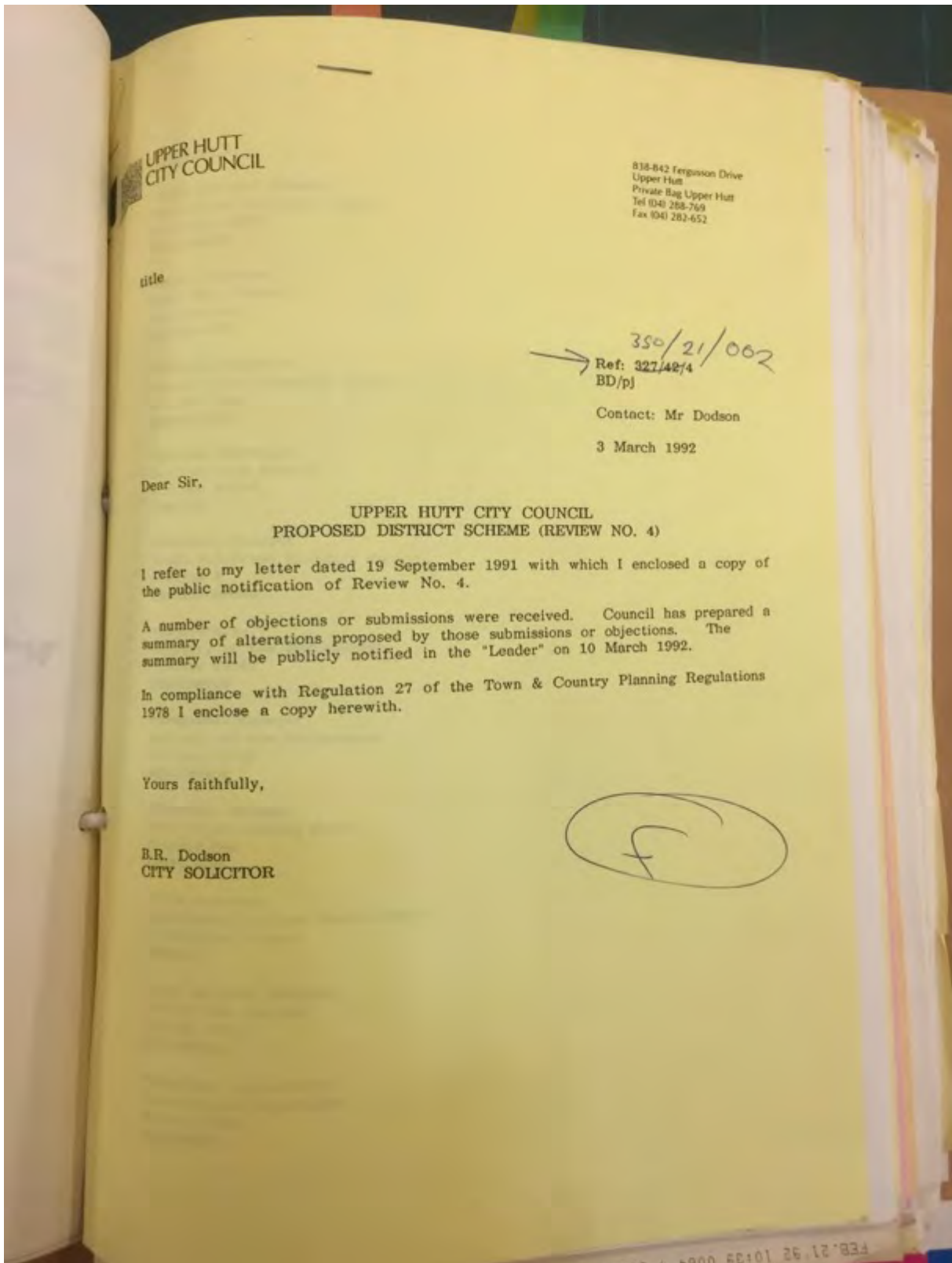


Fig. 7a - UHCC City Solicitor's letter to all Councils in the Wellington region, the Minister for the Environment and the Department of Conservation advising of publishing of submissions on the District Scheme Review No. 4.

