

# Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori

## Overview

Under the RMA, it is a matter of national importance to recognise and provide for the relationship Māori and their culture and traditions have with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taonga. A key method for achieving this outcome is through the identification of sites that are of significance to mana whenua. These scheduled sites provide a tangible connection to ancestors, whenua (land) and significant historical events. This plan uses a tiered system to protect the cultural heritage values of identified sites.

Sites and areas of significance to Māori listed in [SCHED3](#) and the wāhi tapu sites listed in [SCHED4](#) are referred to in this chapter as ‘scheduled sites’. The provisions of this plan treat these scheduled sites in exactly the same manner. They are only differentiated in the schedules because of the difference in the way they have been identified.



Cultural Alert Layer sites listed in [SCHED5](#) are treated differently to the scheduled sites. They do not directly trigger the requirement for a resource consent. This is explained in more detail in the text below.

### Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori

Sites and areas of significance to Māori are places and features that are of historical, cultural and/or spiritual significance to Māori. These scheduled sites and areas carry deep levels of meaning and association for mana whenua. In developing this plan, Waitomo District Council has engaged with mana whenua who have identified significant sites and their boundaries. The list of sites is contained in [SCHED3](#) – Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori. Sites in [SCHED3](#) have been grouped into 12 categories: takotoranga, pakanga, mahinga kai, taunga waka, kaitiaki, mahinga tawhito, nohoanga, ana, parahanga, pouwhenua, wai, and wāhi tupuna. An explanation of the categories is contained in the schedule. Additional information about these scheduled sites is held by mana whenua and can be made available through consultation. The list of sites in the schedule is not exclusive. It is anticipated more sites will be added to the plan over time.

In order to have increased certainty, people undertaking developments and activities on sites and areas of significance to Māori are encouraged to consult with mana whenua early in the development process. The Maniapoto Environmental Management Plan and the Waikato Tainui Environmental Management Plan provide a step by step process on how to engage with mana whenua, and applicants are encouraged to follow this process. Identification of the sites and areas of significance to Māori enables developers and landowners to plan and undertake development activities in a way that minimises or avoids disturbance to these places or features. As the identification of sites is ongoing, developers

and landowners are encouraged to engage early with mana whenua to see whether there are further sites of significance that may need consideration.

For some scheduled sites, the values maybe intangible and associated with the history and narratives of mana whenua. On other sites the original visible features may have been lost or damaged through exposure to weather, earthworks or coverage of a site by buildings or impermeable surfaces. In this case, subsurface features may still remain and management of the location and volume of earthworks is important. Where a scheduled site's features have been destroyed or damaged, recognition of the site's existence may still be desirable through careful location of new buildings, signs, planting or through other appropriate methods. Even where such sites no longer exist physically, their memory and association remain important.

Mana whenua are the kaitiaki or spiritual guardian of these sites and areas which are located on both Māori land and on general title land. In some cases, these scheduled sites are land-locked and require landowner permission to access. Reconnection to these sites is encouraged through incentive provisions to provide permanent access in the subdivision chapter.

This chapter contains provisions that seek to protect the sites and areas of significance to Māori and to manage inappropriate activities. This plan provides for some activities such as grazing of livestock and maintenance of fence lines and existing farm tracks where there will be only minor effects. This plan also provides flexibility for mana whenua, where a Concept Management Plan has been approved by the Māori Land Court, and where there are existing buildings located within the scheduled site. Outside of these opportunities, the provisions of this chapter only consider built development to be appropriate in exceptional circumstances and where the site's values, in collaboration with mana whenua, are permanently protected.

### **Wāhi tapu Sites**

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) have identified seven sites within Waitomo district that are listed as wāhi tapu sites under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. Some of these scheduled sites are also an archaeological site. This plan lists these seven sites in [SCHED4](#) – Wāhi tapu Sites, and treats these sites in exactly the same manner as the sites and areas of significance to Māori listed in [SCHED3](#).

### **Cultural Alert Layer**

Sites and areas of significance to Māori - Cultural Alert Layer [SCHED5](#) identifies sites which are of particular importance to mana whenua. Some sites are the location of battles, some are places of long term occupation, some are associated with important tribal histories and narratives and some are urupa. These sites may contain tangible or intangible features. Many of the sites include productive farm land, residential properties or are on reserves. On these sites, mana whenua have signalled the need to balance the protection of lawfully established activities with the requirement to avoid inappropriate development.

