



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR PLANTATION FORESTRY

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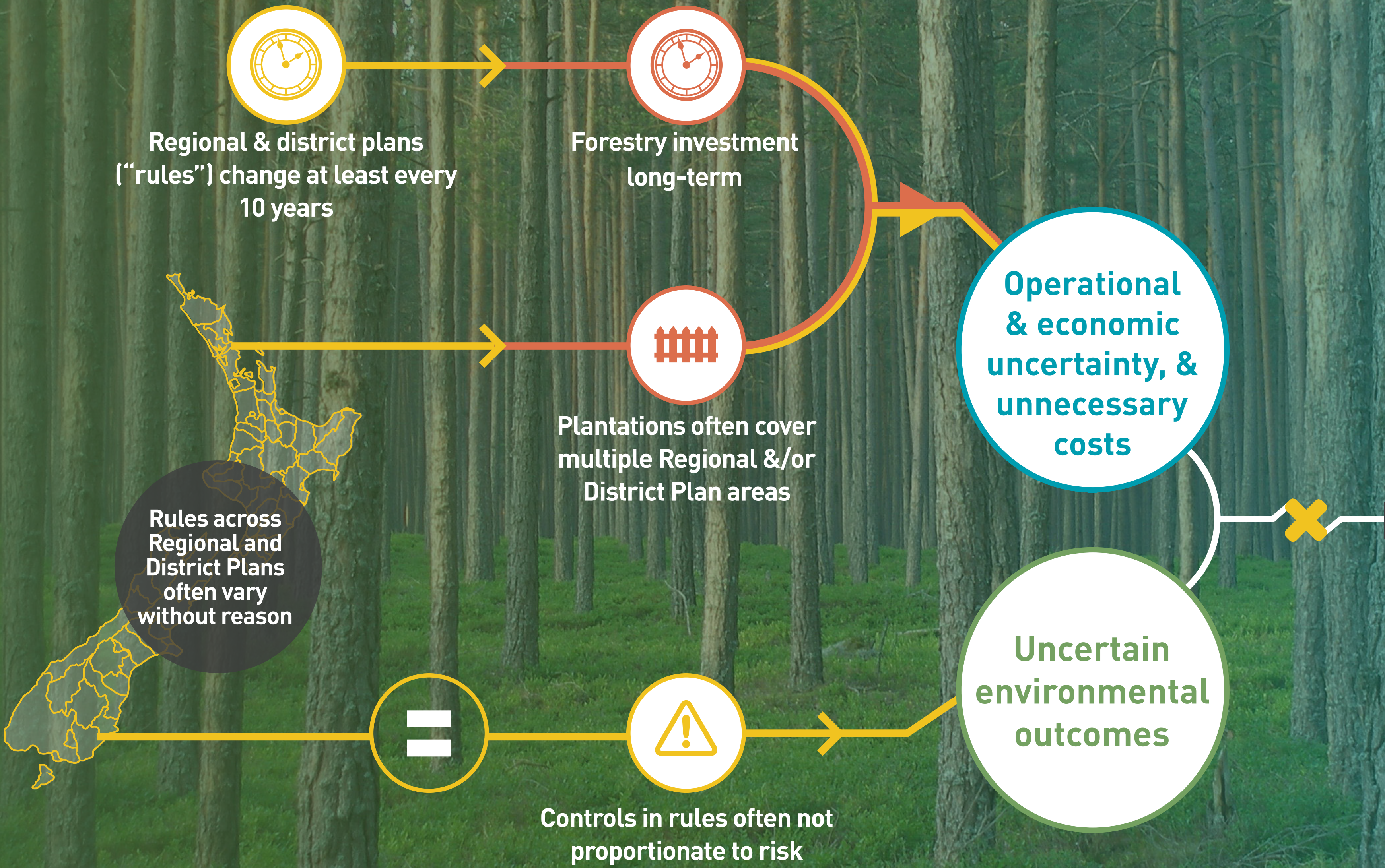
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3. is written in relation to the NES-PF context only.



PART 1

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

CASE FOR CHANGE



RMA PURPOSE (s 5)



OBJECTIVES OF THE NES-PF

ARE TO



Maintain or improve environmental outcomes associated with plantation forestry activities

AND



Increase the efficiency



Improve certainty

...in how plantation forests are managed

All objectives achieved by:



Removing unwarranted variation in regional and district plan rules



Providing fit-for-purpose forestry regulations to manage effects



Permitting activities if efficient + no significant adverse effects



Allowing more stringent plan rules in certain circumstances to protect locally significant and sensitive environments

FORESTRY REGULATION REFORM: The process to date & next steps



NES-PF OVERVIEW

**SINGLE NATIONAL
SET OF REGULATIONS
TAILORED TO FORESTRY**



**REPLACES EXISTING
REGIONAL & DISTRICT
PLAN FORESTRY RULES**

**NES-PF REGULATIONS APPLY
TO FORESTRY THAT IS:**



Planted for commercial purposes



At least 1 hectare plus



To be harvested

**IT ALSO APPLIES TO ALL
ASSOCIATED FORESTRY
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**REGULATES EIGHT
ACTIVITIES**



