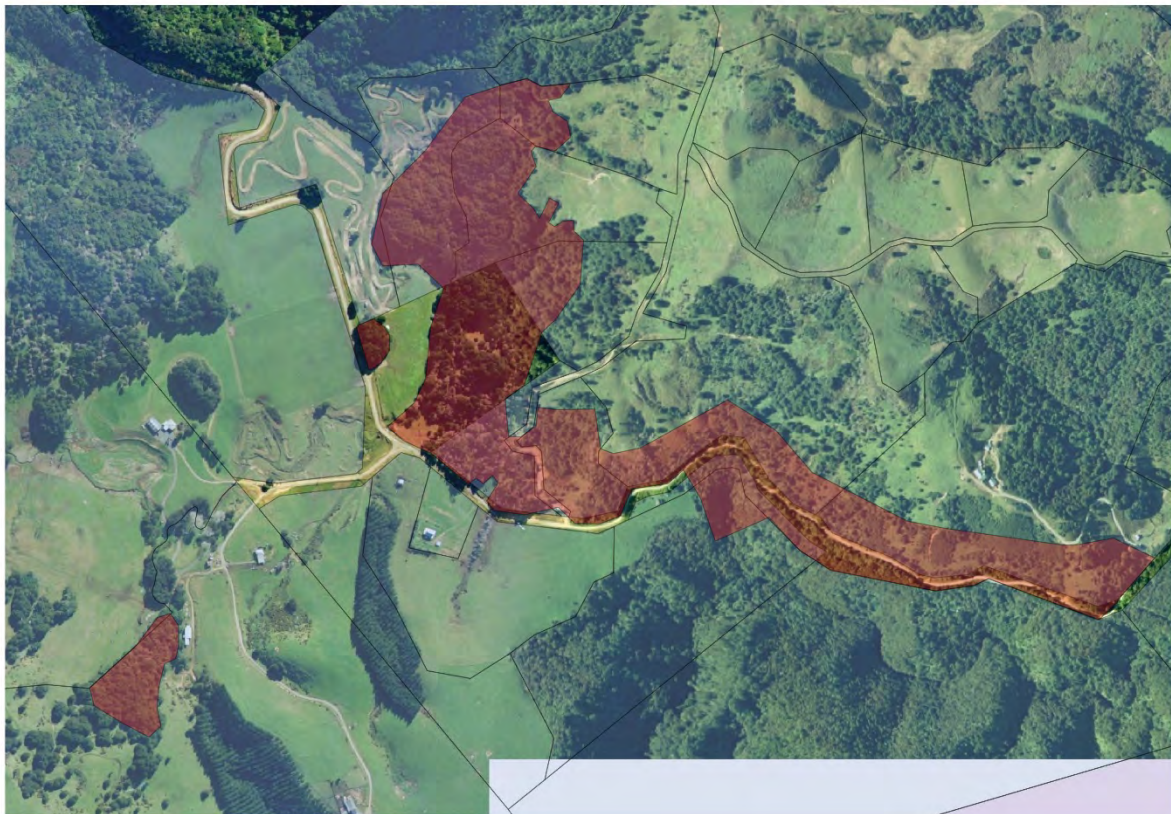


Sept 2 2016

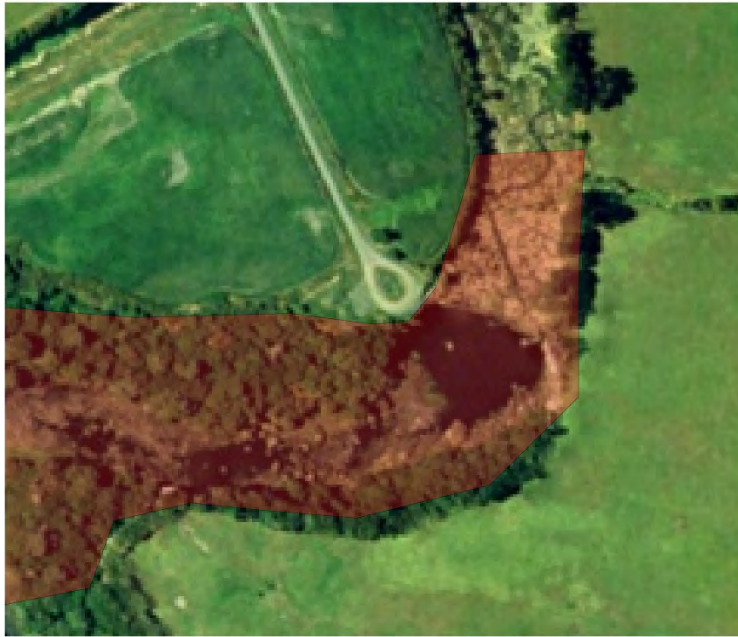
Retweaking maps of ONFs for Whangarei District Plan

