5.4   Broom *(Cytisus scoparius)*

Why is it a threat?

Broom is an erect perennial shrub that will grow up to 3 metres high and originates from Eurasia. It will form dense patches if left uncontrolled. It seeds explosive fruits, which are resistant to fire. Broom will displace preferred pasture species and dense patches of it will impede stock access. It will grow on pastoral country, in hedgerows, waste places and plantations from the coast to high altitudes. Its vigorous growth habit will displace native herbaceous species. The presence of broom will greatly reduce the economic viability of a farming unit.

While broom is widespread in Marlborough, there are some major catchments that are either free from broom or have low infestation levels. In other parts of the district, areas clear and infested form a patchwork meaning infestations moving across boundaries become a threat to clear areas.

Objectives

5.4.1.1   Over the duration of the RPMP, control broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) in the Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone (excluding the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area), Upper Wairau and Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zones to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

5.4.1.2   Over the duration of the RPMP, control broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) across the remainder of the district, in situations where the presence of broom on boundaries threatens adjoining land clear of or being managed for broom and to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Intermediate Outcomes:

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive Containment	Sustained Control	Site-led

Principle measures to achieve the objective

1)   Requirement to Act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where rules or statutory obligations dictate:

a)   Pests are to be destroyed.

b)   The presence of pests is to be reported.

c)   Pests are not to be spread (high risk activities, propagated, sold or distributed).

2)   Council Inspection

Inspection by Council may include staff or contractors:

a)   Carrying out inspections to ensure occupiers are meeting obligations.

b)   Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present.

c)   Monitoring effectiveness of control.

d)   Carry out control using administrative powers of the Biosecurity Act 1993, if necessary.

3) **Advocacy and Education**

Council may:

a) Provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them).

b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests.

c) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers.

d) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find.

e) Facilitate or commission research.

Rules

Rule 5.4.2.1

Occupiers within the Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone (see Map 2, page 17) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless:

a) The land they occupy falls within the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area (see Map 2, page 17) which is subject to Rule 5.4.2.2 or;

b) A management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The Upper Awatere Broom Control Zone is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.4.2.2

Occupiers of land within the Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area (see Map 2, page 17) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), on land they occupy, each year before they produce seed 10 metres inside the Containment Area boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: The Middlehurst Gorge Containment Area is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Rule 5.4.2.3

Occupiers within the Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Control Zone (see Map 3, page 18) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless:

a) The land they occupy falls within the Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Containment Area (see Map 3, page 17) which is the subject of Rule 5.4.2.4 or;

b) A management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.4

Occupiers of land within the Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Containment Area (see Map 3, page 18) shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), on land they occupy, each year before they produce seed 10 metres inside the Containment Area boundary.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.5

Occupiers within the Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zone (see Map 4, page 19), shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land that they occupy, each year before they produce seed, unless a management plan approved by Council is in place.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.6

No person shall transport any risk goods into the Upper Awatere, Upper Wairau or Waima/Ure Broom Control Zones that may contain broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plant material.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.7 (Good Neighbour Rule)

Occupiers shall destroy all broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) plants, on land they occupy, within 10 metres of their property boundary each year before they produce seed, where the adjoining land is clear of, or under management for broom.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Rule 5.4.2.8

Occupiers are required to notify Council of any new infestation of broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) on land that they occupy within the Upper Awatere, Upper Wairau or Waima/Ure Broom Control Zones within 5 working days of the initial observation.

A breach of this rule will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

Note: Current distribution data held by Council is able to be viewed online via Council's Smart Maps service.

Explanation of the rules:

The purpose of Rules 5.4.2.1 - 5.4.2.5 are in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers within the respective Broom Control Zones are being required to take specified actions to prevent the pest establishing on that land.

The purpose of Rule 5.4.2.6 is in accordance with section 73(5)(e) in that activities that may be at risk of introducing broom into the Control Zones are regulated as the constant re-introduction of broom into the Control Zones via contaminated goods will affect the implementation of the RPMP.