**THAT REPRESENT THE
PLANTATION FORESTRY
LIFECYCLE**

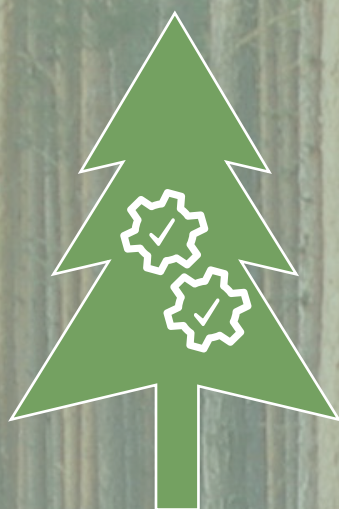
NES-PF OVERVIEW: Continued

NES-PF RULES ARE BASED ON

Regional & district plans



Good forestry management practices



NES-PF TAKES A RISK-BASED APPROACH WHERE

Risk assessment tools used to identify risk levels



Foresters identify & manage high-risk activities



Councils monitor compliance



FORESTRY
ACTIVITIES
CLASSIFIED
AS EITHER



NES-PF OVERVIEW: Regulations based on 4 principles

1

Where an activity's **EFFECTS are not significant** = **ACTIVITY is PERMITTED**





2

When the detected risk of adverse effects increases	Restrictions (i.e. consent and condition requirements) get stricter
--	---




3

Thresholds at which consents are required are risk-based and informed by up-to-date science



4

Aim is to provide **NATIONALLY CONSISTENT APPROACH** **WHILE** **ADEQUATELY PROTECTING** National & local environ needs

