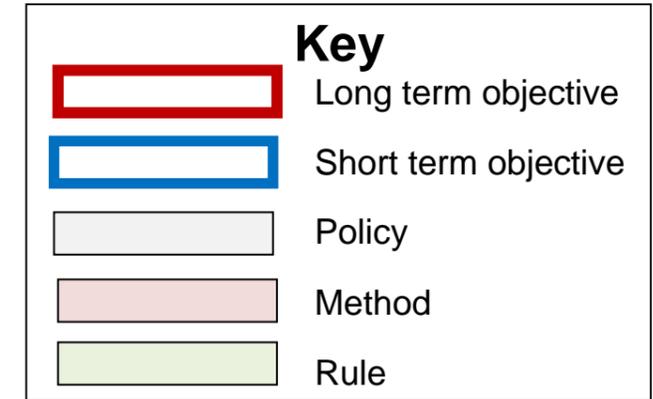


# Linking diagram for objectives, policies and methods/rules

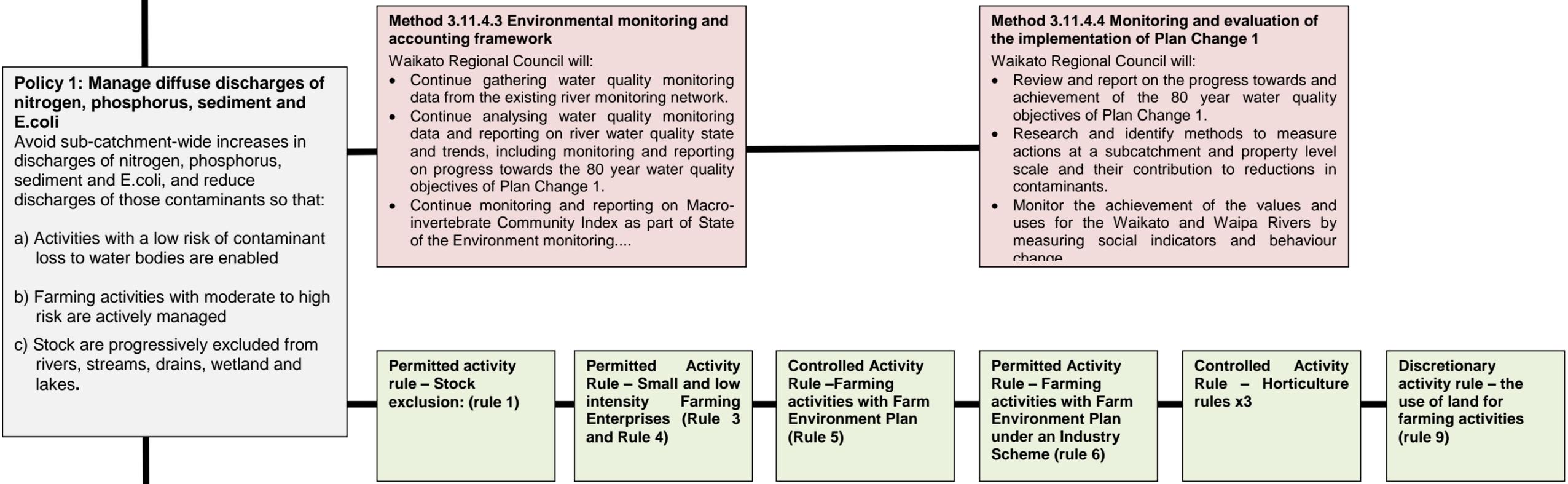
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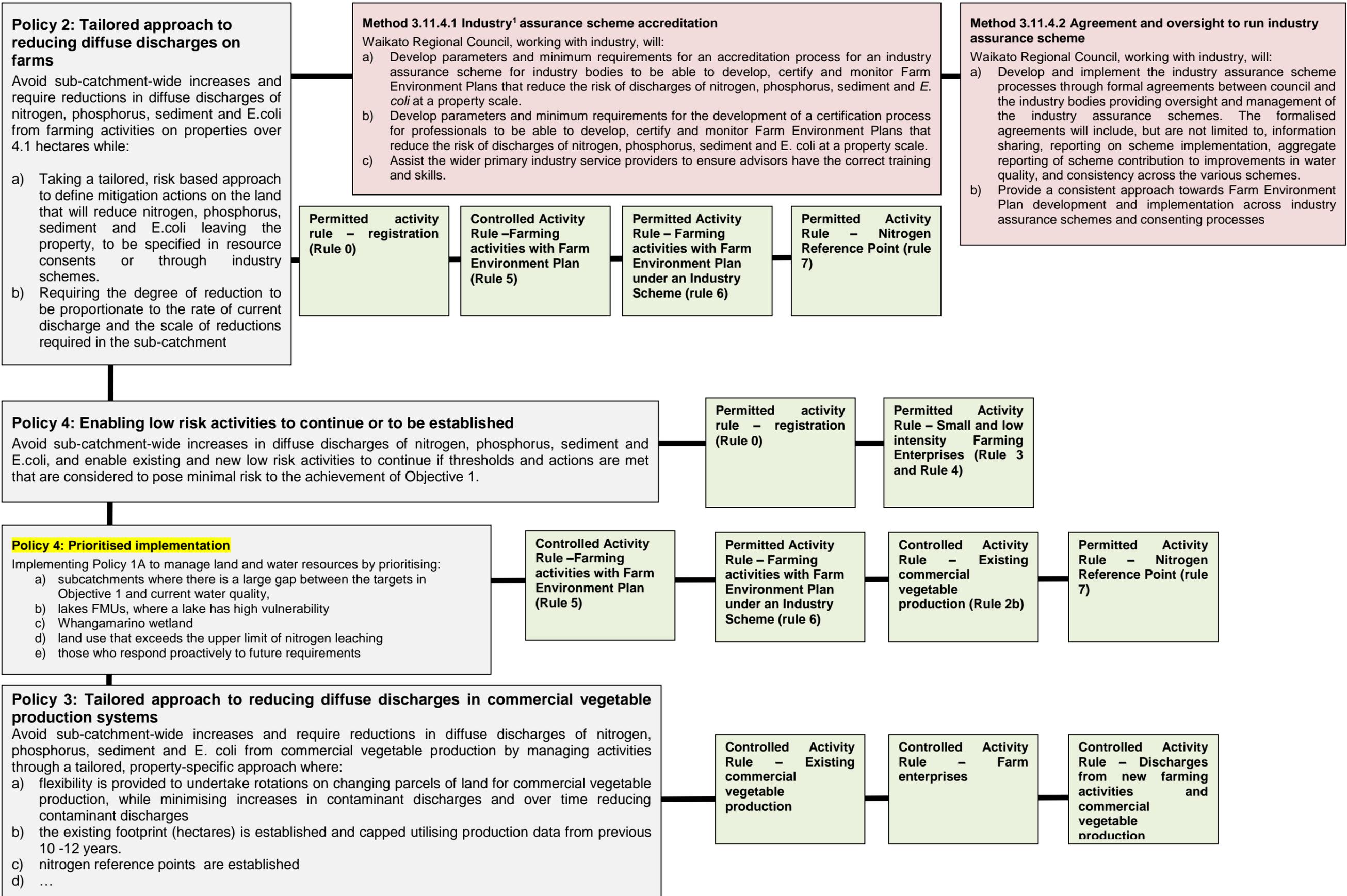
For CSG 9 May, reflecting Plan Change 1 dated 4 May