In order to achieve this balance, sites subject to the cultural alert layer do not directly trigger the requirement for a resource consent. However, if resource consent is required for another matter within this alert layer, an assessment of the impact of the activity on the cultural heritage values of the site is required. An example might be a resident wishing to build a building which triggers the need for a resource consent or a rural landowner deciding to excavate a new farm quarry. As part of this resource consent application, a cultural impact assessment on the values of the site is required. Over the lifetime of this plan, Waitomo District Council plans to undertake cultural impact assessments for some sites. These assessments may be used by applicants. Objective SASM-O3, policy SASM-P12 and rule SASM-R24 are the only provisions in this chapter that apply to sites in the cultural alert layer.

## Archaeology

An archaeological site is any place (including buildings, structures or shipwrecks) that was associated with pre-1900 human activity, where there is evidence relating to the history of New Zealand that can be investigated using archaeological methods. Archaeological sites are managed by HNZPT under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. There are large numbers of archaeological sites recorded in the district. The Waitomo District Council website provides a map showing archaeological sites in the district which have been identified by the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) Site Recording Scheme.

Under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, it is unlawful to destroy, damage or modify an archaeological site without obtaining an archaeological authority from HNZPT before work is started.

If a previously unknown archaeological site is discovered (for example, when you are conducting earthworks) work must stop. The process to be followed is outlined in the advice notes to this chapter.

## Objectives

*Refer also to the relevant objectives in Part 2 District - Wide Matters and Part 3 - Area Specific Matters*

- SASM-O1.** Sites and areas of significance to Māori and wāhi tapu sites are recognised, scheduled and protected from inappropriate activities.
- SASM-O2.** Recognise and provide for the ongoing relationship mana whenua have with sites and areas of significance to Māori and wāhi tapu sites.
- SASM-O3.** Ensure the relationship of mana whenua with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga is protected and provided for within sites and areas of significance to Māori, wāhi tapu sites and sites identified as part of the cultural alert layer.
- SASM-O4.** Continue to consult and collaborate with mana whenua to identify and schedule new sites and areas of significance to Māori.

## Policies

*Refer also to the relevant policies in Part 2 District - Wide Matters and Part 3 - Area Specific Matters*

- SASM-P1.** Continue to work with mana whenua to map and schedule additional sites and areas of significance to Māori.
- SASM-P2.** Within strict limits, enable identified activities including maintenance and restoration of scheduled sites, animal grazing, cultivation, and minor land disturbance for specified activities.
- SASM-P3.** Signs are only anticipated where they are official, interpretive or temporary signs and the design of the sign does not compromise the values associated with the site and/or its scheduled feature.
- SASM-P4.** Recognise that where existing residential activities are located within a scheduled site, that limited development is possible, but only where the site's cultural heritage values are not compromised.
- SASM-P5.** Provide flexibility when considering the development of land returned under Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements and multiple owned Māori land located within a scheduled site by:

*Proposed Waitomo District Plan*

*Part 2 – District-Wide Matters – Historical and Cultural Values – Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori*

1. Evaluating the extent to which the development enables and actively sustains the relationship of mana whenua with their ancestral lands and the exercise of kaitiakitanga; and
2. Evaluating the extent to which the development enables mana whenua to manage their own lands and resources for the benefit of mana whenua; and
3. Evaluating the extent to which the development achieves positive economic, social and cultural benefits for mana whenua now and into the future.

**SASM-P6.** Enable mana whenua to sustainably develop and use sites and areas of significance to Māori and wāhi tapu sites in accordance with their cultural preferences and aspirations by allowing marae complex and papakāinga housing developments.

**SASM-P7.** Earthworks must be managed to avoid adverse effects on the values of scheduled sites.

**SASM-P8.** Except as provided for in SASM-P6, where there are no existing buildings located within a scheduled site, only allow built development where it can be demonstrated the site's values are permanently protected, having regard to:

1. Outcomes articulated through consultation with mana whenua through an assessment of environmental effects, cultural impact assessment, or iwi planning documents; and
2. How protection of the scheduled site's values including provision for tikanga Māori, kaitiakitanga, and mātauranga Māori have been provided for; and
3. Any practical mechanisms proposed to maintain or enhance the ability of mana whenua to access and use the site for karakia, monitoring, Māori cultural and customary uses and ahi kā roa; and
4. Whether there are alternative methods, locations, or designs that would avoid or reduce the effects on the values of the scheduled site; and
5. Whether there is the potential to enhance the values of the scheduled site and the relationship mana whenua have with the site, commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposal.

