

The environmental screen is a deliverable required by Z/19 *Taumata Taiao – Environmental and Sustainability Standard* for all Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency projects funded by the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) or where Waka Kotahi is the primary entity responsible for the activity (ie where Crown funding is used).

Approved organisations (AOs) are encouraged to use the screen to inform activities funded by the NLTF.

The screen applies regardless of project size; however, input is to be commensurate to the nature and effects of the project. The screen can be applied at a programme level or project level.

The purpose of the screen is to identify:

- environmental and sustainability opportunities and constraints
- inform option selection
- identify further technical assessments, and
- support other project workstreams (eg consenting and public engagement).

It shall be completed in the indicative business case and finalised in the detailed business case/single-stage business case by a suitably qualified and experienced professional. Outcomes of the screen are to be incorporated into the multi-criteria analysis assessment of options.

Waka Kotahi MapHub contains information layers to assist in its completion. Please contact your project lead for access. Contact environment@nzta.govt.nz for support.

BEFORE YOU START

Download the document and save as a pdf file.

PROJECT DETAILS

- 1. Project location and name.**
Include locality, state highway number, etc.
- 2. Project description (summary).**
Include project length, location and a description of works, eg. new 2km passing bay between bays and granite roads; new two-lane bridge over Waiau River including flood protection works.

Please add an aerial plan of the overall project alignment and footprint at the end of this form.

- 3. Screen assessment scope.**
Assessing multiple options together may be appropriate where options are similar in scale, effects and receiving environment.

Single option

Multiple options

- 4. Option description.**
Describe option in detail. Where multiple options are assessed, highlight any key differences in options in terms of spatial extent, types of works proposed and receiving environment.

- 5. Business case stage.**
What business case stage is the screen being completed for?

Indicative business case (IBC)

Detailed business case (DBC)

Single-stage business case (SSBC)

LAND LIMITATIONS

- 6. Are there any known or likely encumbrances on the land which could impact on the option?**
Eg conservation covenants (eg QEII covenants), Climate Change Response Act 2002, Reserves Act 1977 status, public access easements and other reserve/covenants. Refer MapHub Environment and Social Risk – Natural Environment map to identify areas protected by QEII covenants.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 7

No. If no, go to Question 8

- 7. If encumbrances are present, describe them and indicate if they restrict activities or require additional statutory processes to be followed in order to implement the option.**

- 8. Are works proposed on land managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC), other Crown agencies or Māori land?**
Refer to MapHub Environment and Social Risk – Natural Environment map to identify DOC land and [Māori Land Online](#)

Yes. If yes, go to Question 9

No. If no, go to Question 10

- 9. If the option impacts DOC-managed land, describe any additional legislative requirements.**
Eg Wildlife Act 1953, National Parks Act 1980, Conservation Act 1987, Biosecurity Act 1993. **If option impacts Crown land or Māori land contact the Property Team at Waka Kotahi.**

- 10. Are other legislative (existing or proposed) requirements triggered?**
Eg proposed national policy statements or environmental standards, Reserves Act 1977, Biosecurity (National PA Pest Management Plan) Order 2022 (Kauri dieback controls), Treaty of Waitangi settlements, Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011, and national environmental standards (NES) which are not included in the screen, eg the National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 11

No. If no, go to Question 12

- 11. Explain the effects on the option of the existing or proposed legislative requirements.**

NETWORK UTILITIES & PUBLIC ASSETS

- 12. Are other infrastructure networks, public assets or facilities potentially impacted by the option?**
Check district plans for designations, assess location of public assets such as reserves or trees.

Yes. Please identify network utility approvals or asset owner approvals required in Question 56

No. If no, go to Question 13

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- 13. Will the option potentially (directly or with works nearby) impact indigenous ecosystems, or known habitats of Threatened and At Risk species (including effects beyond the option footprint on ecosystem services)?**

Information on Threatened and At Risk species can be found on the DOC website. Threatened species and their ranking can be found on the [DOC website](#).

Yes. If yes, go to Question 14

No. If no, go to Question 15

- 14. Describe the impacts on any indigenous ecosystems, or known habitats of Threatened and At Risk species and outline any opportunities for avoidance, enhancement and/or mitigation.**

- 15. Does the option impact (directly or with works nearby) on areas of known or potential indigenous mobile fauna habitat?**

Eg bats, seabirds (Hutton's shearwaters, Westland petrels), and mobile species that use habitats seasonally such as North Island New Zealand dotterel. Highly mobile fauna are listed [here](#) See **Appendix 2**

Yes. If yes, go to Question 16

No. If no, go to Question 17

- 16. Describe the impacts on any mobile fauna habitats and outline any opportunities to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects or opportunities for enhancement.**

- 17. Are there any permit requirements under the Wildlife Act 1953?**
Wildlife permits may be required to catch, identify, disturb, accidentally harm, or translocate lizards, bats, invertebrates and fish. See [DOC webpage](#)

Yes. Please identify approvals required in Question 56

No. If no, go to Question 18

- 18. Are there any outstanding or significant natural features or landscapes?**
Review district and regional plans to identify natural features along with specific feature characteristics, eg outstanding natural features, landscapes and character, geological or geothermal landscapes.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 19

No. If no, go to Question 20

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

19. Describe the impacts on any outstanding/significant natural features and landscapes and outline any opportunities to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects or opportunities for enhancement.