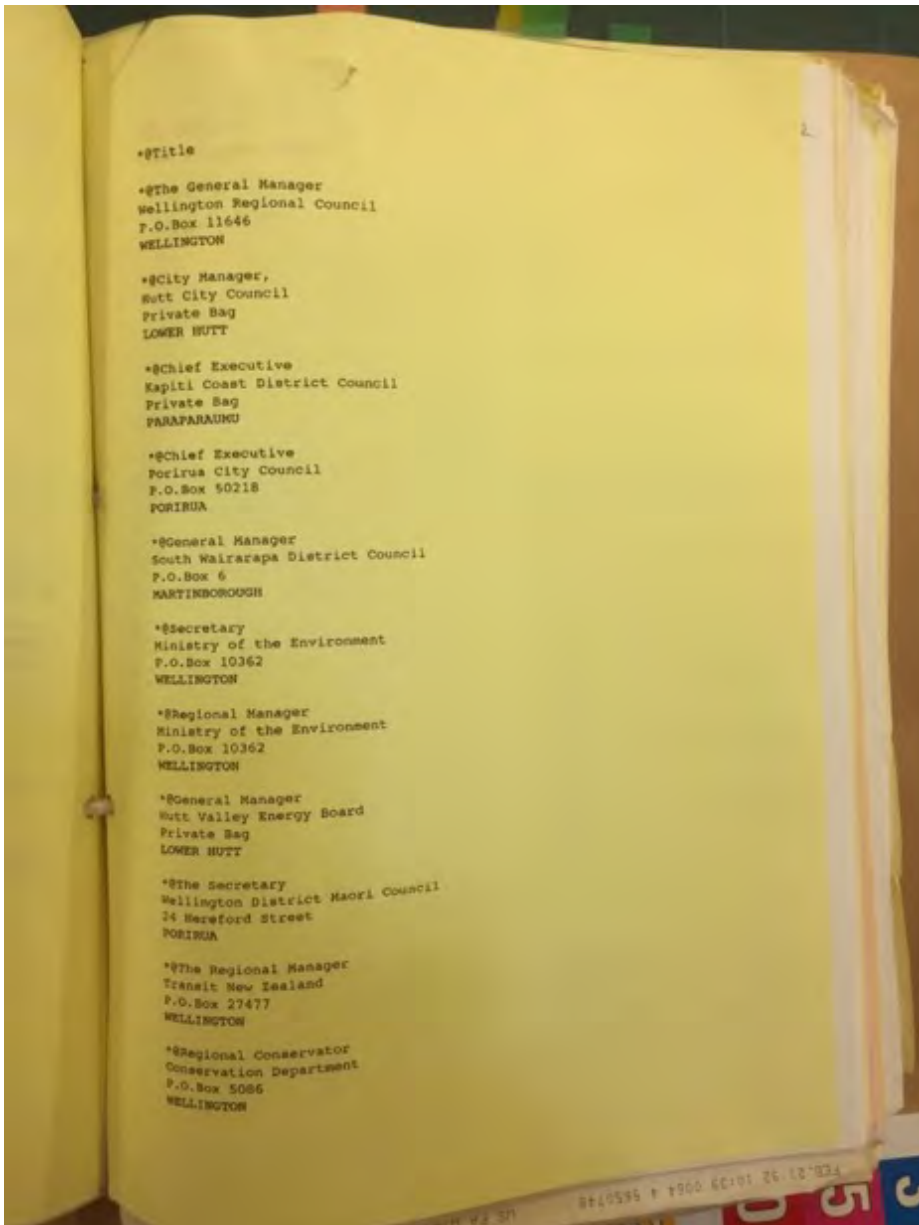


Fig. 7b - UHCC City Solicitor's letter (contd)

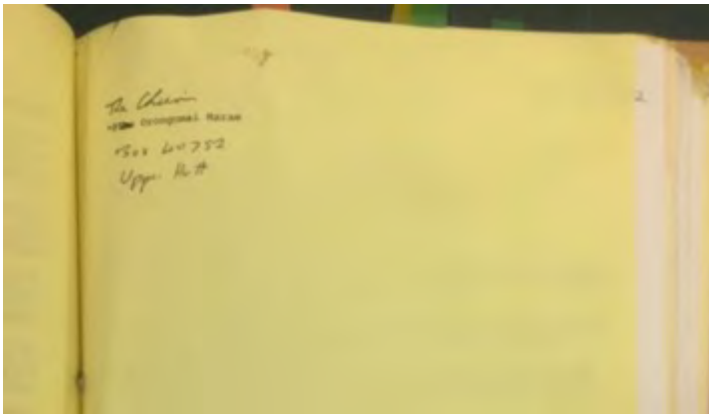


Fig. 7c - UHCC City Solicitor's letter (contd)



350/21/002

CITY OF UPPER HUTT

PROPOSED DISTRICT SCHEME (REVIEW NO.4)

SUMMARY OF REQUESTS FOR ALTERATIONS

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION of the City of Upper Hutt Proposed District Scheme (Review No.4), was given by advertisement in "The Leader" on 24 September 1991. The public notice called for objections or submissions to be lodged with the Council by 14 January 1992.

A NUMBER of submissions or objections were received. The Council is now required to publicly notify a summary of all requests for alterations to the Proposed District Scheme (Review No.4) contained in the submissions or objections received. That summary is set out below.

COPIES of all the submissions and objections received in respect of Proposed District Scheme (Review No.4), (as well as a copy of Proposed District Scheme Review No.4) may be inspected, without fee, at the following Council offices at any time when those offices are open to the public:

- (a) The Public Counter, Level 2, Civic Administration Building, 838-842 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.
- (b) The Upper Hutt City Council Library, Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.
- (c) The Silverstream Service Centre, Davison's Books, Cnr. Whitemans Road and Kilm Street, Silverstream.

PERSONS or Bodies affected by Proposed District Scheme (Review No.4) or any part thereof or who represent any relevant aspect of the public interest, may give notice to the Council of support or opposition to any of the submissions or objections received.

Notices of support or opposition must be in writing, in Form D (described in the First Schedule to the Town and Country Planning Regulations 1978), or to like effect and must be lodged with (i.e. received by) the Council by no later than 3.00pm on 3 April 1992.

NOTICES may be delivered at any of the offices where submission or objection are available for inspection or they can be posted. The Council's postal address is Private Bag, Upper Hutt.