**SASM-P9.** Waitomo District Council will work with landowners to manage, maintain and preserve scheduled sites by:

1. Increasing community awareness, understanding and appreciation of the presence of, and importance of, scheduled sites; and
2. Encouraging landowners to engage with mana whenua and/or marae and develop positive working relationships in respect of the ongoing management and protection of scheduled sites; and
3. In consultation and collaboration with mana whenua, promoting the use of mātauranga Māori, tikanga Māori and kaitiakitanga to manage, maintain and preserve scheduled sites; and
4. Where possible, providing assistance to landowners to preserve, maintain and enhance scheduled sites.

**SASM-P10.** Promote the provision or development of access for mana whenua to scheduled sites, through mechanisms such as:

1. Formal arrangements, including co-management, joint management or relationship agreements, easements and land covenants, or private access agreements; and

2. The use of benefit lots to encourage the provision of access to landlocked land parcels; and
3. Informal arrangements or understandings between landowners and mana whenua and/or marae.

**SASM-P11.** Investigate opportunities for Māori and by Māori, which facilitate improved management of scheduled sites, including the transfer of powers to mana whenua to manage cultural heritage resources.

**SASM-P12.** In the event a resource consent is triggered within the cultural alert layer, ensure that any proposed activity is appropriately assessed, and any resulting development is managed in a way that retains and protects the cultural heritage values of the site.

## Rules

The rules that apply to sites and areas of significance to Māori listed in [SCHED3](#), [SCHED4](#) and [SCHED5](#) are contained in the tables listed below. To undertake any activity, it must comply with all the rules listed in:

- SASM - Table 1 - Activities Rules; and
- SASM - Table 2 - Performance Standards; and
- SASM - Table 3 - Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori - Cultural Alert Layer
- Any relevant provision in Part 2 District-Wide Matters; and
- Any relevant provision in Part 3 Area Specific Matters.

Where an activity breaches more than one rule, the most restrictive status shall apply to the activity.

Refer to [Part 1 - How the Plan Works](#) for an explanation of how to use this plan, including activity status abbreviations.

**Pursuant to Section 86B(3) of the RMA, the following rules that protect historic heritage have immediate legal effect: SASM-R1 to SASM-R24.**

### SASM - Table 1 - Activities Rules

### Activities on Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori

The rules in this table apply to the mapped extent of land identified as Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori in <a href="#">SCHED3</a> and Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori - wāhi tapu sites in <a href="#">SCHED4</a> in all zones	
SASM-R1.	Earthworks associated with burials
SASM-R2.	Maintenance of sites
SASM-R3.	Internal alterations to existing buildings
Activity Status: PER	
Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A	

SASM-R4.	External additions to existing buildings
<p><b>Activity Status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From 20 October 2022 any addition or extension to any building must not exceed 40 m<sup>2</sup>, at any one time or in total cumulatively per scheduled site; and</li> <li>For residential activities only, from 20 October 2022 the maximum area of any new deck must be no more than 20 m<sup>2</sup> and there must be no more than one new deck constructed per scheduled site from this date.</li> </ol> <p><i>Note: Where the building is listed in <a href="#">SCHED1 - Heritage Buildings and Structures</a>, also see the <a href="#">historic heritage chapter</a>.</i></p>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: RDIS</b></p> <p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effects on the values of the scheduled site; and</li> <li>Whether there are alternative methods, locations, or designs that would avoid or reduce the effects on the scheduled site and its values; and</li> <li>The cumulative effect of the number of buildings being located on the site; and</li> <li>Outcomes from consultation with mana whenua regarding protection of the scheduled site's values including provision for tikanga Māori, kaitiakitanga, and mātauranga Māori; and</li> <li>Any practical mechanisms proposed to maintain or enhance the ability of mana whenua to access and use the site for karakia, monitoring, Māori cultural and customary uses and ahi kā roa; and</li> <li>Whether there is the potential to enhance the values of the scheduled site and the relationship mana whenua have with the site, commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposal.</li> </ol>
SASM-R5.	Accessory buildings including shipping containers where foundations are required
<p><b>Activity Status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From 20 October 2022 the maximum gross floor area of any new accessory building (including pergola) must not exceed 20 m<sup>2</sup> and there must be no more than one new accessory building per scheduled site from this date.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: RDIS</b></p> <p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effects on the values of the scheduled site; and</li> <li>Whether there are alternative methods, locations, or designs that would avoid or reduce the effects on the scheduled site and its values; and</li> <li>The cumulative effect of a number of buildings being located on the site; and</li> <li>Outcomes from consultation with mana whenua regarding protection of the scheduled site's values including provision for tikanga</li> </ol>

