



Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance

Information Sheet 10

Archaeological Site Advice Notices for RMA plans and consents

It is important to promote an integrated approach between management of land use under the RMA and the protection of archaeological sites under the Historic Places Act 1993. RMA policy statements and plans and resource consent decisions should include advice notices informing the public of the archaeological authority provisions of the Historic Places Act 1993. The NZHPT promotes the use of the following advice notices in RMA policy statements, plans and resource consents. Alternatively, the NZHPT may request an advice confirming the need for an authority under the Historic Places Act 1993. Further information about archaeological-related conditions is available from: NZHPT, *Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance Series*, Guide No.4 Resource Consents, 3 August 2007.

There is no formal relationship between the consenting processes in the RMA and Historic Places Act 1993. An applicant may seek an archaeological authority at any time during the resource consent process, but obviously it is advisable to take archaeological issues on board as soon as possible during project planning, to ensure a compatible outcome between the processes. Consultation with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust about a resource consent application lies outside the archaeological authority process.

Advice note where archaeological sites will be affected by consent activity

This proposal will affect recorded archaeological site(s). Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993. An authority (consent) from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust must be obtained for the work prior to commencement. It is an offence to damage or destroy a site for any purpose without an authority. The Historic Places Act 1993 contains penalties for unauthorised site damage. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust for further information.

Advice notes where archaeological sites may be affected by consent activity

There are recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of the proposed work. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust for further information. Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993. If any activity associated with this proposal, such as earthworks, fencing or landscaping, may modify, damage or destroy any archaeological site(s), an authority (consent) from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust must be obtained for the work prior to commencement. It is an offence to damage or destroy a site for any purpose without an authority. The Historic Places Act 1993 contains penalties for unauthorised site damage

Advice notes where unrecorded archaeological sites are possible

It is possible that archaeological sites may be affected by the proposed work. Evidence of archaeological sites may include burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps including shell, bone and/or glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Maori and European origin or human burials. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust if the presence of an archaeological site is suspected. Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993. If any activity associated with this proposal, such as earthworks, fencing or landscaping, may modify, damage or destroy any archaeological site(s), an authority (consent) from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust must be obtained for the work to proceed lawfully. The Historic Places Act 1993 contains penalties for unauthorised site damage.

Source: NZHPT, *Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance Series*, Guide No.4 Resource Consents, 3 August 2007.

The NZHPT welcomes any feedback and comments on this information sheet.

Comments can be provided to information@historic.org.nz. (Attention: Sustainable Heritage Guidance)