**Objective 1: Long-term restoration and protection of water quality for each sub-catchment and Freshwater Management Unit**  
 By 2096, discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli to land and water result in achievement of the restoration and protection of water quality attributes in table 11-1 (long-term targets).

**Objective 3: Short-term improvements in water quality in the first stage of restoration and protection of water quality for each sub-catchment and Freshwater Management Unit**  
 Actions in the first ten years of implementing Chapter 3.11 reduce discharges of nitrogen, phosphorous, sediment and E.coli, and achieve improvements in water quality, as indicated by table 11-2 (short-term targets).





**Policy 8: Subcatchment and edge of field mitigation planning, co-ordination and funding**  
 Edge of field mitigation measures are supported in each subcatchment to recognise water quality improvements and cost effectiveness by:

- a) Engaging landowners across each subcatchment
- b) Assessing contaminant risk across all properties in a subcatchment
- c) Applying mitigations where they have the biggest effect on water quality for the least cost in a subcatchment
- d) enabling the costs to be met by those contributing to water quality degradation, in proportion to their contribution.

**Method 3.11.4.6 Working with others**  
 Waikato Regional Council will:

- a) work with other parties to coordinate priorities, funding and physical works to assist in giving effect to the *Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River/Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato* for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers. These parties include, but are not limited to, Waikato River iwi partners, Waikato River Authority, Waikato River Restoration Strategy partners, Department of Conservation, territorial authorities, industry and sector bodies.