COPIES of Form D can be obtained at any of the foregoing offices where the Proposed District Scheme (Review No.4) and copies of submissions and objections thereto, can be inspected.

REQUESTS FOR ALTERATIONS TO THE SCHEME STATEMENT (INCLUDING THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSES, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES)

1. A.V. & S.E. Westbury ask for the Scheme Statement to contain an accurate description of the land which makes up the Mangaroa Hills ridgetop reserve and a statement as to the classification of the reserve including definitions of the terms used.
2. The Wellington Area Health Board proposes that the Scheme Statement contain proposals regarding alternative landfill sites and disposal methods for use when Silverstream Tip can no longer be utilised.

Fig. 7d - UHCC City Solicitor's letter (contd)

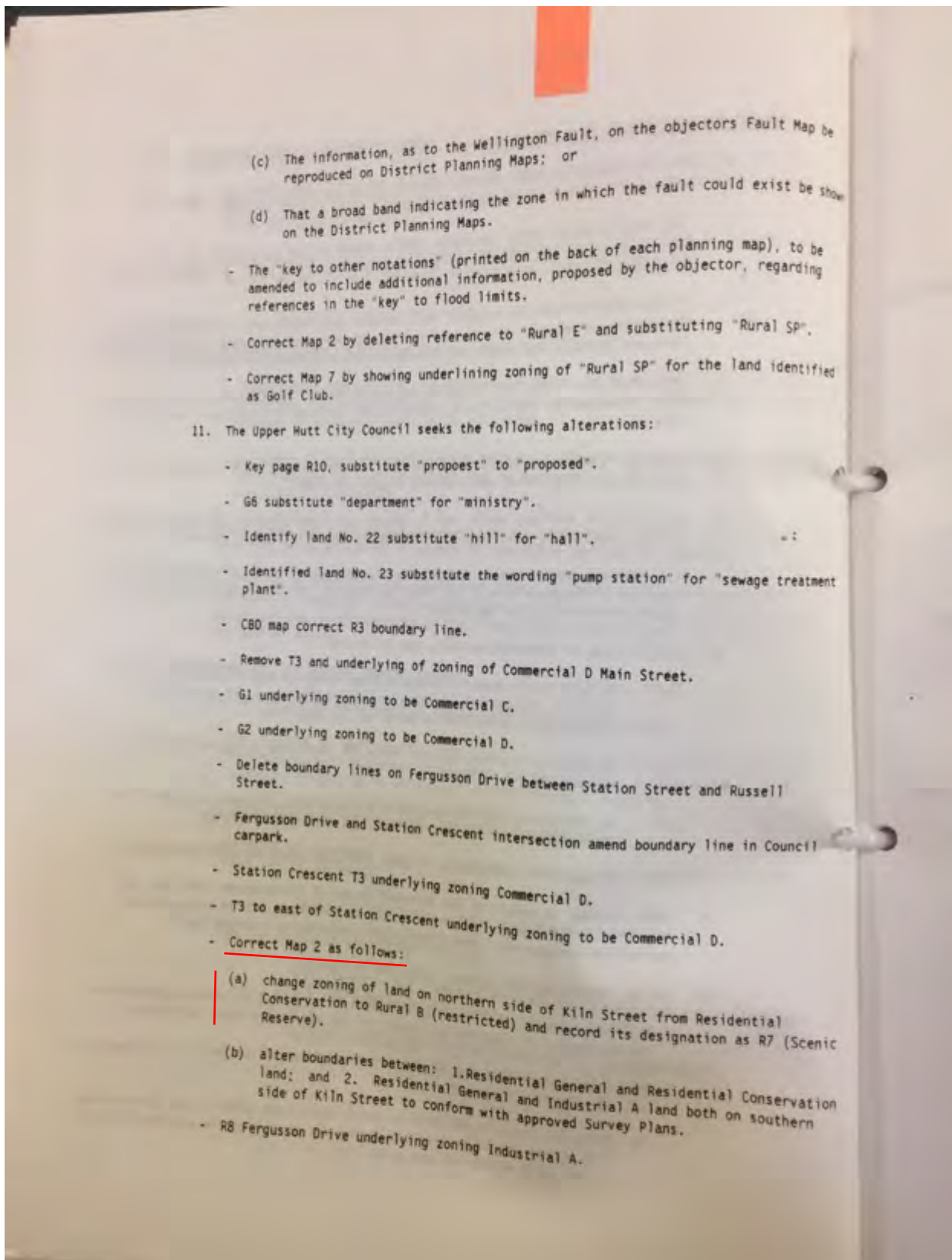


Fig. 7e - UHCC City Solicitor's letter (contd) – Note at bottom of page – error in zoning on Spur to be corrected and designated as "Scenic Reserve" – this was published in the Upper Hutt Leader on 10th March 1992 (see Fig. 8).

The City Solicitor's above letter was published in full in the Upper Hutt Leader on 10 March 1992, being the Council's summary of public objections and submissions on the District Scheme Review No.4. The statement about correcting the zoning of the Spur to "Scenic Reserve" is on p36 of this edition of the Leader (Fig. 8)

Fig. 8 – UHCC City Solicitor's public notification in the Leader, includes acknowledgement of the error in the R CON zoning on the Spur, to be corrected to "Scenic Reserve".

