

SCHEDULE 6: REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT WETLANDS

6A: Wetland habitat types identified to be ‘Regionally Significant’ in Taranaki

Wetland Type	Defined as	Further Description
Dune slack wetland	Dune slack wetlands support low growing indigenous herbfield and occur in topographically low sites where wind has eroded hollows or depressions in raw sand, or where water is permanently or seasonally ponded.	Dune slack wetlands are found close to the sea on sand country, and can comprise a mosaic of indigenous vegetation and bare sand. Exotic species are frequently present.
Ephemeral wetlands	Ephemeral wetlands support indigenous turf (<3 cm tall) species, indigenous rushland and indigenous scrub, are most frequently found in depressions lacking a surface outlet, and are characterised by a marked seasonal ponding and drying.	Ephemeral wetlands are of moderate fertility, neutral pH and fed by groundwater or an adjacent water body. Seasonal variations in rainfall and evaporation result in seasonal variation in water level. Ephemeral wetlands may experience complete drying in summer months or dry years. Ephemeral wetlands are found on sand country (although they also occur elsewhere), and may comprise a mosaic of indigenous vegetation and bare sand. Fluctuations between aquatic and terrestrial plant species often occur and exotic species are frequently present.
Bog and fen wetland	Bog wetlands support indigenous mosses, lichens, cushion plants, sedges, grasses, restiads, ferns, shrubs and trees and are formed on peat with rainwater the only source of water. Fen wetlands support indigenous restiads, sedges, ferns, tall herbs, tussock grasses and scrub and are on predominantly peat. Fen wetlands receive inputs from groundwater and nutrients from adjacent mineral soils.	Bog wetlands can be found on relatively level or gently sloping ground including hill crests, basins, terraces and within other wetland classes. Bog wetlands are nutrient poor, poorly drained and aerated, and usually acid. The water table is often close to or just above the ground surface. Fen wetlands can be found on slight slopes (e.g. fans), toes of hillsides, or on level ground without much accumulation of peat. Fen wetlands can grade into swamp wetland. Fen wetlands are of low to moderate acidity and fertility and the water table is usually close to or just below the surface. Bog wetlands and fen wetlands are often found in association with each other and are dominated by indigenous species, but exotic species can also be present.
Seepage and spring wetland	Seepage wetlands support indigenous sedgeland, cushionfield, mossfield or scrub, occur on slopes, and are fed by groundwater.	Seepage and spring wetlands can be found at the point of change of slopes and places where the water table is raised. Seepage wetlands are often also fed by surface water including

	<p>A spring wetland occurs at the point that an underground stream emerges at a point source.</p>	<p>where groundwater has percolated to the surface. Substrates (ranging from raw or well-developed mineral soil to peat), nutrient levels and pH vary from site to site.</p> <p>Seepage and spring wetlands are often small and can occur as isolated systems or in association with other wetland types. The volume of water within a seepage system is less than that within a spring system. Seepage and spring wetlands are dominated by indigenous species but exotic species can also be present.</p>
Swamp and marsh wetland	<p>Swamp and marsh wetlands support indigenous sedges, rushes, reeds, flaxland, tall herbs, herbfield, shrubs, scrub and forest.</p> <p>Swamp wetlands are generally of high fertility, receiving nutrients and sediment from surface run-off and groundwater.</p> <p>Marsh wetlands are mineral wetlands with good to moderate drainage that are mainly groundwater or surface water fed and characterised by fluctuation of the water table.</p>	<p>Substrates within swamp and marsh wetlands are generally a combination of peat and mineral substrates. Standing water and surface channels are often present, with the water table either permanently, or periodically, above much of the ground surface.</p> <p>Swamp and marsh wetlands can usually be found on plains, valley floors and basins. Marsh wetlands can be differentiated from swamp wetlands by having better drainage, generally a lower water table and usually a more mineral substrate and higher pH. Exotic species are frequently present in both wetland types.</p>
Saltmarsh wetland	<p>Saltmarsh wetlands support herbfield, rushland and scrub, form within areas of tidal intertidal zones, and are fed from groundwater and estuary waters. Saltmarsh wetlands occur in association with mudflats.</p>	<p>Water within a saltmarsh wetland can be saline or brackish. Substrates are typically mineral. Saltmarsh wetland can comprise a mosaic of indigenous species and bare substrate (mudflats). Exotic species can be present. In some places the mudflats can be extensive and are characteristic of estuarine wetland systems.</p>
Lakes and lagoons and their margins	<p>Lakes and lagoons support indigenous aquatic plants (emergent, floating, submerged or rafted), and indigenous rushes, reeds, sedges, sedgeland, flaxland, reedland turf (<3 cm tall), herbfield, scrub and shrubs on the margins. Indigenous terrestrial vegetation (such as scrub, shrub species, shrubland, treeland and forest) can also be found in association with lake and lagoon margins.</p> <p>Lakes are areas of standing (non-flowing) water. Lagoons are shallow lakes, connected to, or independent of, a river, lake or the sea.</p>	<p>Lakes and lagoons in the region are associated with dune, river, and volcanic landforms and include dune lakes, ox-bow lakes and tarns.</p> <p>Lakes and lagoons can exist in isolation, be entirely within, or have elements of, other wetland habitat types. Exotic species (aquatic, wetland or terrestrial) may also be present.</p>