		<p>Māori, kaitiakitanga, and mātauranga Māori; and</p> <p>(e) Any practical mechanisms proposed to maintain or enhance the ability of mana whenua to access and use the site for karakia, monitoring, Māori cultural and customary uses and ahi kā roa; and</p> <p>(f) Whether there is the potential to enhance the values of the scheduled site and the relationship mana whenua have with the site, commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposal.</p>
<b>SASM-R6.</b>	<b>Demolition and/or removal of structures</b>	
<p><b>Activity status: PER</b></p> <p><i>Note: Where the building is listed in <a href="#">SCHED1 - Heritage Buildings and Structures</a>, also see the <a href="#">historic heritage chapter</a>.</i></p>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A</b></p>	
<b>SASM-R7.</b>	<b>Minor earthworks</b>	
<p><b>Activity Status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The earthworks are associated with the permitted activities in SASM-R4 and R5 and no more than 5 m<sup>3</sup> of soil is disturbed; and/or</li> <li>2. The earthworks are for demolition or removal of a building and no more than 5 m<sup>3</sup> of soil is disturbed; and/or</li> <li>3. The earthworks are for maintaining or upgrading existing fences on the same alignment; and/or</li> <li>4. The earthworks are for maintenance of existing driveways and existing farm tracks on the same alignment; and/or</li> <li>5. The activity is grazing of livestock; and/or</li> <li>6. The activity is cultivation; and/or</li> <li>7. The activity is domestic gardening including the planting of ornamental trees and vegetable gardens in association with a residential activity; and/or</li> <li>8. The earthworks are for conservation riparian planting within 15 m of any water body; and/or</li> <li>9. The earthworks are for stock exclusion fencing within 15 m of any water body; and/or</li> <li>10. The earthworks are for wetland restoration where no more than 5 m<sup>3</sup> of soil is disturbed.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: RDIS</b> see SASM-R8</p>	

SASM-R8.	Earthworks for any other purpose
SASM-R9.	Repositioning a building within a scheduled site

**Activity Status: RDIS**

**Matters over which discretion is restricted:**

- (a) Effects on the values of the scheduled site; and
- (b) Outcomes from consultation with mana whenua regarding protection of the scheduled site's values including provision for tikanga Māori, kaitiakitanga, and mātauranga Māori; and
- (c) The location of earthworks and whether there are any alternative locations that would reduce the level of effect; and
- (d) The area, depth and volume of earthworks; and
- (e) Any practical mechanisms to maintain or enhance the ability of mana whenua to access and use the site for karakia, monitoring, customary uses and ahi kā roa; and
- (f) Whether there is the potential to enhance the values of the scheduled site and the relationship mana whenua have with the site, commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposal.

**Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A**

SASM-R10.	Marae complex or papakāinga housing development
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**Activity Status: PER**

1. The activity must comply with the provisions of the underlying zone.

*Note: Activities may also require an authority from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT).*

**Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A** See the provisions in the underlying zone

SASM-R11.	Destruction or demolition of a feature or item on a scheduled site
SASM-R12.	Any other new or relocated building located on a scheduled site
SASM-R13.	Plantation forestry

**Activity Status: NC**

*Note: This rule prevails over the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Regulations 2017.*

**Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A**

## Signs on Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori

The rules in this table apply to the mapped extent of land identified as Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori in <a href="#">SCHED3</a> and Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori - wāhi tapu sites in <a href="#">SCHED4</a> in all zones	
<b>SASM-R14.</b>	<b>Official Signs</b>
<p><b>Activity status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The sign is required by the New Zealand Transport Agency, KiwiRail, Waitomo District Council or is required to meet legislative requirements such as health and safety legislation.</li> </ol> <p><i>Note: This rule is not subject to any other rule in this plan.</i></p>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A</b></p>
<b>SASM-R15.</b>	<b>Interpretive signs</b>
<p><b>Activity Status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All the performance standards in SASM - Table 2 are complied with.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: RDIS</b></p> <p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The matters of discretion associated with any performance standard which cannot be complied with in SASM -Table 2.</li> </ol>
<b>SASM-R16.</b>	<b>Temporary signs</b>
<p><b>Activity status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All the performance standards in SASM - Table 2 are complied with; and</li> <li>For temporary events and commercial filming, no signs must be erected earlier than six weeks before the activity and signs must be removed within 3 days of the end of the activity; and</li> <li>For construction sites, no signs including any fence wrap, must be erected earlier than 6 months before commencement of the construction works and must be removed within 7 days of completion of the construction project; and</li> <li>For property for sale or lease, there is no limit on the duration of the sign provided that once the property is sold or let, the sign must be removed within 7 days; and</li> </ol>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance with is not achieved: RDIS</b></p> <p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The matters of discretion associated with any performance standard which cannot be complied with in SASM -Table 2; and</li> <li>The extent to which the sign and any supporting structures detract from the heritage, cultural or archaeological values of the site or feature; and</li> <li>The extent to which the quality of the sign, its content and the design and graphics used complements the heritage, cultural or archaeological values of the site or feature; and</li> <li>The proposed duration the sign is displayed; and</li> </ol>

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<p>5. For electioneering, no sign must be erected earlier than 9 weeks before the election to which it relates and must be removed within 1 day of the election day, unless otherwise required by statute.</p>	<p>(e) Potential positive or adverse effects on the amenity values and character of the surrounding area including effects on visual amenity values; and</p> <p>(f) Whether the sign is in keeping with the built and natural features in the area; and</p> <p>(g) Potential positive or adverse effects on road user and pedestrian safety; and</p> <p>(h) Whether the sign would combine with existing signs on the site or in the surrounding area, to create visual clutter.</p>
<p><b>SASM-R17. Footpath signs including sandwich boards and teardrop flags</b></p>	
<p><b>Activity Status: PER</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All the performance standards in SASM - Table 2 are complied with; and</li> <li>2. The sign must be placed on the footpath/berm immediately outside and in front of the premises to which it relates; and</li> <li>3. Where the sign is not located immediately outside and in front of the premises to which it relates, the activity becomes a discretionary activity. See SASM-R18; and</li> <li>4. A consistent 2 m wide clear space must be maintained for pedestrians on the footpath; and</li> <li>5. The sign must be removed from the footpath or berm at the completion of the day's trading and not returned until the start of the next day's trading; and</li> <li>6. The sign must not be displayed on or attached to any power or lighting pole, bollard, rubbish bin, plant box, pylon, public sign or other similar structure in a public place, provided that this rule does not apply to signs erected by Waitomo District Council; and</li> <li>7. The sign must not be placed on any official sign or traffic control devices or their supporting poles, posts or structures; and</li> <li>8. The sign must not be displayed on any median strip, kerb projection, roundabout, or any other traffic separation structure on any road.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Activity status where compliance with is not achieved: RDIS</b></p> <p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The matters of discretion associated with any performance standard which cannot be complied with in SASM -Table 2; and</li> <li>(b) The extent to which the sign detracts from the heritage, cultural or archaeological values of the site or feature; and</li> <li>(c) The extent to which the quality of the sign, its content and the design and graphics used complements the heritage, cultural or archaeological values of the site or feature; and</li> <li>(d) Potential positive or adverse effects on the amenity values and character of the surrounding area; and</li> <li>(e) Whether the design, dimensions, nature, and colour of the sign would impact traffic safety or the integrity of the structure it was attached to; and</li> <li>(f) Whether there are any special circumstances or functional needs relating to the activity, site or surroundings, which affect sign requirements; and</li> <li>(g) Potential positive or adverse effects on road user and pedestrian safety; and</li> <li>(h) Whether the sign would combine with existing signs on the site or in the surrounding area, to create visual clutter.</li> </ol>

SASM-R18.	Signs (other than temporary signs) that are not located on the same site as the activity they advertise or signs that do not relate to the activity carried out on the site
SASM-R19.	Signs, not otherwise listed in SASM - Table 1
Activity Status: DIS	Activity status where compliance with is not achieved: N/A

