ASW — Activities on the Surface of Water

The purpose of this chapter is to provide for activities on the surface of water while managing the effects of these activities on the surrounding environment.

There are several rivers and streams in Lower Hutt, including Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River, Waiwhetū Stream, Wainuiomata River, Orongorongo River and Korokoro Stream and two highly valued lakes - Lake Kohangapiripiri and Lake Kohangatera.

Activities on the surface of water include swimming, boating, fishing (including customary fishing from mahinga kai), and some activities associated with river management.

These activities provide recreation opportunities the people of Lower Hutt and can contribute to the community's health and wellbeing.

While most activities on the surface of water have minimal effect, more disruptive activities can affect other waterbody users, natural character, public access, and amenity values.

Activities on the surface of water do not include activities in the bed of the waterbody or activities on the surface of water within the coastal marine area. These activities are managed by the Wellington Regional Council.

Objectives

ASW-O1	Activities on the surface of water
The surface of water bodies can be used for a range of activities while the effects of those activities on natural character, amenity values and ecological values of water bodies and the surrounding area are effectively managed.	

Policies

ASW-P1	Low impact activities
Enable activities on the surface of water that have a low impact, including fishing, rafting, and swimming.	
ASW-P2	**Motorised activities**
Provide for motorised activities on the surface of water bodies where recreation values, amenity values, natural character values, and ecological values of water bodies are protected.	
ASW-P3	**Benefits of river management activities**
Recognise the benefits of activities in rivers and lakes that manage natural hazard risks and the health of the water body.	

Rules

Note:
Resource consent may be required under rules in this chapter as well as other chapters. Unless specifically stated, resource consent is required under each relevant rule. The steps to determine the relevant rules and activity status for an activity are set out in the General Approach chapter.

The rules of this chapter do not apply to:

- Activities on the surface of water within the coastal marine area, and
- Activities in the beds of a waterbody (such as disturbance of a river/lakebed or installation of a structure in a river/lakebed).

These activities are regulated by the rules of Wellington Regional Council's Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.

ASW-R1	Non-motorised activities on the surface of water
All Zones	1. **Activity status:** Permitted
ASW-R2	**Motorised activities on the surface of water bodies**

All Zones	1. **Activity status:** Permitted Where: a. On the Hutt River, the activity takes place downstream of the Ava Bridge, or b. The activity is associated with waterbody management activities undertaken by Hutt City Council or Wellington Regional Council.
All Zones	2. **Activity status:** Restricted discretionary Where: a. Compliance is not achieved with ASW-R2.1. **Matters of discretion are restricted to:** 1. Impacts on the safety of other users of the waterbody. 2. Impacts on recreation values of the waterbody the surrounding area. 3. Impacts on amenity values of the waterbody and the surrounding area. 4. Impacts on the natural character of the waterbody and the surrounding area. 5. Impacts on the ecological values of the waterbody and the surrounding area.