**Method 3.11.4.8 Funding and implementation**  
 Waikato Regional Council will:

- a) Provide staff resource and leadership within the organisation for the implementation of Plan Change 1 and associated recommendations.
- b) Seek to secure funding for the implementation of Plan Change 1 and associated recommendations through the annual plan and long term plan processes.
- c) Consider, subject to Waikato Regional Council's Revenue and Financing Policy, charging rates to raise funds to support implementation of Plan Change 1, namely: ...

**Method 3.11.4.7 Subcatchment scale planning**  
 Waikato Regional Council will:

- a) Work with other organisations to develop subcatchment scale plans to coordinate the reductions required at a property and subcatchment scale.
- b) Facilitate the implementation of subcatchment and catchment scale works to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E. coli such as, but not limited to, riparian management, constructed wetlands, sediment traps and sediment detention bunds

**Method 3.11.4.5 Managing the effects of urban development**  
 Waikato Regional Council will:

- a) Continue to work with territorial authorities to implement the Waikato Regional Policy Statement set of principles that guide future development of the built environment which anticipates and addresses cumulative effects over the long term.

**Policy 9: Provide for Point Source Discharges of Regional Significance**  
 Provide for discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.Coli from point sources to water or onto or into land associated with the continued operation of regionally significant industry and regionally significant infrastructure in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments.

Rules in existing regional plan

**Policy 10: Application of Best Practicable Option and Mitigation or Offset of Effects to Point Source Discharges**  
 Require any person undertaking a discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli to water or onto or into land from a point source discharge in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments to adopt the Best Practicable Option to avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of the discharge, at the time a resource consent is decided.  
 Where a person is unable to avoid or mitigate adverse effects, an offset measure may be proposed by that person in an alternative location or locations to the point source discharge, for the purpose of ensuring positive effects on the environment to lessen any residual adverse effects of the discharge(s) that will or may result from allowing the activity provided that;

- a. the primary discharge does not result in any significant toxic adverse effect at the point source discharge location; and
- b. the alternative load reduction is for the same contaminant; and...

Rules in existing regional plan

**Policy 11: Additional Considerations for Point Source Discharges in Relation to Water Quality Targets**  
 Consider the contribution made by a point source discharge to the nitrogen, phosphorous, sediment and E.coli load to achieve the interim target(s) in Objective 3 or outcomes progressing toward the 80 year targets in Objective 2, taking into account;

- (a) The relative proportion of the discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or E.coli from point source discharges to the catchment load.
- (b) Past technology upgrades undertaken to model, monitor and reduce the discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or E.coli within the consent term,....

Rules in existing regional plan

**Policy 12: Point sources consent duration**  
 By determining an appropriate duration for any consent granted and considering the following matters:

- a) A consent term exceeding 25 years where the applicant demonstrates that the outcomes sought in policies B and C will be met,
- b) The magnitude and significance of the investment made in contaminant reduction measures and the improvements made to water quality.

The need to provide persons appropriate certainty of investment where contaminant reduction measures are proposed (including investment in treatment plant upgrades or land based application technology).

Rules in existing regional plan

**Policy 6: Restricting land use change**  
Land use change that results in increased discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E. coli will generally be declined, unless enabled under Policy 16.

**Non complying activity interim rule – Land Use Change (rule 2)**

**Policy 14: Lakes FMUs**  
Activities in the Lakes Freshwater Management Units:  
a) do not degrade lake water quality,  
b) enhance lake water quality  
c) achieve the outcomes in **Lake Catchment Plans**

**Method 3.11.4.11 Lakes**  
Waikato Regional Council, working with others, will:  
a) Build on the Shallow Lakes Management Plan<sup>1</sup> by developing Lake Catchment plans and investigate lake-specific options to improve water quality, ecosystem health and manage pest species. In many instances, this will require an adaptive management approach...  
c) Work towards managing the presence of pest weeds and fish in the shallow lakes and connected lowland rivers area.  
d) Support research and testing of restoration tools and options to maintain and enhance the health of shallow lakes (e.g. lake modelling, lake bed sediment treatments, constructed wetlands, floating wetlands, silt traps, pest fish management, and farm system management tools).

**Method 3.11.4.7 Subcatchment scale planning**  
Waikato Regional Council will:  
c) Work with other organisations to develop subcatchment scale plans to coordinate the reductions required at a property and subcatchment scale.  
d) Facilitate the implementation of subcatchment and catchment scale works to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E. coli such as, but not limited to, riparian management, constructed wetlands, sediment traps and sediment detention bunds

**Method 3.11.4.8 Funding and implementation**  
Waikato Regional Council will:  
d) Provide staff resource and leadership within the organisation for the implementation of Plan Change 1 and associated recommendations.  
e) Seek to secure funding for the implementation of Plan Change 1 and associated recommendations through the annual plan and long term plan processes.  
f) Consider, subject to Waikato Regional Council's Revenue and Financing Policy, charging rates to raise funds to support implementation of Plan Change 1, namely: ...