Although a number of late submissions on the District Scheme Review No. 4 were accepted by Council at its Ordinary Council Meeting on 26th February 1992, Mr Wyatt's late submission (dated 21 February 1992) was left out of the late submissions. However the zoning error on the Spur that Mr Wyatt had brought to the Council's attention was listed both in the City Solicitor's letter to the Department of Conservation (Figs. 7a – 7e) and in the Upper Hutt Leader (Fig. 8) in UHCC's submission on Scheme review No.4 among Map errors to be corrected.

Indications from documents obtained by SOH from Council to date are that the City Planner (who was Council's representative at the Hearing for Council's objections/submissions on Review No. 4) did not include the Map 2 correction from 'Residential Conservation' zoning to 'Scenic Reserve' designation in Council's presentation at the Hearing.

Council never followed through on its commitment to the public, the Minister for the Environment and the Department of Conservation to correct the zoning of the Spur to "Rural B Restricted" with a Designation as "Scenic Reserve". Instead the Council has left it all these years as "Residential Conservation", claiming now misleadingly that the zoning change on the Spur was an outcome of District Scheme Review No.4 that had followed due planning procedure which included public consultation (UHCC OIA Response 20 April 2021 to SOH OIA Request 01 March 2021).

SOH is awaiting an OIA response from Council to a request for the City Planner's Report to the Judicial Committee that presided over the Hearing for District Scheme Review No. 4 to verify whether or not the City Planner mentioned anything about the incorrect zoning of the Spur at the Hearing.

It is clear that the City Planner did not carry out his commitment to Mr Wyatt, the Mayor, the Chief Executive, the City Solicitor, the regional and local Councils, the Minister for the Environment, the Department of Conservation and the general public to correct the zoning error on the Spur. Consequently the incorrect Residential Conservation zoning on Silverstream Spur still exists today on Council's Urban Planning Maps 39 and 40 (Fig. 9), which Council re-formatted in October 2021 (Fig. 10).