I have looked at the comments provided by Whangarei District Council staff on some of the boundaries of some of the ONFs. I think all the concerns are unwarranted as all the council assets are existing and allowed for in the Plan. However to allay concerns further I have retweaked the boundaries wherever possible if it does not compromise the values of the feature.

1. Waipu Caves and karst. The boundary changes requested had already been made earlier this year and had not found their way into the plan so far. I attach them here – the carpark has been excluded but note the ONF values are mostly of the above ground karst and not so much the below ground cave. I note that this map below is shown on the web site planning maps and not the version sent by Council staff.



2. Wairua Falls. Note the carpark abuts almost directly the vertical wall of the falls basin with a safety fence in between, so there is not much room to move – I have tweaked the boundary to try and place it as near as possible to the line of the fence.



3. Waro Rocks ONF. I do not believe there is any problem having a maintained walking track within the ONF. I have reluctantly brought the boundary in close to the forested edge of the rocks to exclude most of the track, but it should be noted that having a buffer zone around the rocks to protect the view of them from the public roads is desirable and maybe the boundary of the ONF should better be the reserve boundary. On Hwy 1 and King St.



4. Whangarei Falls ONF. There is no choice but to have walkways, bridges and safety barriers within this ONF, but that is quite normal practice right around NZ – they are allowed for in the Plan. I have slightly tweaked the boundary on the west side at the top to exclude a bit more path.



5. Parihaka ONF. This is classed as a large landform ONF and maintaining a road and carpark within it are allowed for as are all the other activities mentioned. Note that part of the roadway, carpark and lookout are also in the ONL. No change to boundary.
6. Onoke Scoria Cone ONF includes the old quarry but the ONF is to protect the remaining parts of the scoria cone and the visual appreciation of it. Reservoirs occur within similar scoria cone ONF in Auckland and can be allowed for and their maintenance. Including them means that any plans to make them larger have to be weighed up against their impacts on the ONF when resource consent is considered. I have looked at the reservoirs which currently do not rise above the top of the cone and have tweaked the ONF boundary to go around the reservoirs.