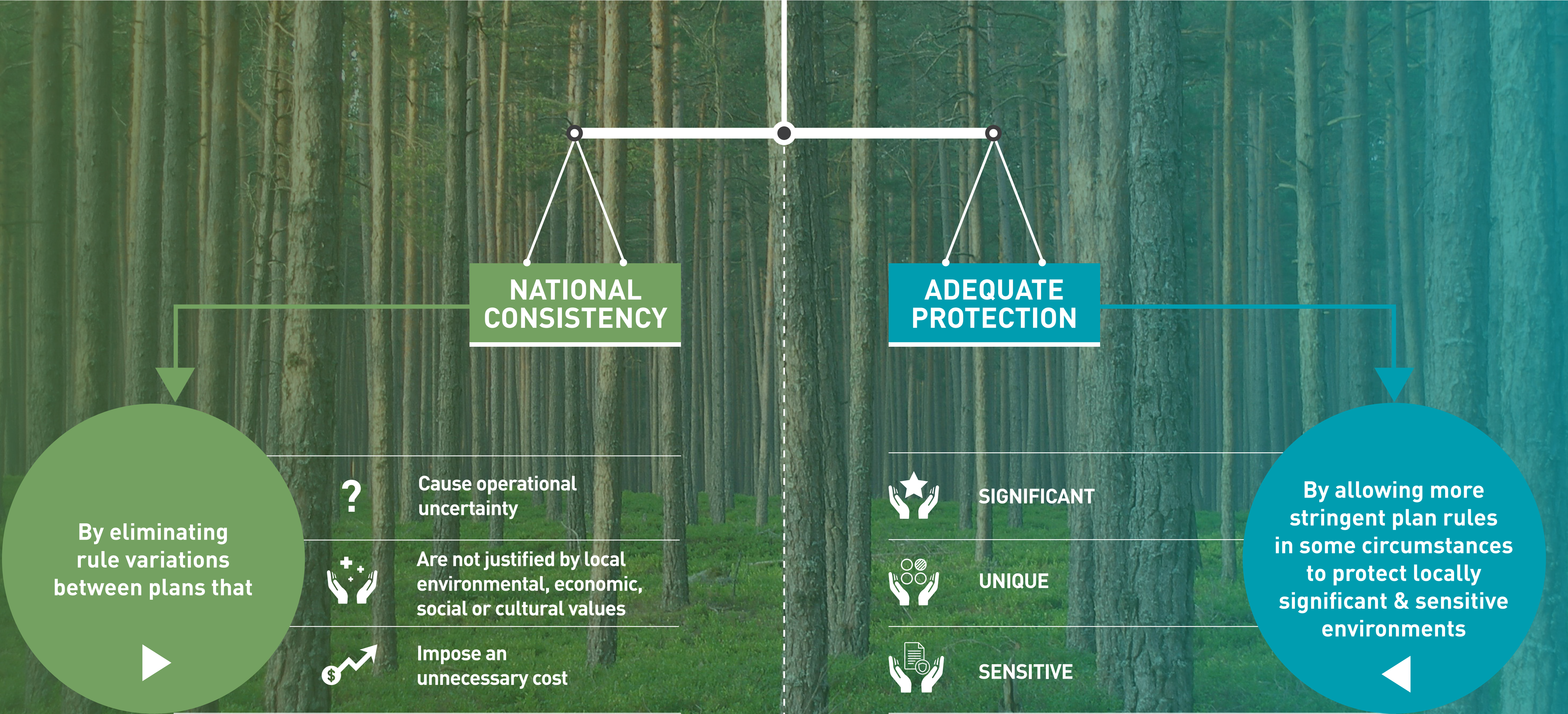




PART 2

**BALANCING
NATIONAL
CONSISTENCY
WITH LOCAL
PROTECTION**

WHEN PLAN RULES MAY BE MORE STRINGENT: Balancing consistency & protection



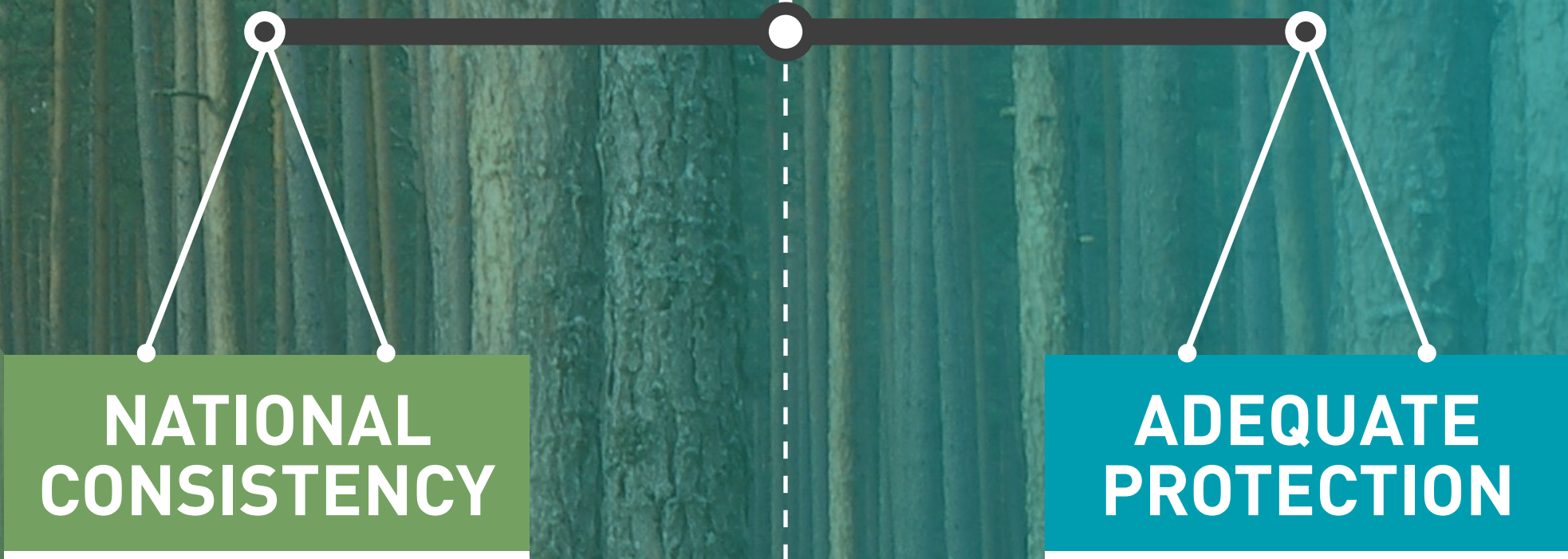
NES-PF PROVIDES CONSISTENT REGULATION



SINGLE NATIONAL STANDARD
that operates from the starting point
of **NO** regional/district **VARIANCE**



MORE STRINGENT PLAN RULES
MAY ONLY PREVAIL OVER THE NES-
PF IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES



NES-PF PROVIDES ADEQUATE PROTECTION

NATIONAL
CONSISTENCY

ADEQUATE
PROTECTION

BY ALLOWING PLAN RULES TO BE MORE
STRINGENT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES



TO PROTECT MATTERS OF
NATIONAL IMPORTANCE,
NAMELY:

“Outstanding natural
features & landscapes”

“Significant natural
areas”



ACHIEVE OTHER NATIONAL
INSTRUMENT OBJECTIVES

FW objectives to give
effect to FW-NPS

NZCPS policies 11, 13,
15 & 22



PROTECT UNIQUE AND
SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Separation granite
point soils

Geothermal areas and
karst geology

Certain human drinking
water sources

A photograph of a dense forest of tall, thin trees with green foliage in the background. In the foreground, there is a lush green undergrowth. Two large, overlapping circles are superimposed on the image: a white circle on the left and a dark grey circle on the right. The text 'PART 3' is centered within the white circle, and the text 'NES-PF's RISK-BASED REGULATORY APPROACH' is centered within the dark grey circle.

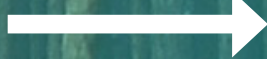
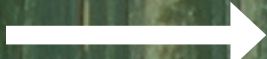
PART 3

**NES-PF's
RISK-BASED
REGULATORY
APPROACH**

NES-PF TAKES A RISK-BASED APPROACH