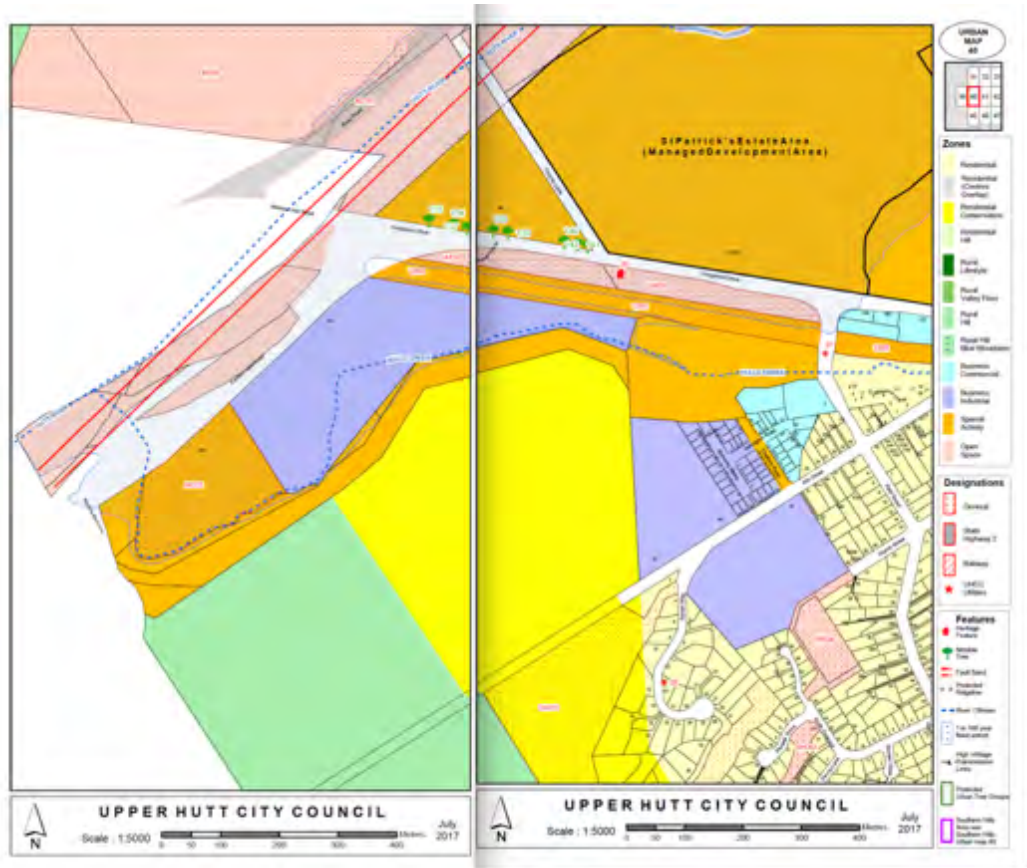


Fig. 9 - UHCC Planning Maps 39 & 40

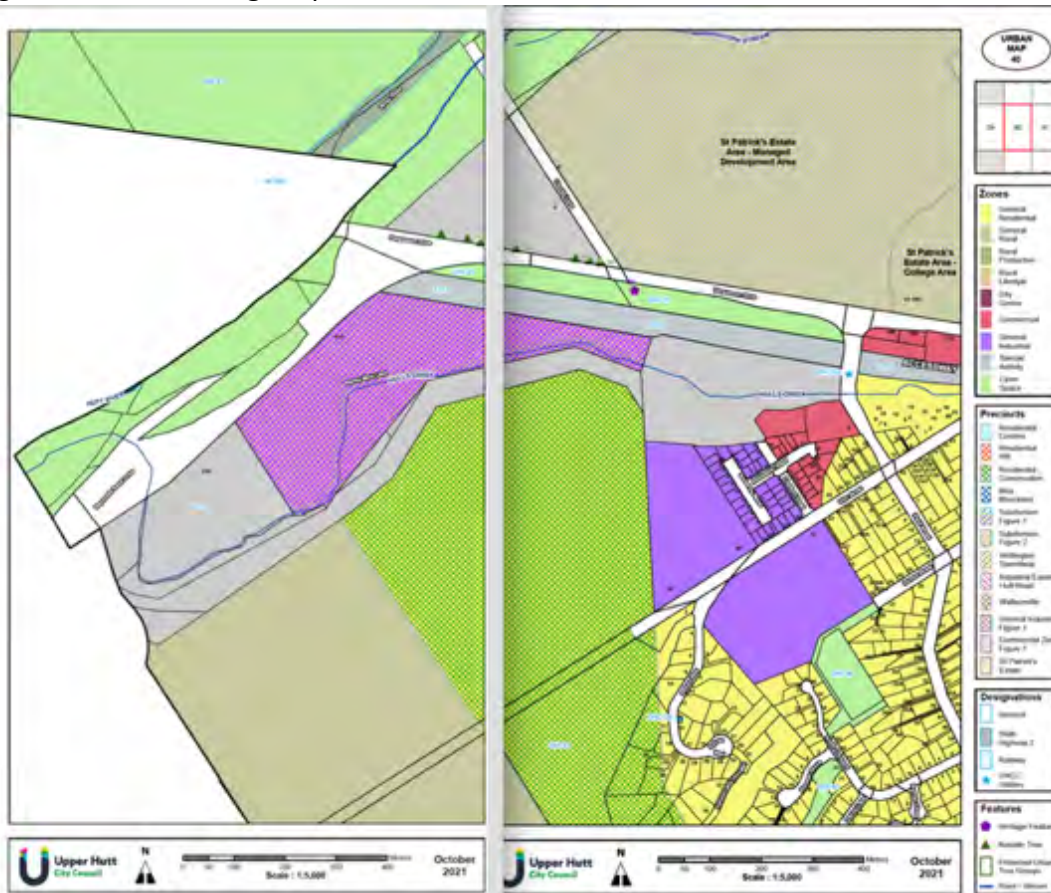


Fig. 10 - UHCC Planning Maps 39 & 40 (re-formatted October 2021)

The public was not consulted about the zone change of the Silverstream Spur to “Residential Conservation”. Council claims today that it did consult the public about changing the zoning of the Spur from reserve land to residential Conservation. However, Council has not been able to provide any documentation to show that the public was consulted. The reason Council cannot provide any documentation to show that it consulted the public about this change of zoning to Residential Conservation on Silverstream Spur is because Council never followed due planning processes to consult the public about it.

It is appropriate and indeed incumbent on Council to make good its promise back in 1992 to correct the error on its Urban Planning Maps 39 and 40 by including the Silverstream Spur in Plan Change 49 ‘Open Spaces’ and officially designating the Silverstream Spur under the Reserves Act 1977 as a “Scenic Reserve”. But regrettably Council left the Silverstream Spur out of Plan Change 49 (Fig. 11). The Spur has now been included in PC49 Variation 1.

