

Resource Management Act (RMA) Reform

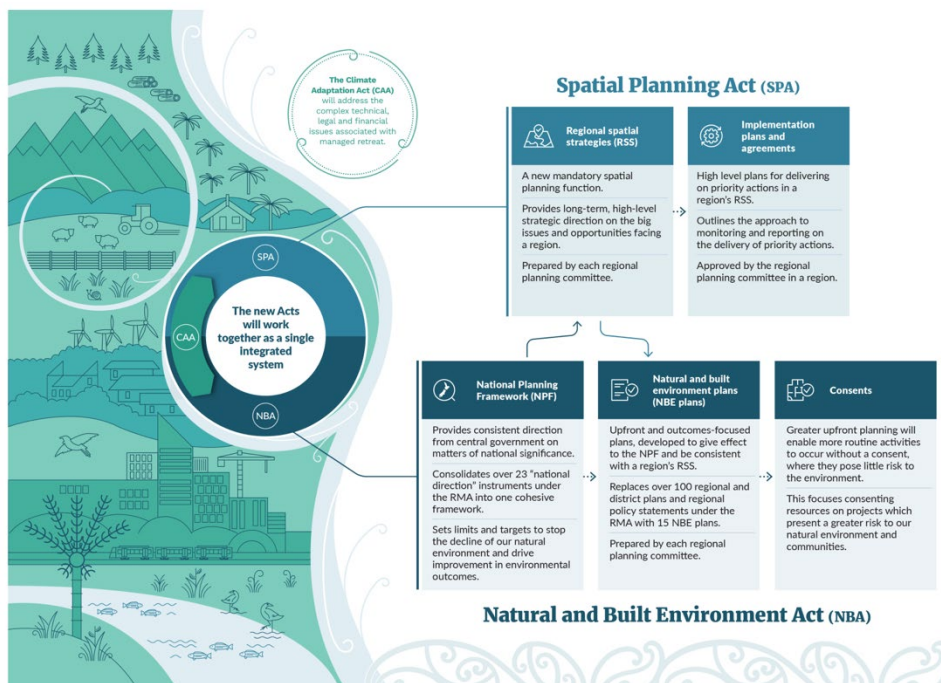
The RMA was originally established to combine multiple laws into one – and is widely regarded as having failed to achieve its aims: the environment suffers while development and infrastructure costs more and takes longer.

There is no silver bullet to addressing this, and the proposed RMA reforms are not currently landing well with those who will need to implement them, so we can expect further changes.

We can also expect these reforms to deliver less individualisation, meaning that a resource consent for Kawau might be considered under the same laws that apply to Waiheke or Nelson.

We can also expect changes as to what requires a resource consent, and the process involved. As an example, existing jetty's *may not require* a resource consent under these reforms. Or a series of jetty's within the same area may be grouped under one resource consent. At this stage the only thing that is clear, is that the current number of things requiring a resource consent, and the process involved, is unsustainable.

The reforms seek to address that, by replacing the current RMA with three new Acts:



Why we should be concerned:

The Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) and the Climate Adaptation Bill (CAA), are likely to have a significant impact on our island properties.

These new acts reduce localisation in favour of 'one size fits all'. That means we should be involved so we can influence what requires a resource consent. And any groupings that get applied.

The actions we could take:

- Identify and document the environmental, cultural, social and economic values for Kawau Island – produce the document that carries weight in local govt decision making.
- Engage a resource management planner, who can advise us on what/when/how so that we can prioritise our actions where they will have the greatest impact.