

Title

REGC2021_V1_00_Clipped

Creator

Stats NZ

Date

2019-12-04

Description

This dataset is the definitive set of regional council boundaries for 2021 as defined by the Local Government Commission and/or regional councils themselves but maintained by Stats NZ (the custodian). The regional council is the top tier of local government in New Zealand. There are 16 regional councils in New Zealand (defined by Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 2002). Eleven are governed by an elected regional council, while five are governed by territorial authorities (the second tier of local government), who also perform the functions of a regional council and are known as unitary authorities. These unitary authorities are Auckland Council, Nelson City Council, and Gisborne, Tasman, and Marlborough District Councils. The Chatham Islands Council also performs some of the functions of a regional council, but is not strictly a unitary authority. Unitary authorities act as regional councils for legislative purposes. Regional councils are responsible for administering many environmental and transport matters, such as land transport planning and harbour navigation and safety. Regional councils were established in 1989 after the abolition of the 22 local government regions. The Local Government Act 2002 requires the boundaries of regions to conform, as far as possible, to one or more water catchments. When determining regional boundaries, the Local Government Commission considered regional communities of interest when selecting which water catchments to include in a region. It also considered factors such as natural resource management, land use planning, and environmental matters. Some regional council boundaries are coterminous with territorial authority boundaries, but there are several exceptions. An example is Taupo District, which is geographically split between four regions, although most of its area falls within the Waikato Region. Where territorial authorities straddle regional council boundaries, the affected area is statistically defined by complete regional councils. In general, however, regional councils contain complete territorial authorities. Auckland Council unitary authority was formed in 2010, under the Local Government (Tamaki Makarau Reorganisation) Act 2009, replacing the Auckland Regional Council and seven territorial authorities. The seaward boundary of any coastal regional council is the twelve-mile New Zealand territorial limit. Regional councils are defined at meshblock and statistical area 2 levels. Regional councils included in the 2021 digital pattern are:

Regional council code	Regional council name
01	Northland Region
02	Auckland Region
03	Waikato Region
04	Bay of Plenty Region
05	Gisborne Region
06	Hawke's Bay Region
07	Taranaki Region
08	Manawatū-Wanganui Region
09	Wellington Region
12	West Coast Region
13	Canterbury Region
14	Otago Region
15	Southland Region
16	Tasman Region
17	Nelson Region
18	Marlborough Region
99	Area Outside Region

Source

Regional councils are based on the meshblock pattern. Non-alignment of meshblock and cadastral boundaries are one of a number of reasons for meshblock boundary adjustments. Other reasons include requests from local authorities, Local Government Commission, Electoral Representation Commission and to make census enumeration processes easier. From the meshblock pattern, higher geographies, including the 2021 regional council pattern, were dissolved using the dissolve tool in the Arc GIS suite. To derive the regional council boundaries clipped to the coastline, meshblock polygons were dissolved to exclude meshblocks with a land/water attribute of Inlet or Oceanic.

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Coverage

-47.421563 -180 -33.773403 180

Identifier

<https://datafinder.stats.govt.nz/layer/105134-regional-council-2021-clipped-generalised/>

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Subject

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