

## THE DRAFT WHAKAMAHERE WHAKATŪ NELSON PLAN KEY INFORMATION

The Draft Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan combines the current resource management plans for Nelson into one combined Plan that reflects Central government requirements and direction, current best practice, and the latest research and local information. Once notified, the Nelson Plan will guide how we use our natural resources, where and how we develop land, and how we protect our environment.

### NOTABLE TREES

#### What is the proposed Notable trees chapter about?

There are a number of trees across the Whakatū Nelson region that are recognised for their contribution to the amenity, heritage and arboricultural value of our urban and rural environments. These trees may be individual specimens or form part of a group. Each tree has a tree protection zone which is typically the area above and below the ground to ensure the ongoing health and stability of the tree.

#### What would the Notable trees chapter aim to achieve?

The Notable trees chapter aims to protect these trees and the special contribution they make to the quality of our urban and rural environments. This means that management of trees and activities around trees (such as heavy pruning, new buildings and the operation of heavy machinery) needs to be done in a way that is sensitive to the trees ongoing health and growth. The proposed provisions would also allow for increased development flexibility where this is would be constrained in order to protect the notable tree.

#### What rules would apply to Notable trees?

The following work on a notable tree would not require a resource consent:

- Pruning of dead palm fronds and branches which ensures its natural shape is retained;

- Removing a tree which may be dead, diseased or damaged in accordance with best practice guidelines;
- Other activities which do not threaten or actively harm a notable tree provided they meet basic standards.

A variety of standards related to notable trees guide which activities might need resource consent approval before starting work. These include:

- Typically pruning and removal work will require a 'Notable tree pruning or removal certificate' to be provided to Council, and the work to be undertaken by a tree specialist/professional in accordance with best practice guidelines.
- Pruning of any part of a notable tree will need to ensure its natural shape and form is maintained without affecting its long-term health.
- Activities which might harm a notable tree, for example by parking or driving over tree roots, or disturbing the ground around it.

To access the complete draft provisions, go to [shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan/notable-trees](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan/notable-trees).

Should an activity not meet one or more of the development standards, a resource consent would be required. Resource consents for Notable trees would be assessed based on the effects of the proposed activity on the values of the tree, the condition and health of the tree, and the methodology of the work.



SMART LITTLE CITY, SMART NELSON PLAN



## THE DRAFT WHAKAMAHERE WHAKATŪ NELSON PLAN KEY INFORMATION

### How has the approach to the Notable trees chapter changed from the current Nelson Resource Management Plan (NRMP)?

The Draft Nelson Plan is more specific and provides more clarity about what matters it will assess under a resource consent application. Some pruning of Notable trees would be permitted and would not require a resource consent, such as removal of dead or damaged limbs and pruning of minor branches. This work is not provided for in the current plan, meaning that even very minor pruning would require consent.

In the NRMP, the provisions for “Heritage trees” were repeated in each zone chapter. In the Nelson Plan, the reference has changed to “Notable trees”, and those provisions are in a separate chapter. These apply city-wide, regardless of the underlying zoning.

### Further information on the Nelson Plan

This key information sheet is a summary of the provisions in the Draft Nelson Plan that relate to Notable trees. It should not be used as a definitive representation of content.

To view actual Draft Nelson Plan content, please go [shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan/notable-trees](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan/notable-trees) and click on “Draft Notable trees chapter” and/or “Notable tree schedules”.

Related Draft Nelson Plan provisions include: Part 2 HCV – Historical and cultural values; Part 3 SUB – Subdivision; Part 4 All Zones.

v.3, 6 July 2021 – A2460367



SMART LITTLE CITY, SMART NELSON PLAN