**Objective 6: Whangamarino wetland**

Whangamarino wetland and catchment is restored and protected to sustain the full range of healthy wetland types and achieve the targets as shown in Tables 11-1 and 11-2.

**Policy 15: Whangamarino wetland**

Protecting and enhancing the values of Whangamarino wetland by:

- a) Preventing further loss in area and degradation of bog type ecosystems
- b) Providing a source for mahinga kai for the people of the rohe
- c) effectively implementing the catchment plan that covers Whangamarino wetland, to restore and protect water quality in the wetland and freshwater bodies in its catchment

**Method 3.11.4.10 Whangamarino Wetland**

Waikato Regional Council, working with others, will:

- a) Raise the profile and promote the significance of Whangamarino Wetland as a Ramsar wetland of international importance.
- b) Develop a catchment plan for Whangamarino Wetland and Lake Waikare.  
Through the review of the Waikato Regional Plan identify and protect characteristics of the wetland outside the scope of Healthy Rivers Wai Ora e.g. biodiversity.

**Method 3.11.4.7 Subcatchment scale planning**

Waikato Regional Council will:

- e) Work with other organisations to develop subcatchment scale plans to coordinate the reductions required at a property and subcatchment scale.
- f) Facilitate the implementation of subcatchment and catchment scale works to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E. coli such as, but not limited to, riparian management, constructed wetlands, sediment traps and sediment detention bunds

**Method 3.11.4.8 Funding and implementation**

Waikato Regional Council will:

- g) Provide staff resource and leadership within the organisation for the implementation of Plan Change 1 and associated recommendations.
- h) Seek to secure funding for the implementation of Plan Change 1 and associated recommendations through the annual plan and long term plan processes.
- i) Consider, subject to Waikato Regional Council's Revenue and Financing Policy, charging rates to raise funds to support implementation of Plan Change 1, namely: ...

**Objective 2: Social, economic and cultural wellbeing is maintained in the long term**

Waikato and Waipa communities and their economy, benefit from the restoration and protection of water quality in the Waikato River Catchment, which enables the people and communities to continue to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.

**Objective 3: Short-term improvements in water quality in the first stage of restoration and protection of water quality for each sub-catchment and Freshwater Management Unit**

Actions in the first ten years of implementing Chapter 3.11 reduce discharges of nitrogen, phosphorous, sediment and E.coli, and achieve improvements in water quality, as indicated by table 11-2 (short-term targets).

**Objective 4: People and community resilience**

Adaptive management enables people and communities to continue to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing while:

- a) considering the values in section 3.11.1
- b) recognising that further contaminant reductions will be required in subsequent plans
- c) being compatible with anticipated future management approaches that will be needed to meet Objective 1

**Policy 6: Staged approach**

Recognise that achieving the desired water quality will need to be staged over 80 years, to minimise social disruption and allow for innovation and new practices to develop, while making a start on reducing discharges, and preparing for further reductions required in subsequent Plans.

**Policy 7: Preparing for allocation in the future**

Prepare for further reductions and any future property-level allocation of discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli that will be required by subsequent Regional Plans, by implementing the policies and methods in this chapter. To ensure this occurs, collect information and undertake research to support this, including collecting information about current discharges, developing appropriate modelling tools to estimate contaminant loss, and researching spatial variability and the effect of contaminant discharges in different parts of the catchment that will assist in defining 'land suitability'.

Any future allocation should consider the following principles:

- a) Land suitability, which reflects the risk of contaminant loss from that land and land use, and the sensitivity of the receiving water body, including the gap between current water quality and that in Objective 1.
- b) An acknowledgement that some land uses have high discharges but are small in total area and important to the regional community.
- c) Allowance for flexibility of development of Māori land.
- d) Minimise social disruption and costs in the transition to the 'land suitability' approach.
- e) Future allocation decisions should take advantage of new data and knowledge.

**Method 3.11.4.9 Development of any future allocation plan change**

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a) Develop potential discharge allocation frameworks based on information collected in Method 3.11.4.11, taking into account new data, knowledge and technology.
- b) Use this to inform any future change to the Waikato Regional Plan to manage discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli at a property level to meet the targets in the Objectives.

