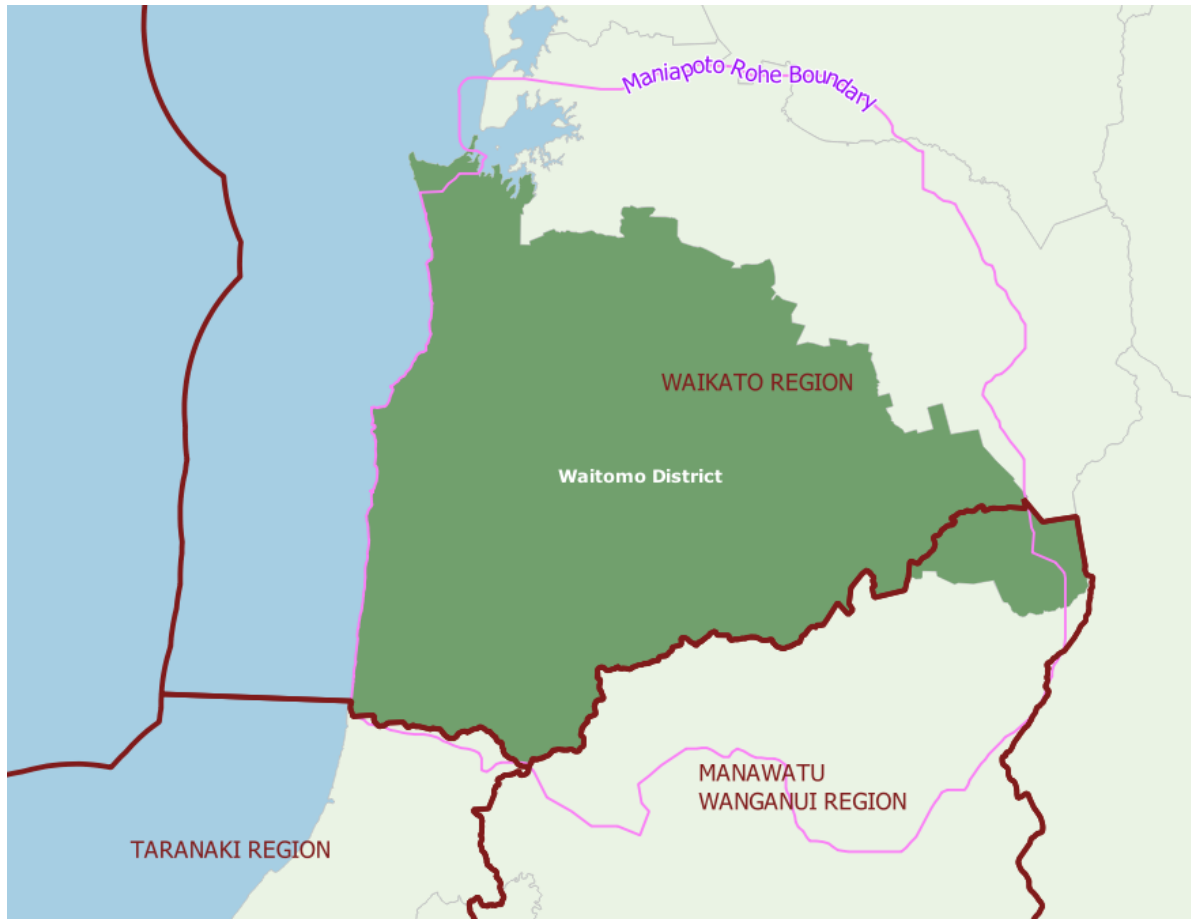


Cross boundary matters

Waitomo District shares its territorial boundaries with New Plymouth District to the south, Taupō and Ruapehu Districts to the east/southeast and Ōtorohanga District to the north. Waitomo District is split between two Regional Councils as shown in the figure below. Most of the district is located in the Waikato Region, but a small area in the south eastern part is in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region.

Waitomo District's territorial boundaries



Cross boundary issues arise in situations where an activity takes place on or near a territorial boundary and/or where the effects of a particular activity impacts on the territory of an adjacent authority. This includes resource consent applications where effects extend beyond territorial boundaries or where an application for a consent crosses a common territorial boundary. It could also apply to situations such as

designations associated with linear infrastructure development - state highways, gas pipes and electricity lines.

Cross boundary issues can also arise when policies and rules in the statutory plans of adjacent authorities need to take reasonable account of the effects on adjacent areas. Management of coastal margins, indigenous biodiversity and landscapes around Kawhia Harbour might be an example of a situation where actions need to be co-ordinated between authorities to avoid overlaps and ensure that the best environmental outcomes are achieved.

Integrated resource management requires cooperation to manage issues that extend across territorial boundaries by:

1. Ensuring consistency and a degree of integration between the Waitomo District Plan and the plans and policy statements of adjoining territorial authorities and regional councils; and
2. Consulting with adjoining authorities on resource management matters, including plan reviews, plan changes and resource consent applications as required under the RMA or as appropriate. Section 102 of the Act sets out the circumstances and procedures for joint hearings; and
3. Notifying the adjacent consent authority of proposals, including resource consent applications, where it is considered that a cross-boundary effect is likely and encouraging practices which enable resource consent applications to be considered in a similar manner.