FORESTRY SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Measure risk of each forestry activity



LEVEL OF IDENTIFIED RISK DETERMINES:

Whether a forestry activity is classified as being:



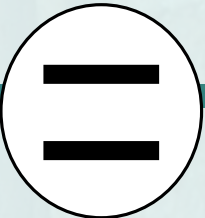
How strict conditions set for each activity are



RESTRICTIONS SET BASED ON RISK



The **higher** the identified **risk**



The more likely consent is required



The **stricter** the **restrictions** imposed



A photograph of a dense forest with many tall, thin tree trunks and a green undergrowth. Two large circles are overlaid on the image: a white one on the left and a dark grey one on the right, which overlap each other in the center.


PART 4

NES-PF RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS

OVERVIEW OF NES-PF'S RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS


INTRODUCES THREE RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- 1




Erosion Susceptibility Classification

EROSION & SEDIMENT RISK
- 2



Wilding Tree Risk Calculator

RISK OF WILDING CONIFER SPREAD
- 3



Fish Spawning Indicator

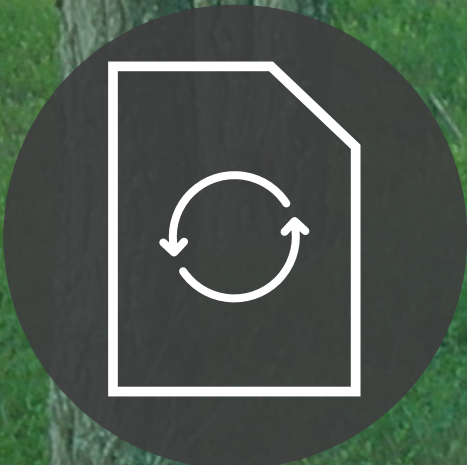
RISK OF FISH & HABITAT DISTURBANCE

TOOLS BASED ON LOCAL GEOPHYSICAL, BIOLOGICAL AND ECOLOGICAL DATA



+

UPDATED AS NEW INFO AND TECHNOLOGY BECOMES AVAILABLE



TOOLS TAILORED TO IDENTIFIED FORESTRY-SPECIFIC RISKS



THUS, CAN MORE ACCURATELY DETECT & GAUGE FORESTRY EFFECTS






















EROSION SUSCEPTIBILITY CLASSIFICATION TOOL



DETERMINES FOREST LAND EROSION RISK

Low Susceptibility → Very High Susceptibility

	Afforestation				 MAY NEED CONSENT
	Prune & thin				
	Earthworks				 MAY NEED CONSENT
	River crossing				
	Forestry quarrying				
	Harvesting				 MAY NEED CONSENT
	Mech land prep				
	Replanting				