**Permitted activity rule – registration (Rule 0)**

**Permitted Activity Rule – Nitrogen Reference Point (rule 7)**

**Method 3.11.4.11 Information needs to support any future allocation**

Gather information and science to inform any future framework for setting property level discharge reductions by:

- a) Collecting information, and develop processes to assist with setting property-level limits in the future (for benchmarking nitrogen and accounting purposes),
- b) identify any research that is required to set property level limits including:
  - ii) the quantum of contaminants at a subcatchment and FMU scale, to meet the targets in the Objectives
  - ii) methods to categorise and define 'land suitability' for intensive use

**Method 3.11.4.3 Environmental monitoring and accounting framework**

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a) Continue gathering water quality monitoring data from the existing river monitoring network.
- b) Continue analysing water quality monitoring data and reporting on river water quality state and trends, including monitoring and reporting on progress towards the 80 year water quality objectives of Plan Change 1.
- c) Continue monitoring and reporting on Macro-invertebrate Community Index as part of State of the Environment monitoring.
- d) Establish a monitoring network for the four lake freshwater management units to establish baseline data of current state and trend analysis, and monitor progress towards the 80 year water quality objectives of Plan Change 1.

**Objective 2: Social, economic and cultural wellbeing is maintained in the long term**

Waikato and Waipa communities and their economy, benefit from the restoration and protection of water quality in the Waikato River Catchment, which enables the people and communities to continue to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.

**Objective 5: Mana Tangata – protecting and restoring tangata whenua values**

Tangata whenua values are integrated into the co-management of the rivers and other water bodies within the catchment such that:

- a) tangata whenua have the ability to
  - i. manage their own lands and resources, by exercising mana whakahaere, for the benefit of their people; and
  - ii. actively sustain a relationship with ancestral land; and
- b) new impediments to the flexibility of the use of ancestral lands are minimised; and
- c) tangata whenua connection with the rivers and other water bodies in the catchment is strengthened; and
- d) improvement in the rivers' water quality and the exercise of kaitiakitanga increases the spiritual and physical wellbeing of iwi and their tribal and cultural identity.

**Policy 16: Flexibility for development of land returned under Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements and multiple owned Māori land**

Land use change of **tangata whenua ancestral lands** shall be managed in a way that recognises and provides for:

- a) The relationship of tangata whenua with their ancestral lands; and
- b) The creation of positive economic, social and cultural benefits for tangata whenua now and into the future; Taking into account:
  - c) Best practice land management actions for the new type of land use; and
  - d) The suitability of the land for development into a new use, including the risk of contaminant loss from that land and the sensitivity of the receiving water body, reflecting the principles for future allocation as contained in Policy 6.

Non complying activity interim rule – Land Use Change (rule 2)

OR

Discretionary Activity rule: Change in the use of settlement land or Te Ture Whenua Māori freehold land (Rule 8)

**Policy A: Managing the rate of discharge per hectare to achieve a neutral or net reduction in contaminant load**

Only allow an increase in the discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli per hectare where:

- a. Any increase in the discharge from any land within a property is offset by a reduction in the discharge from land within the same property so that at the scale of the property there is no net increase in the contaminant discharge per hectare in accordance with Policy 9[a]; or
- b. Any increase in the discharge is offset by a reduction in the discharge from a different property within the same farm enterprise so that at the scale of the farm enterprise there is no net increase in the contaminant discharge per hectare in accordance with Policy 9[b]; or
- c. Any increase in the discharge is offset by a reduction in the discharge from a separate property so that at the scale of FMU there is no net increase in the contaminant discharge per hectare in accordance with Policy [1B]

**Policy B: Off-setting an increase in a non point source discharge**

Where in an increase in the discharge of a contaminant is allowed under Policy 1A (c), the offset must:

- a. Be in the form of a reduction in the discharge of that same contaminant at another location that is:
  - i. In the same FMU as the land on which the increase occurs; or
  - ii. In an FMU that is upstream of the location of the increase in discharge; and
- b. Where the reduction in contaminant load can be modelled in quantified terms, be equivalent to the same or greater annual load and have the same or similar seasonal discharge characteristics as the increase in discharge (unless it can be demonstrated that a water quality improvement will occur through a different seasonal discharge profile); or
- c. Where the reduction in contaminant load cannot be reliably modelled in quantitative terms, be in the form of a change land management practice that is equivalent in nature and scale to that giving rise to the increase in contaminant discharge; and
- d) Continue for, at least, the duration of time that the increase in discharge occurs; and...