20. Is any indigenous or exotic vegetation removal required?
Land Cover Database (LCDB) classifications or MapHub Environment and Social Risk – Natural environment (land cover) can be used to make a primary assessment of vegetation type to describe the types of vegetation or landcover that may be directly affected.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 21

No. If no, go to Question 22

21. Specify type and area of indigenous and exotic vegetation/landcover to be removed

i. Wetlands.

SPECIFY M²

ii. Indigenous vegetation, including shrublands, grasslands and bush. A milling statement from Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service will be required for processing of any native tree at a sawmill.

SPECIFY M²

iii. Exotic vegetation, including shelter belts.

SPECIFY M²

Where either indigenous or exotic vegetation removal in (ii) or (iii) individually is greater than 1ha, and

- a. the forest was first planted before 1 January 1990; and
 - b. the forest contained mostly exotic species on 31 December 2007
- an Emissions Trading Scheme specialist should be consulted to assess compliance with the Emissions Trading Scheme forestry obligations, to determine any financial liability and/or compliance management strategies.

22. Are there any works within 3m of a kauri tree (any age or size)?

Yes. If yes, please assess under Biosecurity (National PA Pest Management Plan) Order 2022

No. If no, go to Question 23.

23. Will the option affect the coastal marine area, wetlands, lakes, rivers, and/or streams (including water quality)?

Check definitions of each within the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, NES for Freshwater, relevant regional plan and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 24

No. If no, go to Question 25

24. Describe the impacts on any coastal, wetland and other water habitats and outline any opportunities to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects or opportunities for enhancement. Provide area reference numbers (significant natural area (SNA) number, wetland name).

25. Will the option affect the ground water systems including aquifers?

Yes. If yes, go to Question 26

No. If no, go to Question 27

26. Describe the impacts on groundwater systems and outline any opportunities to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects or opportunities for enhancement.

27. Does the option require soil disturbance?

Yes. If yes, go to Question 28

No. If no, go to Question 29

28. Describe any effects of construction generated sediment discharge on water and opportunities to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects or opportunities for enhancement.

29. Does the option have the potential to impact fish passage or have opportunities to provide new fish passage?

Yes. If yes, go to Question 30

No. If no, go to Question 31

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

30. Describe opportunities to improve or create fish passage.

31. Does the option have the potential to affect drinking water
Locate drinking water sources (including bores, drinking water protection zones, and surface water takes).

Yes. If yes, go to Question 32

No. If no, go to Question 33

32. Describe methods to avoid or mitigate impacts on drinking water. Identify any opportunities to protect drinking water quality.

33. Are there any natural geological hazards within or near the option?
Eg. fault lines, earthquakes

Yes. If yes, go to Question 34

No. If no, go to Question 35

34. Describe the natural geological hazards for the option and opportunities for avoidance, mitigation and/or management. (Note: climate related natural hazards should be described in Question 34).

CLIMATE CHANGE

35. Will the option/s result in an increase in vehicle kilometres travelled (VKT) or vehicle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?
Vehicle emissions (also referred to as enabled emissions) arise from use of the infrastructure, for example from the cars, buses, trucks, and trains using the transport system. Vehicle emissions generally increase when VKT increases, but are reduced or avoided by mode shifts (eg through encouraging uptake of low-emissions modes such as cycling or public transport). Vehicle emissions are the most significant component of GHGs from the New Zealand transport sector.

Yes. Transport modelling will be required to quantify changes in VKT and emissions and assess relative to any relevant transport emissions reduction plans and targets.

Please contact environment@nzta.govt.nz for guidance on technical assessment requirements.

No. If no, go to Question 36

Note: All construction projects have embodied GHG emissions (in materials and fuel use). Opportunities to reduce construction emissions should be considered during option selection and forms part of the construction sustainability assessment (refer to Q49).

36. Are there climate related hazards associated with the option/s?
Climate related hazards include sea-level rise, temperature increases, increased storm intensity, changes to rainfall, drought, and wildfires. Consider both risks to the option and potential downstream risks (from the infrastructure).

