

# 34 WILDING EXOTIC TREES

## 34.1

## Purpose

The purpose of these provisions is to prevent the spread of wilding exotic trees. Wilding is the term used for the natural regeneration or seedling spread of exotic trees, occurring in unintended locations and not managed for forestry production.

The District values and relies on its distinctive landscapes, open spaces and rural productive land for its social, cultural and economic wellbeing. Wilding trees are spreading across parts of the District and have visually degraded parts of the landscape, biodiversity values and can threaten the productive values of the soil resource. The spread of wilding trees has left other areas vulnerable to landscape and biodiversity degradation.

The Council manages existing wilding trees through the non-statutory document, 'The Wakatipu Wilding Conifer Strategy'. The District Plan also has a role in reducing the potential for wilding tree spread by controlling the planting of wilding potential species.

## 34.2

## Objective and Policies

### 34.2.1 **Objective - Protection of the District's landscape, biodiversity and soil resource values from the spread of wilding exotic trees.**

Policy

- 34.2.1.1** Avoid the further spread of identified wilding tree species by prohibiting the planting of identified species.
- 34.2.1.2** Ensure that any planting and ongoing management of Radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*) is effective and can be practicably managed to avoid the adverse effects of the spread of wilding trees and degradation to the landscape.
- 34.2.1.3** That any proposal for the planting and ongoing management of Radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*) shall consider the following to ensure the spread of wilding trees can be contained:
  - a. The location and potential for wilding take-off, having specific regard to the slope and exposure to wind;
  - b. The surrounding land uses and whether these would reduce the potential for wilding spread;
  - c. The ownership of the surrounding land and whether this would constrain the ability to manage wilding spread;
  - d. Whether management plans are proposed for the avoidance or containment of wilding spread;
  - e. Whether a risk assessment has been completed and the results are favourable to the proposal.

## 34.3

## Other Provisions and Rules

### 34.3.1 District Wide

Attention is drawn to the following District Wide chapters.

1	Introduction	2	Definitions	3	Strategic Direction
4	Urban Development	5	Tangata Whenua	6	Landscapes and Rural Character
25	<i>Earthworks</i>	26	Historic Heritage	27	Subdivision
28	Natural Hazards	29	<i>Transport</i>	30	Energy and Utilities
31	<i>Signs</i>	32	Protected Trees	33	Indigenous Vegetation
35	Temporary Activities and Relocated Buildings	36	Noise	37	Designations
	Planning Maps				

### 34.3.2 Interpreting and Applying the Rules

- 34.3.2.1** The rules in Chapter 34 apply to all parts of the District, including formed and unformed roads, whether zoned or not.

## 34.4

# Rule - Planting of Wilding Exotic Trees

Rule	Table 1	Activity Status
<b>34.4.1</b>	Planting of the following: a. Radiata pine ( <i>Pinus radiata</i> )	Discretionary
<b>34.4.2</b>	Planting of the following: a. Contorta or lodgepole pine ( <i>Pinus contorta</i> ); b. Scots pine ( <i>Pinus sylvestris sylvestris</i> ); c. Douglas fir ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> ); d. European larch ( <i>Larix decidua</i> ); e. Corsican pine ( <i>Pinus nigra</i> ); f. Bishops pine ( <i>Pinus muricata</i> ); g. Ponderosa pine ( <i>Pinus Ponderosa</i> ); h. Mountain pine ( <i>Pinus mugo uncinata</i> ); i. Dwarf Mountain pine ( <i>Pinus mugo</i> ); j. Maritime pine ( <i>Pinus pinaster</i> ); k. Sycamore ( <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> ); l. Hawthorn ( <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> ); m. Boxthorn ( <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> ); n. Buddleia ( <i>Buddleja davidii</i> ); o. Grey willow ( <i>Salix cinerea</i> ); p. Crack willow ( <i>Salix fragilis</i> ); q. Cotoneaster ( <i>Simonsii</i> ); r. Rowan ( <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> ); s. Spanish heath ( <i>Erica lusitanica</i> ).	Prohibited  No application for resource consent can be accepted.

### 34.4.3 Exemption

- 34.4.3.1** For avoidance of doubt, this rule does not require the felling or removal of any tree identified and scheduled in the District Plan as a protected tree.

## 34.4

# Rules - Non-Notification of Applications

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The provisions of the RMA apply in determining whether an application needs to be processed on a notified basis. No activities in this chapter have been identified for processing on a non-notified basis.