SASM - Table 2 - Performance Standards

The rules in this table apply to the mapped extent of land identified as Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori in <a href="#">SCHED3</a> and Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori - wāhi tapu sites in <a href="#">SCHED4</a> in all zones	
SASM-R20.	Standards for all signs
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signs must not be located in or project over the railway corridor; and</li> <li>2. Signs must not be located in or project over a road, indicative road, vehicle access point, accessway, service lane or driveway; and</li> <li>3. Signs must not obstruct the line of sight of any corner, bend, intersection, vehicle or rail crossing; and</li> <li>4. Signs must not be placed within 20 m of a road intersection; and</li> <li>5. Signs must not obstruct, obscure or impair the view of any traffic or railway sign or signal; and</li> <li>6. Signs must not have flashing or revolving lights or lasers and must not be shaped or use images or colours that could be mistaken for a traffic control device in colour, shape or appearance; and</li> <li>7. Signs must not be illuminated or digital.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The extent to which the sign detracts from the heritage, cultural or archaeological values of the site or feature; and</li> <li>(b) The extent to which the quality of the sign, its content and the design and graphics used complements the heritage, cultural or archaeological values of the site or feature; and</li> <li>(c) The extent to which the sign may be an obstruction to sight distances, traffic or railway signs or signals, or unnecessarily intrude into a driver's field of vision or cause a distraction that affects safety for road users; and</li> <li>(d) The extent to which the sign may physically obstruct vehicles, trains or pedestrians; and</li> <li>(e) Proximity to other signs and intersections and potential adverse effects on the safety of road users including pedestrians; and</li> <li>(f) The hours the sign will be illuminated; and</li> <li>(g) The type of illumination used, the frequency and intensity of intermittent or flashing light sources, and the proposed periods of illumination and frequency of image changes.</li> </ol>
SASM-R21.	Interpretive signs
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One interpretive sign is permitted per site, except where the site has more than one road</li> </ol>	<p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The extent to which the quality of the sign, its content and the design and graphics used</li> </ol>

<p>entrance, in which case, signs are limited to a maximum of one per road entrance; and</p> <p>2. The maximum sign face area must be no more than 1 m<sup>2</sup> visible in any one direction, except in the residential, settlement, future urban and rural lifestyle zones and amenity precinct (PREC6) where the maximum sign face area must be no more than 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> visible in any one direction; and</p> <p>3. The maximum height of any interpretive sign must not exceed 2 m as measured from ground level; and</p> <p>4. Interpretive signs are not subject to the setback and height to boundary requirements in underlying zones.</p>	<p>would complement the scheduled site or feature; and</p> <p>(b) The extent to which the sign, supporting structures and the means of affixing the sign detracts from the values of the scheduled site or feature; and</p> <p>(c) The benefits obtained from the placement of the sign including increased understanding of the significance of the scheduled site or feature;</p> <p>(d) Potential positive or adverse effects on the amenity values and character of the surrounding area; and</p> <p>(e) Potential positive or adverse effects on road user and pedestrian safety; and</p> <p>(f) Whether the sign(s) would combine with existing signs on the site or in the surrounding area, to create visual clutter.</p>
<b>SASM-R22.</b>	<b>Temporary signs</b>
<p>1. Signs for temporary events and commercial filming must comply with the following:</p> <p>(i) Maximum number: 1 per site; and</p> <p>(ii) Maximum sign face area: 3 m<sup>2</sup>; and</p> <p>(i) Maximum height of a freestanding sign: 4 m as measured from ground level.</p>	<p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <p>(a) The degree of visual intrusion the sign(s) would have on the surrounding environment; and</p> <p>(b) The proposed duration of the display period; and</p> <p>(c) The extent to which the sign, supporting structures and the means of affixing the sign detracts from the values of the scheduled site or feature; and</p> <p>(d) The content of the sign(s) and whether the sign(s) would promote the wellbeing of the community through advertising events or providing information; and</p> <p>(e) The extent to which the impacts of the sign(s) would be increased or lessened due to:</p> <p>(i) The visibility of the sign(s); and</p> <p>(ii) The length of the road frontage; and</p> <p>(iii) The shape of the site, topography, natural and built features in the surrounding area; and/or</p> <p>(iv) Vegetation or other mitigating factors;</p> <p>AND</p> <p>(f) The extent to which a planned arrangement of the sign(s) has been used to avoid any effect of visual confusion or clutter; and</p> <p>(g) The effects on vehicle manoeuvring and site access; and</p>
<p>2. Construction signs (excluding fence wrap) must comply with the following:</p> <p>(i) Maximum number: 4 per site provided a double-sided sign counts as 2 signs; and</p> <p>(ii) Maximum sign face area: 2 m<sup>2</sup>; and</p> <p>(i) Maximum height of a freestanding sign: 4 m as measured from ground level.</p>	
<p>3. Property for sale or lease signs must comply with the following:</p> <p>(i) Maximum number: 4 per holding provided a double-sided sign counts as 2 signs; and</p> <p>(ii) Maximum sign face area: 2 m<sup>2</sup>; and</p> <p>(iii) Maximum height of a freestanding sign: 2 m as measured from ground level.</p>	
<p>4. Election signs must comply with the following:</p> <p>(i) Maximum number of signs: 1 per site; and</p> <p>(ii) Maximum sign face area: 3 m<sup>2</sup>; and</p>	