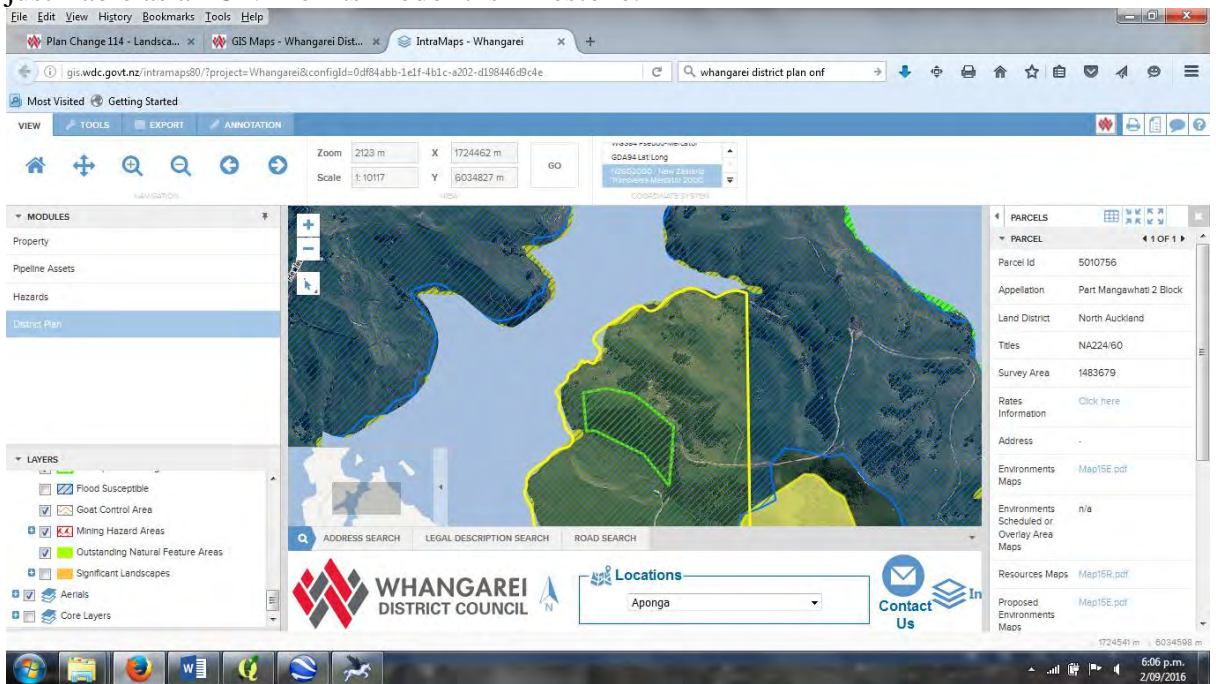


7. One Tree Point ONF. I have visited these cliffs three times in the last 6 weeks and have been amazed at the beautiful and outstanding stories held within the cliffs. The extent of the ONF as shown on the advertised plan is too large. I have retracted its boundary in the SW as there is no longer any ONF values where the rock revetment has been built in front of the cliffs and the same applies in the middle which is now excluded. I have also moved the boundary another 10 or so metres west of the One Tree Point boat ramp, as the cliffs here have lower value. An on-site visit might be able to retract the boundary slightly more but I am not confident to do it without having the map in hand in the field.

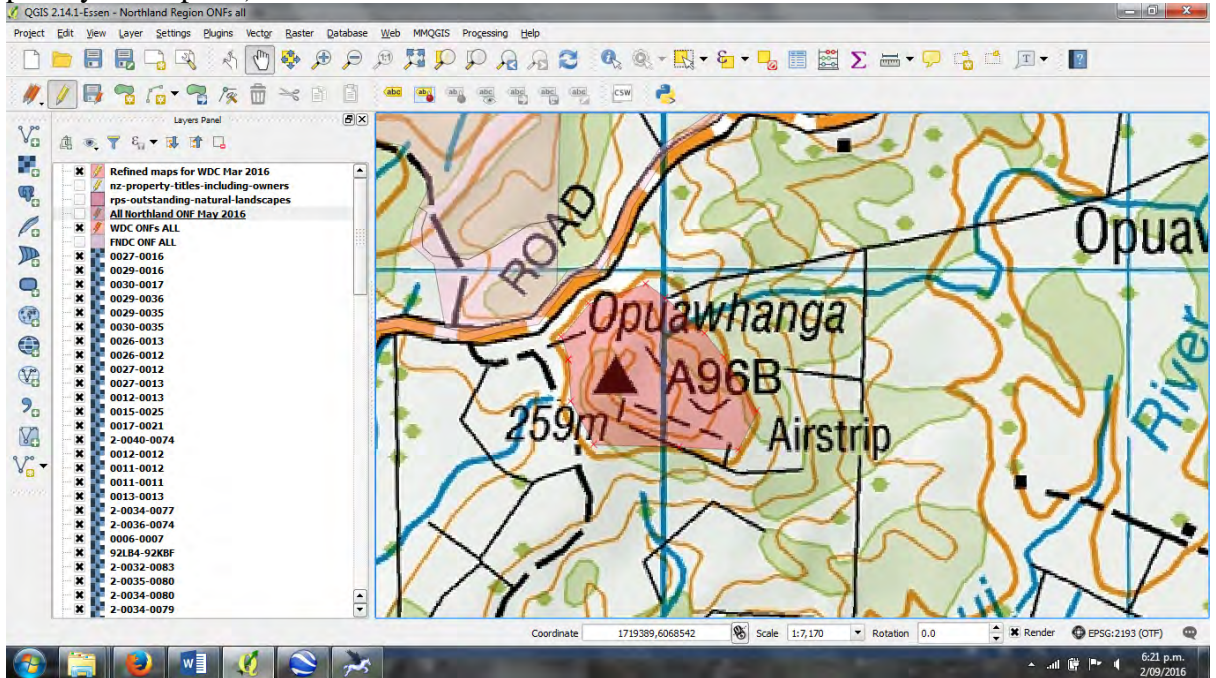


Other suggested changes to the advertised District Plan maps:

8. Delete green polygon south of Mangawhati Pt which is no longer considered justifiable as an ONF for its rhodoliths limestone.



9. Add Opuawhanga Volcano – the only volcano in WDC not identified as an ONF (as per my last reports).



Cheers
Bruce Hayward