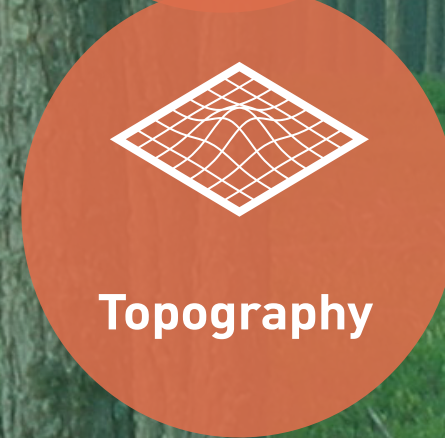
GREEN ZONE

YELLOW ZONE

ORANGE ZONE

RED ZONE

IT IS BASED ON



OTHER CONSIDERATIONS



Erosion classification review process
Landowners/forest operators/councils can initiate review of specific land



Based on “potential erosion severity” data
Published in land use capability surveys



Online interactive map
Helps landowners easily identify erosion susceptibility of their land
<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/growing-and-producing/forestry/overview/>

FISH SPAWNING INDICATOR TOOL

A CONSISTENT APPROACH

To managing the risk of fish and habitat disturbance caused by plantation forestry activities



WHILE ACCOUNTING FOR LOCALISED VARIATION

In terms of: fish species, latitude, altitude & climatic conditions

TAKES TARGETED APPROACH THAT RECOGNISES & INDICATES



33 fish species present in rivers, lakes and wetlands sensitive to forestry activities



When these fish are spawning



Where these fish are spawning



REQUIRES CONSENT

for activities that disturb spawning habitats during spawning times

BASED ON BEST SCIENTIFIC DATA

In terms of variables relevant to ascertaining risk



Mostly restricts applicable activities during:



ONLINE INTERACTIVE MAP




Lets landowners identify fish species present in streams / rivers on their property

WILDING TREE RISK CALCULATOR

A CONSISTENT APPROACH

To managing wilding conifer spread risk associated with:

-  Afforestation
-  Replanting other species



Important, as unmanaged spread can adversely affect:

-  Landscape values
-  Conservation values
-  Land uses
-  Hydrology

HOW IT WORKS?

Calculator determines wilding conifer risk at a given site using


6 RISK INDICATORS

Points assigned to each indicator - if the score is 12 or higher consent is required

This tool supports the “National Wilding Control Programme”

MEASURING RISK

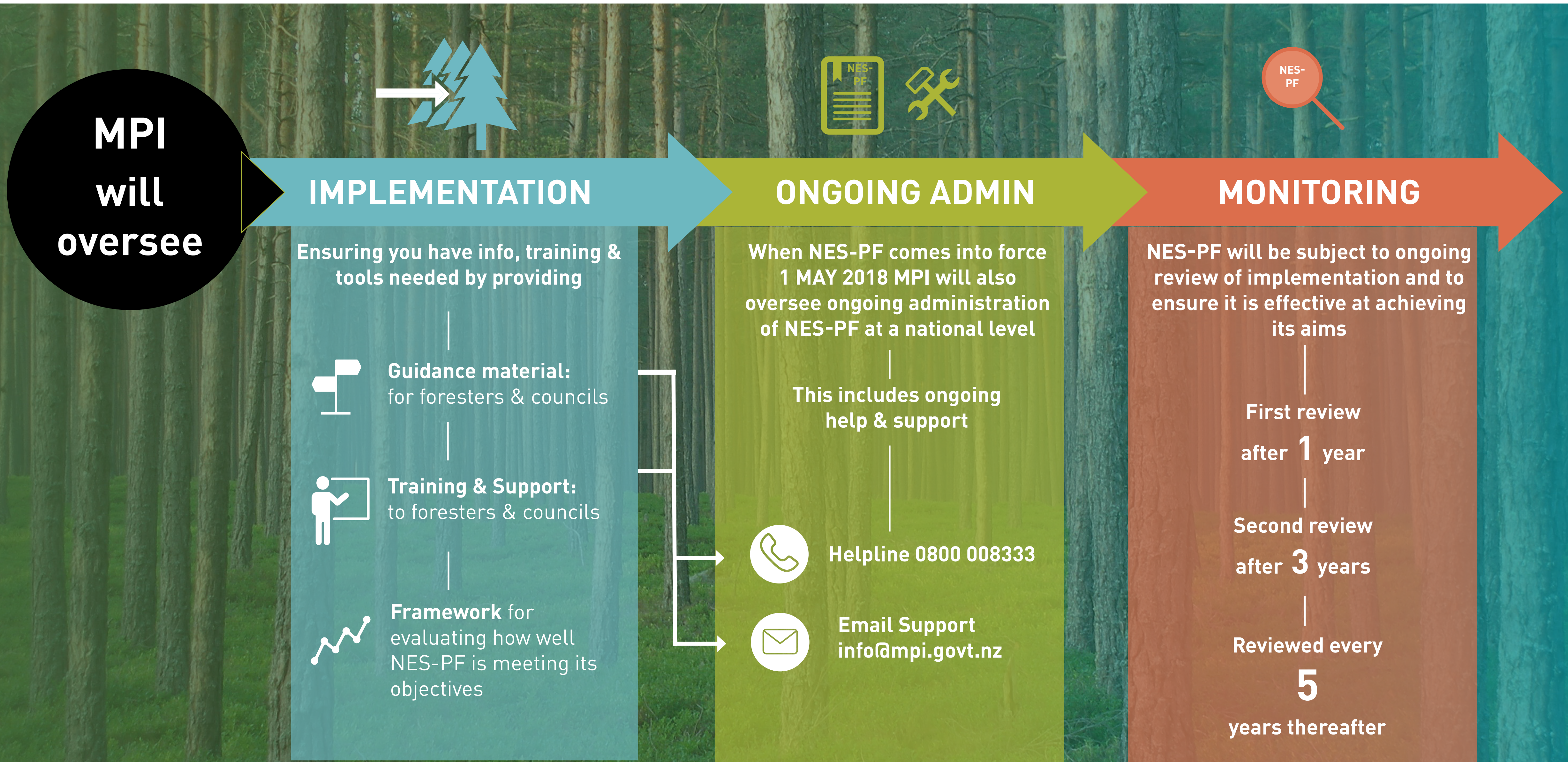
- 1** Spread vigour of the tree species
- 2** Palatability of tree species to livestock
- 3** Topographical placement of the site to be planted
- 4** Land-use characteristics of planted land
- 5** Surrounding vegetation
- 6** Wind conditions