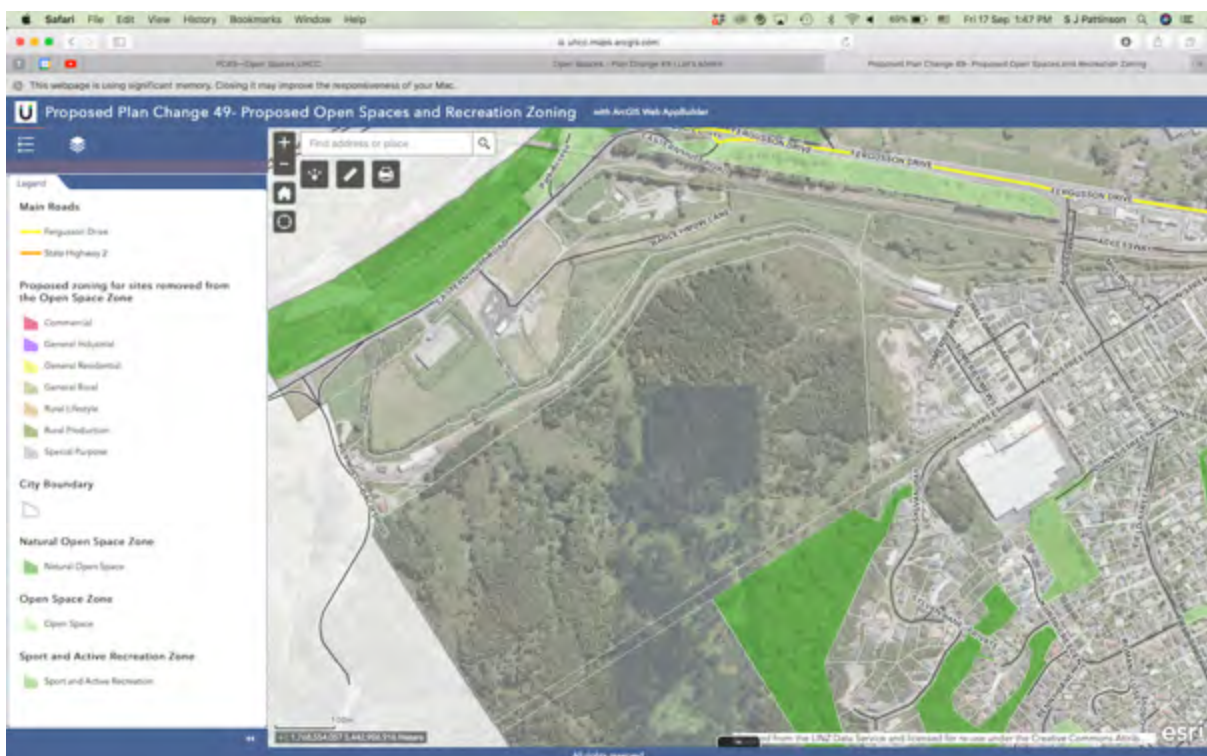


Fig. 11 - UHCC PC49 Planning Map – Silverstream Spur omitted from Open Space zones

As representatives of the public interest, we want the zoning of the entirety of the Spur (35.14ha) to be “Natural Open Space” with a Dsignation as “Scenic Reserve”, to preserve and protect the Spur as a public scenic reserve for present and future generations to enjoy (Fig. 12).

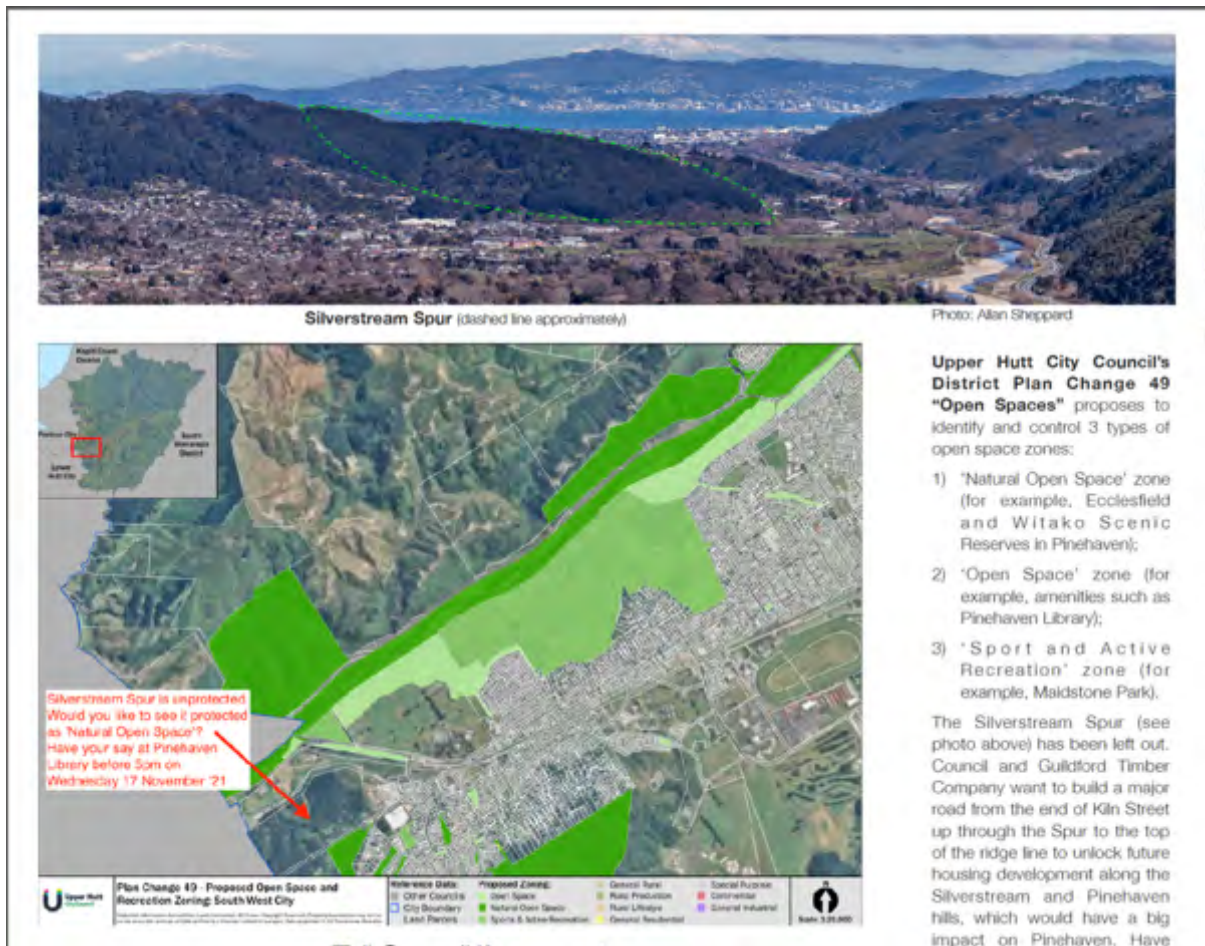


Fig. 12 - Photo of Silverstream Spur (by Allan Sheppard), and extract from PPA’s “Pinehaven News, November 2021.