The purpose of Rule 5.4.2.7 is in accordance with section 73(5)(h) in that all occupiers of land harbouring an infestation of broom are being required to take specified actions to prevent spread pressure onto adjoining properties where the adjoining land is clear of, or under management for broom.
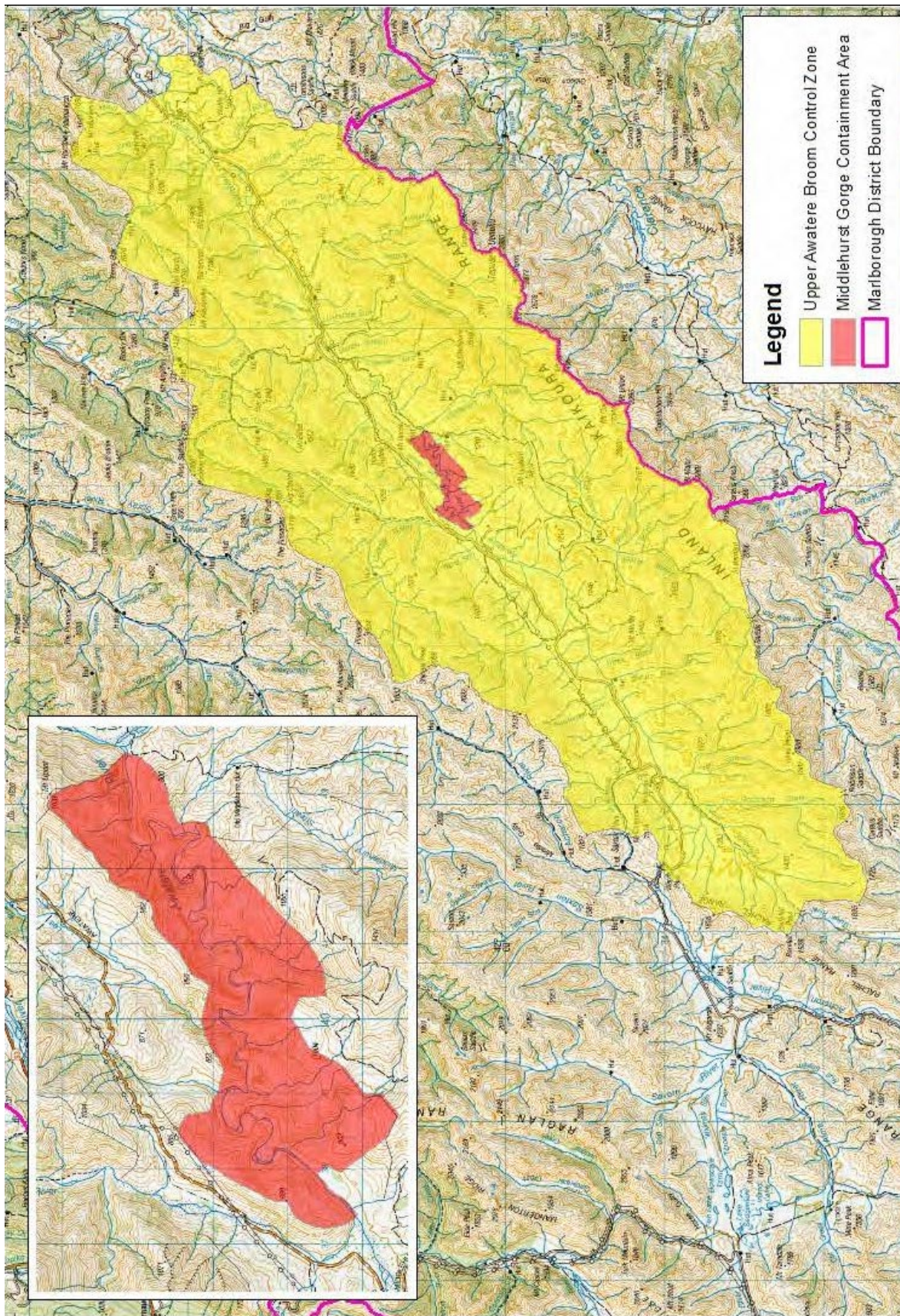
The purpose of Rule 5.4.2.8 is in accordance with section 73(5)(a) to assist Council with surveillance. Requiring occupiers to notify Council of new sites and plants on their properties in addition to Council's