PART 5

**ROLLING OUT /
ADMINISTERING
NES-PF**

IMPLEMENTING, ADMINISTERING & MONITORING NES-PF



A photograph of a dense forest with many tall, thin tree trunks and a green undergrowth. Two large, overlapping circles are centered on the image. The left circle is white and contains the text 'PART 6'. The right circle is dark gray and contains the text 'IMPROVED ALIGNMENT WITH THE RMA'.

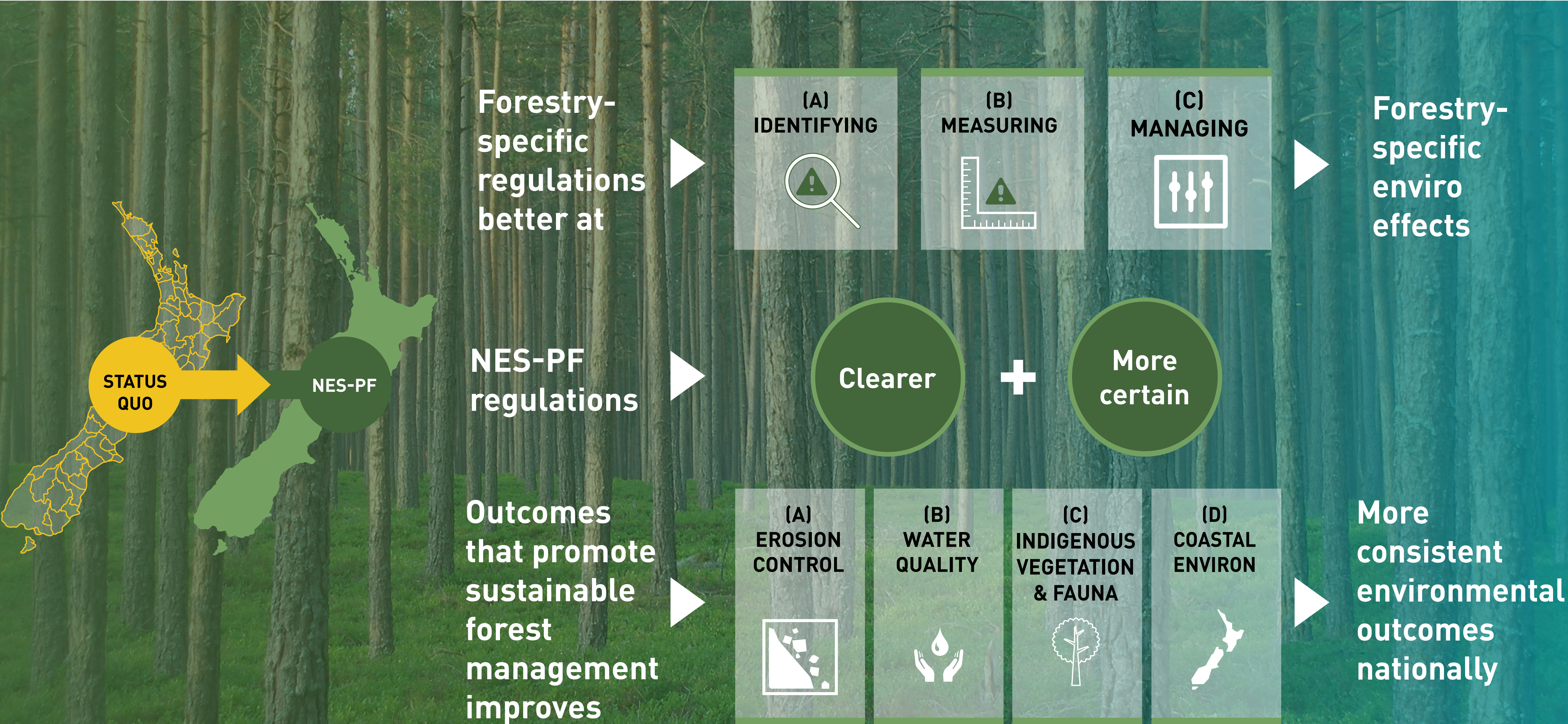
PART 6

**IMPROVED
ALIGNMENT
WITH THE RMA**

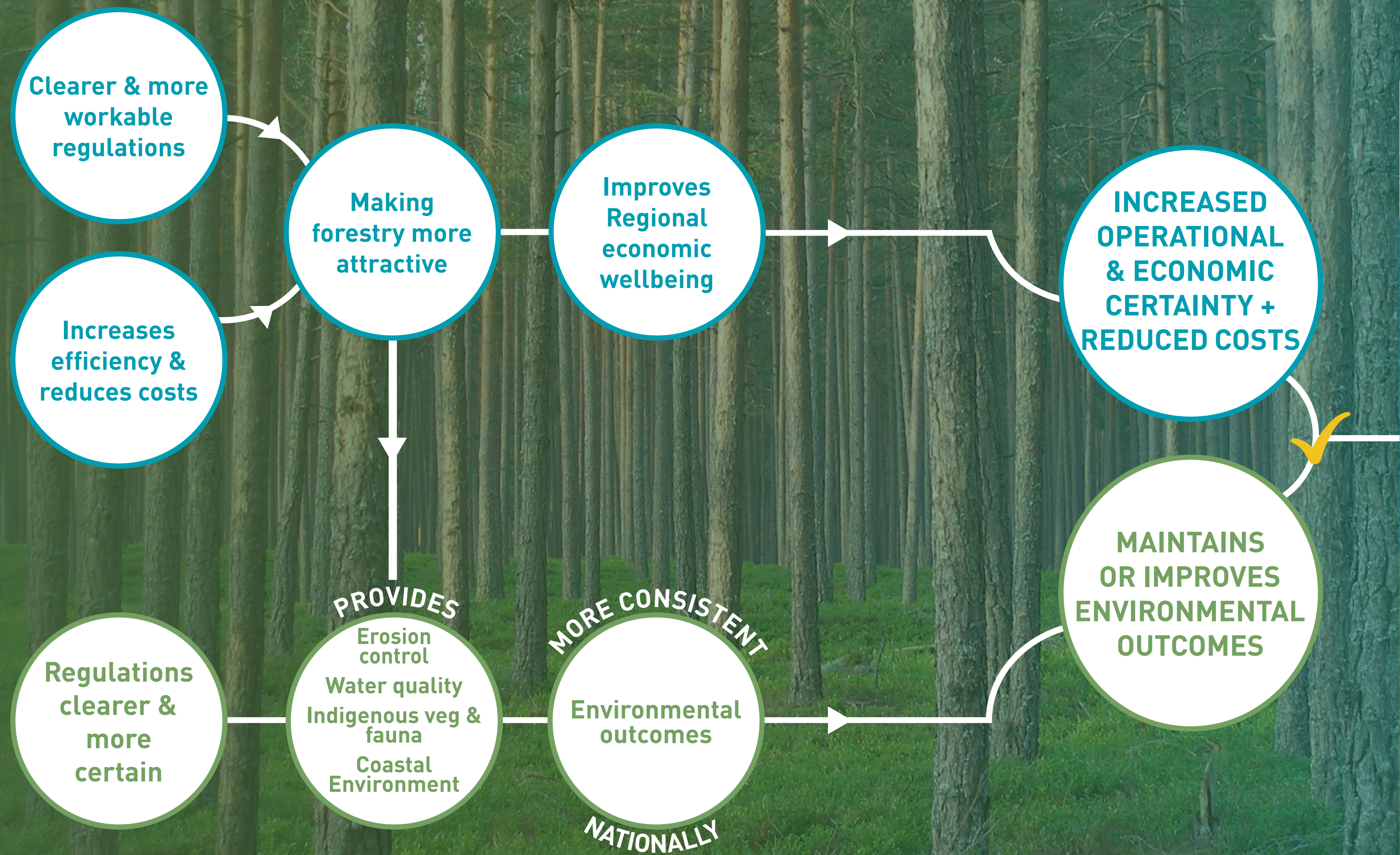
ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF NES-PF



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF NES-PF



IMPROVED ALIGNMENT WITH RMA PURPOSE



RMA Purpose (5)

Use, development & protection of natural & physical resources


that provides for

- Economic →
- Social →
- Cultural →

Wellbeing

While

- Safeguarding ecosystems
- Meeting future generation's needs
- Avoiding, mitigating or remedying adverse effects



PART 7

**IMPLICATIONS
FOR
FORESTERS**

MAIN IMPLICATIONS

BENEFITS FOR FORESTERS



Reduced need to advocate on regional and district plans



Regulation set for plantations spanning regional & district boundaries



Reduced costs over time



Increased operating efficiency



Greater regulatory and investment certainty over time

OTHER IMPLICATIONS



Regulations risk based: low environmental risk = activity typically **permitted**



Of forestry activities permitted if relevant conditions met



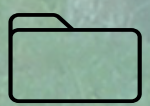
Initial compliance costs increase during transition



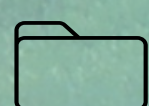
Understand when & how to apply risk-assessment tools



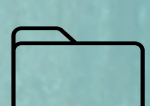
Foresters must keep good records including:



Quarry Erosion
& Sediment
Management Plan



Harvest
Plan



Forestry
Earthworks
Management Plan

PERMITTED ACTIVITY CONDITIONS

To be permitted an activity must meet all the permitted activity (PA) conditions



NES-PF’s PA conditions are based on extensive consultation, good forestry practice and existing council rules



All PA’s have been assessed as not having significant adverse effects when conditions are met



If PA conditions can’t be met an activity is controlled, restricted discretionary or discretionary, so resource consent will be needed

NOTICE CONDITION

Notice must be give prior to



Afforestation



Quarrying



Earthworks



Harvesting



River Crossing

ENSURES COUNCILS:

- 1. have adequate warning of activities
- 2. can prioritise monitoring (based on asessed risk)

MGMT PLAN CONDITION

Plans required for:



Harvest




Quarry Erosion and Sediment Mgmt



Earthworks

PLANS MUST INCLUDE:

- 1. mapping
- 2. risk assessment
- 3. mgmt processes to avoid, mitigate, or remedy risks