Yes. If yes, go to Question 37

No. If no, go to Question 38

37. Describe the climate related hazards and risks and options to reduce or manage risks.
A climate risk assessment should be prepared (at an appropriate level for the scale of the activity and risk) considering appropriate climate projections and project/asset life, in accordance with Waka Kotahi guidance

CONTAMINATED LAND AND SOILS

38. Are there potentially contaminated sites (including (Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) activities) within 200m of the option?

The HAIL can be obtained from the Ministry for the Environment here [Ministry for the Environment website](#), and regional councils generally hold information on historic land use that may have resulted in contaminated land. Disturbance of contaminated sites can result in the discharge of contaminants (primarily during construction but also in some instances post construction), which may result in risk to site workers, sensitive receivers and ecological receptors.

Yes. A technical assessment may be required, refer [NES for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health](#).

No. If no, go to Question 39

39. Is there potential to encounter coal tar material within or near the option?

Coal tar material is toxic to human health and ecological receptors, and can be costly to dispose of at landfill facilities. Coal tar was commonly used for road construction in New Zealand until the 1970s. Information on known coal tar locations may be available in MapHub or the Road Assessment and Maintenance Management database (RAMM).

Yes. If yes, a technical assessment may be required

No. If no, go to Question 40

40. Is the proposal undertaken in an area of highly productive land (as defined within the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land)?

Yes. If yes, go to Question 41.

No. If no, go to Question 42.

41. Does the proposal fall within the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land Section 3.9(2) exclusions?

Yes. If yes, go to Question 42.

No. If no, an assessment of alternatives / assessment of effects on highly productive soils will be required.

HUMAN HEALTH

42. Are there known potential activities sensitive to noise, vibration or air quality (including dust) effects located within 200m of the option during construction and operation activities?

Activities sensitive to noise, vibration and air quality include medical sites, rest homes, schools, childcare sites, residential properties, marae, community facilities, horticultural use or ecological receivers. In general, the greater the number of potential receivers, and the closer the option is to sensitive receivers, the higher the risk of the option.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 43

No. If no, go to Question 44

43. What are the design, management or mitigation opportunities to address noise, vibration or air quality (including dust) issues?

44. Is the option in an area of existing elevated state highway noise. Utilise the One Network Road Classification as a proxy for traffic flow and heavy vehicle movements. Refer to MapHub Environmental and Social Risk – Human Health and Community maps, which includes land transport noise contours.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 45

No. If no, go to Question 46

45. Describe what opportunities are available to address existing noise effects.

46. Is the area of interest designated as a polluted airshed? Polluted airsheds are areas identified in accordance with the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality as being polluted with respect to PM10. The regional council or unitary authority can advise if a location is within a polluted airshed.

Yes. A technical assessment may be required

No. If no, go to Question 47

47. Is the area designated as a polluted airshed and/or is the background concentration of NO2, PM10 or PM2.5 higher than 90% of the guidelines set out in the following table?

*Polluted airsheds are areas identified in accordance with the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality (NESAQ) as being polluted with respect to PM10. The regional council or unitary authority can advise if a location is within a polluted airshed. Background concentrations of NO2, PM10 and PM2.5 are published on the Waka Kotahi website. The data is presented by Census Area Unit (CAU). The CAU can be identified from the interactive maps on the Tatauranga Aotearoa Stats NZ website. Background data is available from [Background air quality | Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency \(nzta.govt.nz\)](#)

Air pollutant	Guideline value	Averaging time
NO2	40 µg/m ³	Annual
PM2.5	25 µg/m ³	24 hour
	10 µg/m ³	Annual
PM10	50 µg/m ³	24 hour
	20 µg/m ³	Annual

Yes. If yes, a technical assessment may be required.

No. If no, go to Question 48

SOCIAL

- 48.** Does the option result in impacts (temporary or permanent) or changes to community character, cohesiveness, connectivity, access, eg to homes, retail, employment, education, community and recreational facilities and potential to increase or remove social severance?
Yes. If yes, go to Question 49
No. If no, go to Question 50
- 49.** Describe how the option could provide opportunities to enhance or impact on residential, retail and businesses, employment, education, social services, places of worship, recreation/social/amenity, character/identity, culture/heritage, natural environment, health and wellbeing, personal and property rights. A social impact assessment may be required.

CULTURAL

- 50.** Has engagement with Tangata Whenua indicated that the option may impact on cultural values? Refer to [Te Ara Kotahi](#) and [Hononga ki te iwi](#)
Yes. If yes, go to Question 51
No. If no, go to Question 52
- 51.** Describe how the option could provide opportunities to enhance or impact on cultural values. A cultural impact assessment/cultural value assessment may be required.