Although Council left the Silverstream Spur out of Plan Change 49, the Spur has now been included in PC49 Variation 1 (Fig. 13).

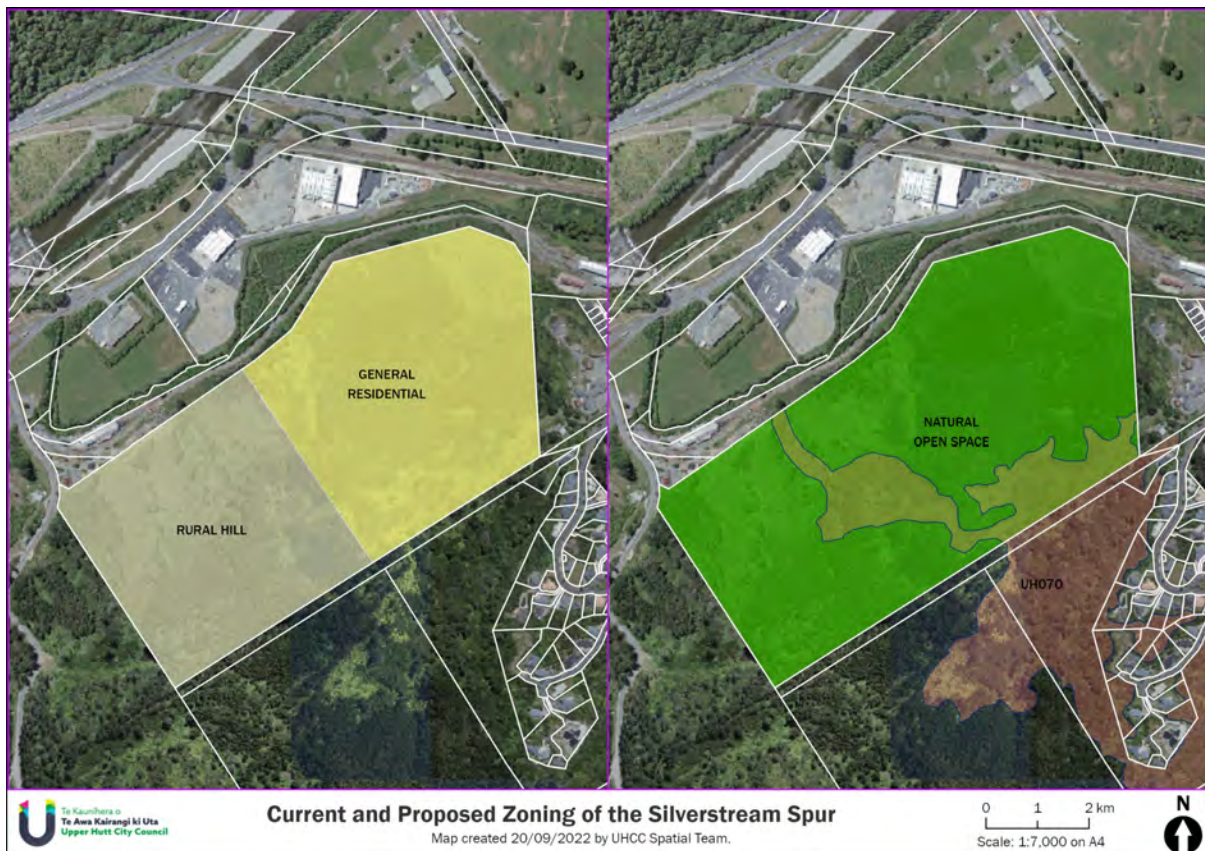


Fig. 13 – Proposed change of zoning of Silverstream Spur to Natural Open Space in UHCC’s PC49 Variation 1 – Silverstream Spur.

### Summary:

The Silverstream Spur has illegitimately been shown on Council planning maps for the last 30 years as ‘Residential Conservation’ zone. The Spur was originally a recognised part of Upper Hutt City’s greenbelt and was intended to be officially made a Reserve under the reserves Act 1977. The lapse of 30 years does not make the “Residential Conservation” zoning legitimate. It is appropriate for Council to take the opportunity now to rezone the entire Spur as “Natural Open Space”. SOH requests that further to this, Council also carry out now its original stated intention of making the entire 35.14ha of Silverstream Spur a Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 and provide walking and cycling access through the Spur for recreational and conservation purposes for the public.