6B: Nationally threatened or regionally distinctive species present in wetland habitats in Taranaki

Indigenous Species (Fauna)		Significance/Threat classification
Common Name	Scientific Name	
Australasian bittern	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Regionally distinctive, Threatened (Nationally endangered)
Banded dotterel	<i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i>	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Banded kokopu	<i>Galaxias fasciatus</i>	Regionally distinctive
Banded rail	<i>Gallirallus philippensis assimilis</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Naturally uncommon)
Brown mudfish	<i>Neochanna apoda</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Declining)
Giant diving beetle	<i>Onychohydus hookeri</i>	Regionally distinctive
Giant kokopu	<i>Galaxias argenteus</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Declining)
Goldstripe gecko	<i>Woodworthia chrysosireticus</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Relict)
Grey duck	<i>Anas supercilliosa supercilliosa</i>	Threatened (Nationally critical)
<u>Inanga</u>	<u><i>Galaxis maculatus</i></u>	<u>At Risk (Nationally declining)</u>
<u>Longfin eel</u>	<u><i>Anquilla dieffenbachia</i></u>	<u>At Risk (Nationally declining)</u>
New Zealand dabchick	<i>Poliocephalus rufopectus</i>	Regionally distinctive, Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
North Island fernbird	<i>Bowdleria punctata vealeae</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Declining)
Pied shag*	<i>Phalacrocorax varius varius</i>	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Royal spoonbill	<i>Platalea regia</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Naturally uncommon)
Spotless crake	<i>Porzana tabuensis plumbea</i>	Regionally distinctive, At Risk (Relict)
Tadpole shrimp	<i>Lepidurus apus</i>	Regionally distinctive

Indigenous Species (Flora)		Significance/Threat classification
Common Name	Scientific Name	
Bladderwort	<i>Utricularia dichotoma</i>	Regionally distinctive
Dwarf buttercup	<i>Ranunculus recens</i>	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Dwarf musk	<i>Mazus novaezeelandiae</i> subsp.	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Grass/flat leaved rush	<i>Juncus caespiticius</i>	Regionally distinctive
Jointed twig rush	<i>Machaerina articulata</i>	Regionally distinctive
Leafless rush	<i>Juncus pauciflorus</i>	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Pakihi sedge / peat bog sedge	<i>Machaerina teretifolia</i>	Regionally distinctive
Saltmarsh ribbonwood	<i>Plagianthus divaricatus</i>	Regionally distinctive
Shore stonecrop	<i>Crassula peduncularis</i>	Threatened (Nationally critical)
Sneezeweed	<i>Centipeda minima</i> var. <i>minima</i>	Regionally distinctive, Threatened (Nationally endangered)
Stout water milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum robustum</i>	Regionally distinctive (At Risk declining)
Swamp buttercup	<i>Ranunculus macropus</i>	Data deficient
Swamp greenhood orchid	<i>Pterostylis micromega</i> (Hook f.)	Threatened (Nationally critical)
Swamp maire	<i>Syzygium maire</i>	Regionally distinctive
Swamp millet	<i>Isachne globosa</i>	Regionally distinctive
Tussock sedge	<i>Schoenus carsei</i>	Threatened (Nationally endangered)
Water brome	<i>Amphibromus fluitans</i>	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Fern	<i>Deparia petersenii</i>	Regionally distinctive
Dicot herb	<i>Forstera tenella</i>	Regionally distinctive
Dicot herb	<i>Gratiola concinna</i>	Threatened (Nationally vulnerable)
Dicot herb	<i>Limosella</i> "Manutahi"	Threatened (Nationally critical)