HISTORIC HERITAGE

- 52.** Is there potential historic heritage near the option or its surrounds?
Refer to the definition of historic heritage in the Resource Management Act 1991. In addition to heritage schedules in district and regional plans, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) list, and the NZAA site recording scheme (Archsite), consider if there are locations which may have unrecorded historic heritage, eg adjacent to water, hilltops, landmarks, including bridges and structures. Discussions with mana whenua, local government and HNZPT staff, local museums and historic societies will assist with identifying known sites that are not yet recorded or listed. Refer to MapHub.
Yes. If yes, go to Question 53
No. If no, go to Question 54
- 53.** Describe impacts on historic heritage sites (provide reference numbers).
Consider the potential for archaeology in all earthworks including cycleways, landscaping, signage installation and upgrades to storm water systems as well as existing or future public access to any historic heritage sites or areas. Outline any opportunities to avoid, remedy or mitigate effects or opportunities for enhancement (eg interpretation of heritage values, conservation, etc). Identify any archaeological authority requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 or building consents for built heritage.

CONSTRUCTION SUSTAINABILITY

54. What opportunities are there for resource efficiency during design?
Apply 'build nothing, build less, build clever, build efficiently' principles to reduce material use, energy use, GHG emissions (carbon footprint), water consumption and waste generation during early business case development. Refer to [Resource efficiency policy for infrastructure delivery & maintenance](#) and [P48: Specification for resource efficiency for infrastructure delivery and guidelines](#).

55. Is the project required to complete ISC certification?
ISC certification is required for projects over \$100 million (unless exceptions apply). For projects over \$15 million, consider the merits of ISC certification.

Yes. [Refer to Sustainability rating scheme policy.](#)

No. If no, go to Question 56

URBAN AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN

56. What potential risk or opportunities does the option present for transport and land use integration and good urban form?
Review any relevant regulatory (spatial, regional and district, structure, area and precinct plans) and non-regulatory plans (eg masterplans) to understand the existing and future urban context, form and character, and values of the place (townscape and landscape). This should include consideration of the connections with urban growth and development areas, centres, public transport corridors, nodes, stations and stops, cycling networks and respective walkable catchments. Use this urban planning context to help determine potential risks and opportunities that may impact on or help create 'well-functioning urban environments' (refer to the [National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020](#)).

57. What opportunities are there to enhance, improve access to, or create new local, regional or national infrastructure for public transport, electric vehicles and/or active modes of travel such as walking and cycling?
Consider what additional infrastructure is or could be provided to further enhance these modes and facilities. For cycle information refer to [Ngā Haerenga New Zealand Cycle Trails](#), and for walking refer to [Te Araroa](#). Refer to [Bridging the gap: NZTA urban design guidelines](#) for further information.

58. Is the option located near to or part of a tourism route, or themed or scenic highway?
Refer to MapHub Environmental and Social Risk – Natural Environment (Scenic Routes) map.

Yes. If yes, go to Question 59

No. If no, go to Question 60

59. Describe how the option reflects the journey and user experience in relation to the tourist route, themed or scenic highway.
Include the name of the highway in your response. Have stopping places, motorway service centres or electric vehicle charging been considered?

60. Is the option:

In an urban or peri-urban area? An urban design framework or urban and landscape design framework is likely to be required. The urban design framework or urban and landscape design framework will guide master plans and management plans as set out in P44 [Urban Design Specification](#)

In a rural area with high environmental, cultural or heritage values? A landscape framework, or a cultural and environmental framework is likely to be required.

Of limited complexity or small scale? A masterplan, urban design statement, concept plan or site-specific design may be appropriate. Please contact urbandesign@nzta.govt.nz for further information.

TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

61. List technical assessments or further information required for the option to help understand risks and opportunities or to support the development of the detailed business case.

Ecology and/or Wildlife Permit (flora and fauna in terrestrial, marine, wetland and freshwater environments)

Ground water (including bores and drinking water)

Landscape assessment (natural character and visual assessment)

Emissions Trading Scheme compliance assessment

Natural geological hazards (including earthquakes and ground stability)

Greenhouse gas emissions assessment

Climate change risk assessment

Contaminated land

Noise and vibration

Air quality

Social impact assessment

Cultural assessment

Historic heritage (archaeology and/or built heritage)

Construction sustainability
(ISC or Resource efficiency policy, P48 assessment)

Urban design assessment/framework

Other

62. Confirm that you are suitably qualified to make the assessments required by this form and that all information provided is accurate and complete.

Yes.

No.

63. Your name and email

64. Date

A copy of the completed environmental screen is to be emailed to environment@nzta.govt.nz and your Waka Kotahi project manager

Please send any suggestions on the screen to
environment@nzta.govt.nz

Please add an
aerial plan of the
overall project
alignment
and footprint



Please add any
further text here.