

7.2 MANAGEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENTS

7.2.1 BACKGROUND

Refer to Section 7.1.1 above.

7.2.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- (1) Maintenance of existing and future water supply sources and protection of them from adverse effects of land use and other activities.
- (2) The need to actively manage water catchments (eg by planting, fencing, removal of weeds), especially where the water catchment is in private ownership and is actively being used by the landowner, and the cost and resources necessary to carry out that management.
- (3) The ecology of some water catchments is particularly vulnerable to the effects of disturbance.
- (4) The needs of future generations for water are not known and accordingly a cautious approach needs to be taken to its management, use and long term protection.
- (5) Some of the water catchments cross territorial boundaries and the management of the catchments needs to be coordinated between Councils.

7.2.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

(1) OBJECTIVE 1

To sustainably manage the water supply catchments to maintain or enhance the quality and quantity of water supplies to communities in the District.

(a) Policies

- (i) To ensure that the effects of activities do not degrade the quality or adversely affect the quantity of water available to service the existing and foreseeable future water supply needs of the communities in the District.
- (ii) To ensure subdivision, use or development located within a community water supply catchment takes into account the sensitive nature of the catchment and the role it plays in serving the community.

(b) Reasons for Objective 1

- (i) There is a health and safety risk to the resident population of those communities serviced with a potable water supply if the supply is inadequate and cannot meet the reasonable existing and future needs of those communities.

7.2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

- (1) Adequate water quality and water quantity maintained or improved to meet the foreseeable needs of the communities in the District.

7.2.5 ACTIVITIES

- (1) There are no activities or *rules* associated with this section of the Plan. Rather, *rules* and activity status of activities in other parts of the Plan give effect to the objective and policies relating to the protection of water catchments. Refer in particular to SECTION 6.2 INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY AND SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS, as the identified water supply catchments are also largely within identified *significant natural areas*.