Prepared by  
Save Our Hills (Upper Hutt) Incorporated and  
Pinehaven Progressive Association



## **Illustrations (Figures):**

1. Public Notification of UHCC District Scheme Review No.4 in Upper Hutt Leader 24 September 1991
2. UH Leader\_1991-9-24\_p27\_Public Notification of District Scheme Review
- 3a. UHCC Proposed Scheme Review No.4\_Map 2 - Silverstream Spur – RCON
- 3b. UHCC Proposed Scheme Review No.4\_Maps Legend
- 4a. 1992-2-21\_Mr Wyatt fax to UHCC 21 Feb 1992
- 4b. 1992-2-21\_Mr Wyatt re Map 2
5. UHCC City Planner letter to Mr W. S. Wyatt 25 Feb 1992
- 6a. 1992-2-26\_UHCC City Planner to Mayor, CE and City Solicitor 26 Feb 1992
- 6b. 1992-2-26\_UHCC ditto - part Map 2
- 7a. Cover letter UHCC City Solicitor 3-3-1992
- 7b. Cover letter UHCC City Solicitor 3-3-1992 contd
- 7c. Cover letter UHCC City Solicitor 3-3-1992 contd
- 7d. Letter UHCC City Solicitor 3-3-1992\_beginning of 29-page Summary
- 7e. Letter UHCC City Solicitor 3-3-1992\_26th page of Summary\_Change zoning of land on northern side of Kiln Street
8. UHCC District Scheme Review No. 4 - Summary of Submissions published in UH Leader 10-3-1992
9. UHCC Urban Maps 39 & 40
10. UHCC Urban Maps 39 & 40\_Oct 2021\_Silverstream Spur
11. UHCC PC49 map\_Silverstream Spur omitted from Open Space zones
12. Photo of Silverstream Spur by Allan Sheppard, and extract from PPA's "Pinehaven News, November 2021.
- 13 – Proposed change of zoning of Silverstream Spur to Natural Open Space in UHCC's PC49 Variation 1 – Silverstream Spur.

Save our Hills (Upper Hutt) Inc.  
To: UHCC Policy Committee  
Wednesday 20 June 2018

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Further to SOH submission 17/4/18 on UHCC LTP, and  
SOH Hearing Statement 22/5/18 on UHCC LTP, and  
SOH email & attachments 06/6/18 to UHCC ...

## National Environmental Standard – Plantation Forestry NES-PF

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- UHCC District Plan has no provisions for controlling harvesting of pines on Rural Hill (Guildford Timber Company) land on hills above urban areas
- GWRC Pinehaven Floodplain Management has no provisions for controlling harvesting of pines on Rural Hill (Guildford Timber Company) land on hills above urban areas, even though Pinehaven residents requested it
- It appears now under the recently enacted NES-PF, pruning thinning and harvesting are Permitted Activities, ESC appears to be 'Low', so are there any triggers for more stringent rules controlling forestry activities on GTC land ?

# Pinehaven is a unique environment warranting special rules for forestry activities

---

- “Report on Storm of 20 December 1976” by R G Bishop for Wellington Regional Water Board comments that it would be desirable to have
- *“a special set of guidelines for forestry operations within the Pinehaven Catchment.”*

Why a  
special set  
of forestry  
activity rules  
for  
Pinehaven?



# Why a special set of forestry activity rules for Pinehaven?

---

- *“afforested area on very steep hills”*
- *“above an urban area”* [i.e. Pinehaven]
- *“high intensity rainfall”*
- *“storm caused extensive slipping ... soil erosion and debris”*
- *“flooding was worsened by blockages caused by slashings”*
- *“deforestation is also likely to have increased runoff and sediment loads, which would have contributed to the flooding”*

## This combination of factors could be a future problem in Pinehaven

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- Has UHCC considered this potential problem in the LTP?
- How would UHCC prevent this problem from re-occurring in Pinehaven?

# UHCC LTP – Pinehaven forestry activity

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- First, UHCC needs to properly understand the problem
- SOH suggests UHCC join MBIE's \$2M Endeavour Research Programme slope stability study in the Wellington region, investigating combined impacts of land modification (cuts & fills), rainfall and earthquake hazard factors
  - Wellington City Council is participating in this study
  - Hutt City Council is participating in this study
- Upper Hutt City could join, with special focus on Pinehaven forestry situation ?



# UHCC LTP – Pinehaven forestry activity

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## OBJECTIVES:

- Understand Pinehaven unique situation
- Develop special rules for forestry activity appropriate to Pinehaven's unique situation
- Ensure an appropriate Pinehaven forestry management and monitoring regime is in place BEFORE any proposed GTC Land Swap occurs

# What is the cost of failure? Who pays?

- Tolaga Bay cleanup could cost \$10m but who should pay? | [Stuff.co.nz](http://Stuff.co.nz)



# What is the cost of failure? Who pays?

- Tauranga councillors have voted in principle to buy the 21 Bella Vista Homes which were part of the failed subdivision at The Lakes.



Bella Vista homes in The Lakes subdivision. Photo/file

Bay of Plenty Times

# What is the cost of failure? Who pays?

- Water runoff near \$125m lifestyle village development affecting Nelson properties



MARION VAN DIJK/STUFF

Earthworks for the Coastal View Retirement Village began in 2016, but were halted when run-off made its way into the Maire Stream. It resumed when works became compliant.

## SOH requests UHCC undertake special study and provide special forestry activity rules specific to Pinehaven situation

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- How much did clean up of landslide at 123 Blue Mountains Road cost Council/ratepayers?
  - How does Council propose to prevent such events in the future?
  - How does Council propose to protect safety of residents and their properties in urban areas directly downhill from Pinehaven forestry?