own monitoring will assist Council in achieving the objective of the programme. New infestations will be able to be controlled and incorporated into the programme.
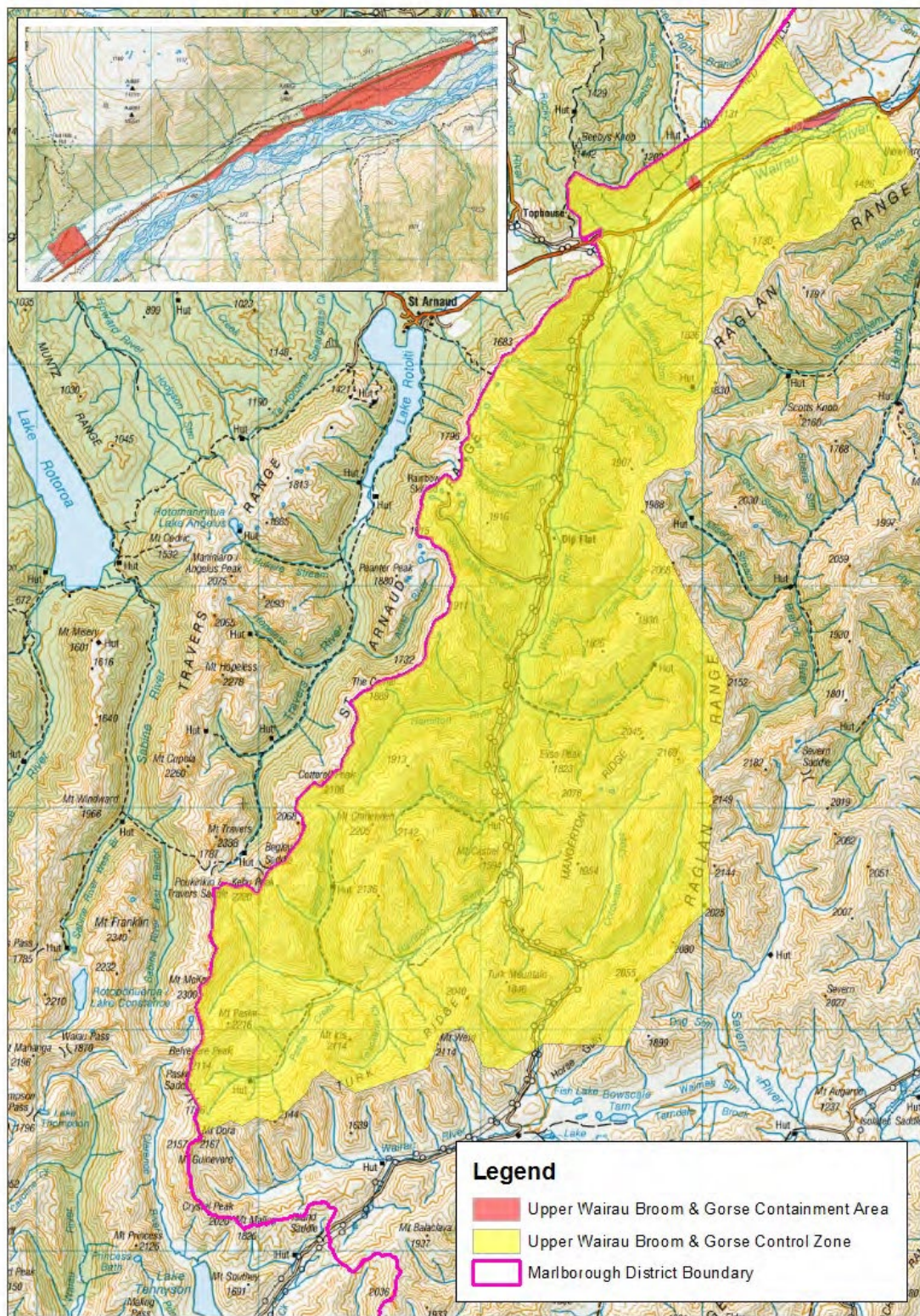
Notifying the Council of the presence of the specified pest will enable the Council to:

- Update its records.
- Map new sites of this pest.
- Carry out control work before they spread.
- Determine whether new control regimes should be considered.
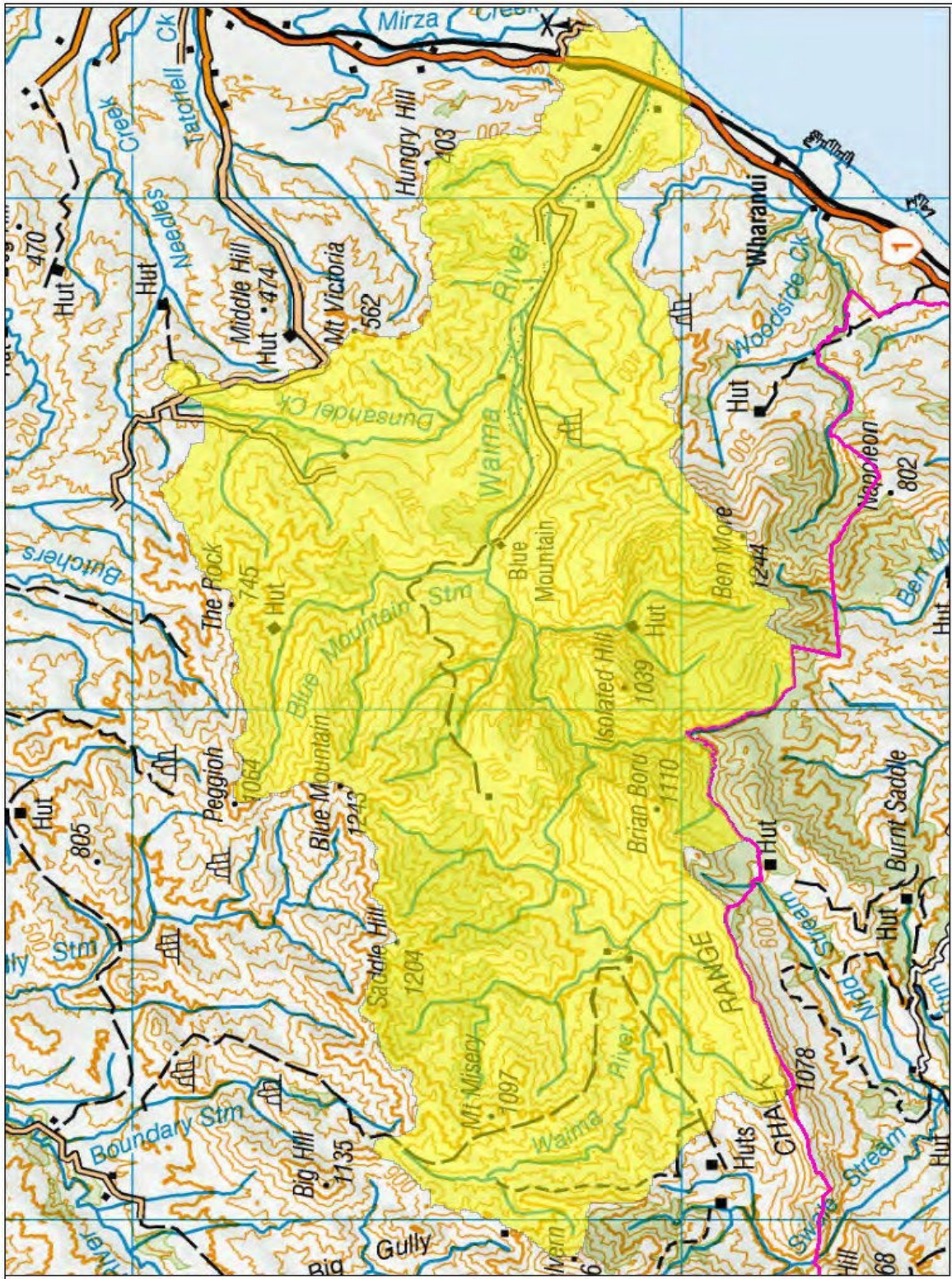- Provide advice and information to occupiers where appropriate

Council as the management agency will administer these rules.

Map 2: Upper Awatere Broom Programme

Map 3: Upper Wairau Broom and Gorse Programme

Map 4: Waima/Ure Broom and Gorse Control Zone