PART 8

**IMPLICATIONS
FOR
COUNCILS**

FULL PLANTATION FORESTRY REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

1

NES-PF

2

OTHER NES & NATIONAL
POLICY STATEMENTS - E.G:


3


LOCAL RMA PLANS

4

OTHER LEGISLATION

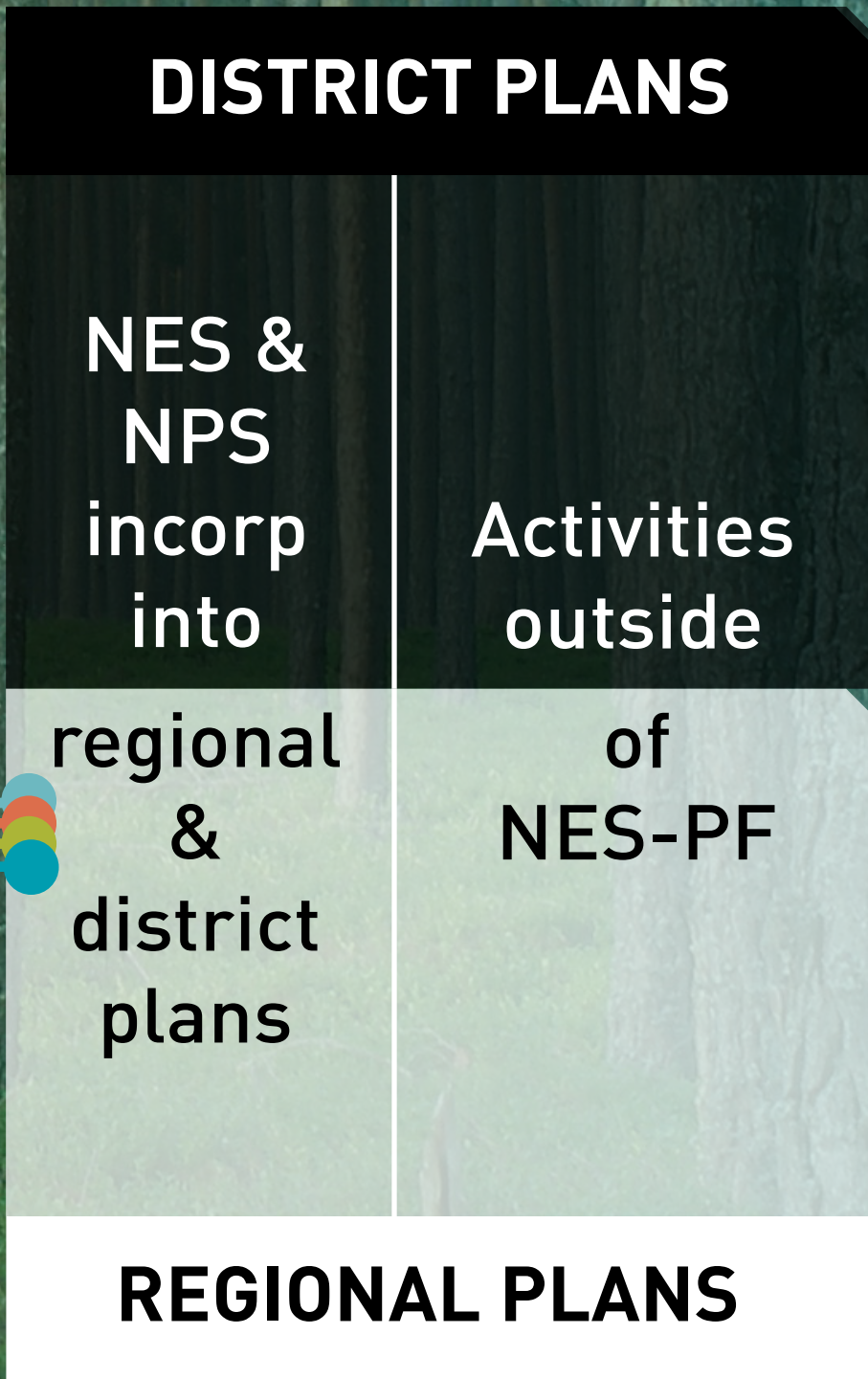


 NES
Drinking Water Management

 NES
Contaminated Soil

 NPS
NZ Coastal Policy Statement

 NPS
Freshwater Management




Wildlife
Act
1953


Biosecurity
Act
1993


Electricity
(Hazards
from
Trees)
Regs 2003


Heritage
NZ
Pouhere
Taonga Act
2014

HOW NES-PF WORKS | Regulations split into three parts

1. FORESTRY ACTIVITY REGULATIONS

Provide a **separate set** of regulations for each of the 8 forestry activities below:



2. ANCILLARY ACTIVITY REGULATIONS

Apply if any of the activities below are part of a forestry operation:



3. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Apply if forestry or ancillary activity entails 1+ of below:



HOW NES-PF WORKS | Local authority functions

NES-PF specifies for each forestry activity and associated conditions, the functions, powers and duties of:



Allocation based on RMA s 30, which specifies **RC's** resource management functions



Allocation based on RMA s 31 which specifies **TA's** resource management functions