(i) Maximum height of a freestanding sign: 4 m as measured from ground level.	(h) Whether the increased number, height or dimensions of a sign(s) would adversely affect road user and pedestrian safety.
<b>SASM-R23.</b>	<b>Footpath signs including sandwich boards and teardrop flags</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maximum number of signs per premises: 1 per road frontage; and</li> <li>2. Maximum sign face area: 0.5 m<sup>2</sup>; and</li> <li>3. The sign must not encroach over more than 600 mm of the footpath or berm.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Whether the increased number or increased size of footpath signs would impact on the visual amenity of the building, site and surrounding area; and</li> <li>(b) The extent to which the sign detracts from the values of the scheduled site or feature; and</li> <li>(c) Whether the increased size of the sign or increased encroachment would impact on road user and pedestrian safety.</li> </ol>

**SASM - Table 3 - Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori - Cultural Alert Layer**

### Cultural alert layer

<p>The rules in this table apply to the mapped extent of land identified as Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori - Cultural Alert Layer in <a href="#">SCHED5</a> in all zones</p>	
<b>SASM-R24.</b>	<b>Cultural Alert Layer requirements</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where any activity in this plan triggers the requirement for a resource consent and the site is identified in <a href="#">SCHED5</a>, then a cultural impact assessment must be undertaken in accordance with the process outlined in <a href="#">APP2 – Cultural Impact Assessment Process</a>; and</li> <li>2. The activity status is derived from the resource consent which triggers this provision; and</li> <li>3. Where the activity status of the resource consent which triggers this provision is controlled or restricted discretionary, the additional matters of control/discretion are outlined in this rule; OR</li> <li>4. Where the activity status of the resource consent which triggers this provision is discretionary or non-complying, Waitomo District Council will consider the outcomes of the cultural impact assessment as part of the full discretion it exercises over the consent.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The activity status is derived from the resource consent which triggers this provision</b></p> <p><b>For controlled or restricted discretionary activities, control is reserved/discretion is restricted to:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The applicable matters over which control is reserved/discretion restricted associated with any performance standard which cannot be complied in any chapter or zone; and</li> <li>(b) The outcomes of the cultural impact assessment as outlined in <a href="#">APP2 – Cultural Impact Assessment Process</a>.</li> </ol>

*Note: Waitomo District Council plans to undertake cultural impact assessments for some sites. These assessments may be used by applicants.*

*Note: Activities may also require an authority from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT).*

## Advice notes

### Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

*Activities may also require an authority from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT).*

### Accidental discovery protocol

*In the event that an unidentified archaeological site or a wāhi tapu site is located during works, the following applies:*

- *Work must cease immediately at that place and within 20m around the site;*
- *HNZPT Archaeologist must be notified and application made for the appropriate authority if required;*
- *Notify the appropriate iwi groups or kaitiaki representative of the discovery and ensure site access to enable appropriate cultural procedures and tikanga to be undertaken, as long as all statutory requirements under legislation are met (New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014);*
- *If human remains (koiwi) are uncovered then the HNZPT Archaeologist, NZ Police and the appropriate iwi groups or kaitiaki representative must be notified. Remains are not to be moved until such time as iwi, NZ Police and HNZPT have responded;*
- *Works affecting the archaeological site and any human remains (koiwi) must not resume until appropriate authority and protocols are completed.*

*If the protocol is not adhered to then HNZPT can take out prosecution proceedings under the New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014*

### Significant archaeological sites

*Where the site is also a significant archaeological site, the relevant objectives, policies and rules are in the historic heritage chapter.*

### Signs within a road reserve

*Any sign proposed to be located within a road reserve requires the approval of the road controlling authority.*

### Existing signs

*Where a sign has been erected that does not meet the criteria for an existing use under the Act, Waitomo District Council may require that the sign be removed.*