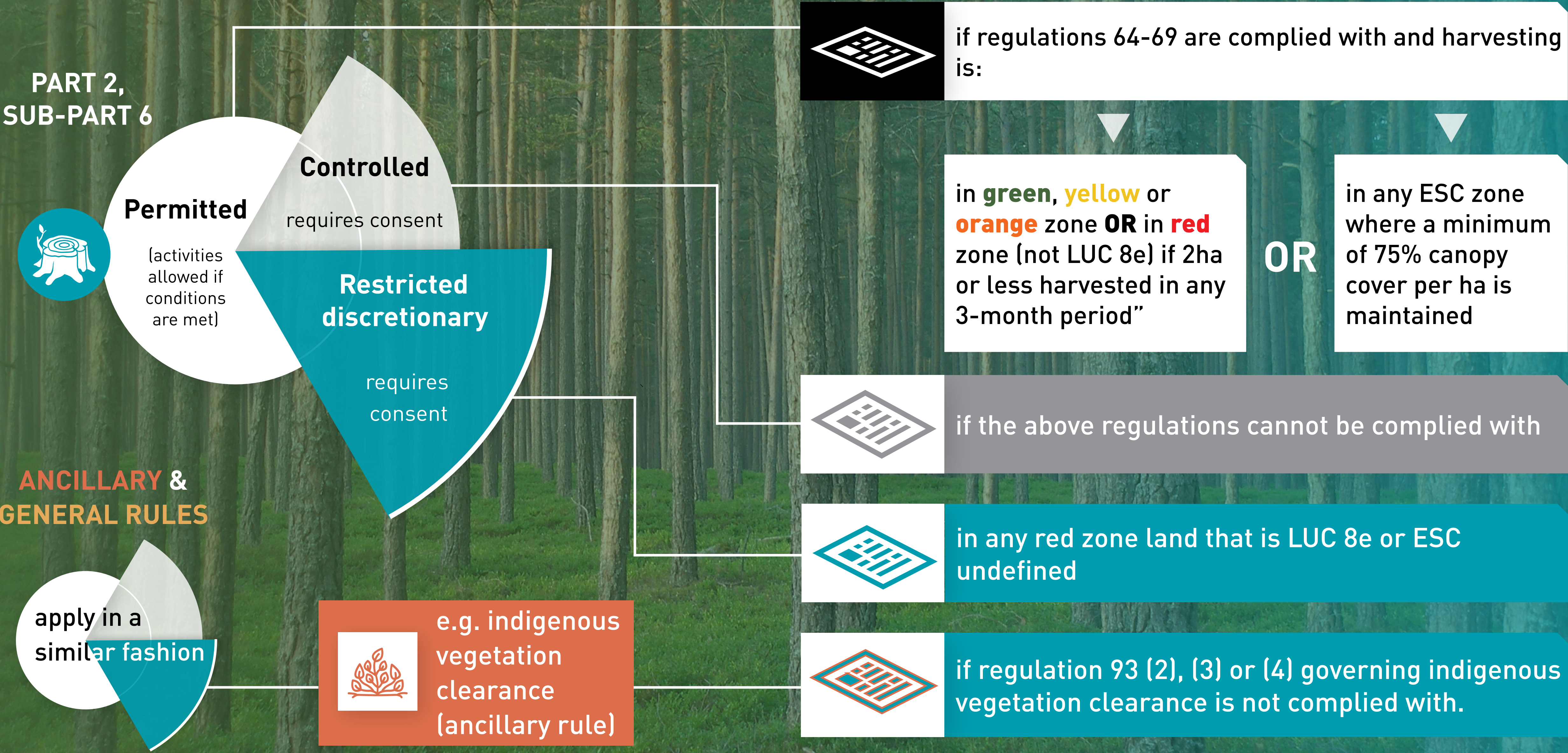
CLARITY:

This is intended to clarify responsibilities for implementing the NES-PF and avoid duplication

SHARED FUNCTIONS:

Note however, that in some cases, RCs and TCs will have functions in relation to the same activities

CONSENT THRESHOLDS: Harvesting regulation example



IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCILS

REDUCED RULE-MAKING JURISDICTION



1

NES-PF replaces most regional and district plan rules that apply to plantation forestry.



2

NES-PF removes council's authority to create and impose forestry specific rules.



3

NES-PF reduces the cost of regional and district plan development and litigation.

EXCEPTIONS

Limited authority to have more stringent rules

+

Retain authority to regulate matters not covered by NES-PF

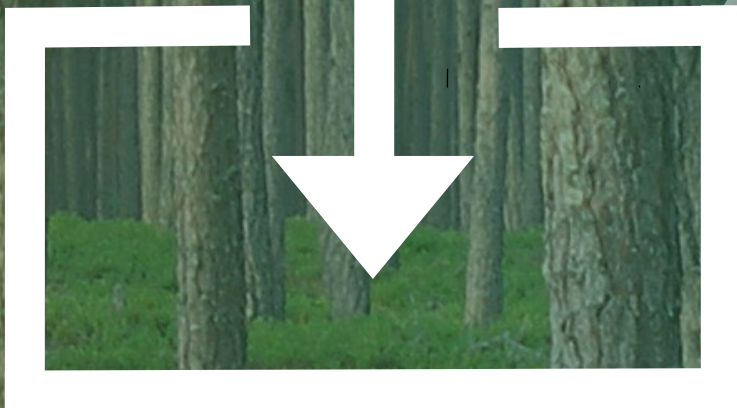
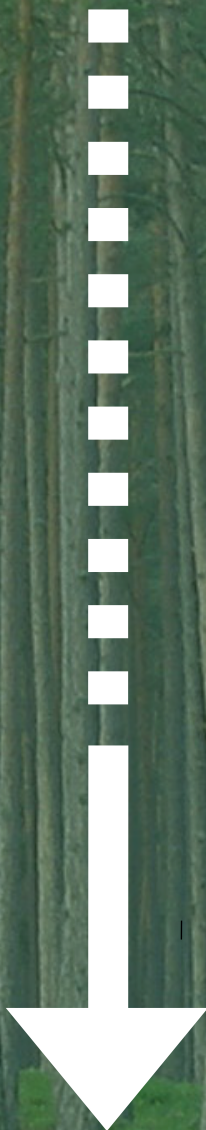
NOTE: There will be some initial plan alignment costs

IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCILS

COUNCILS FORESTRY SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS




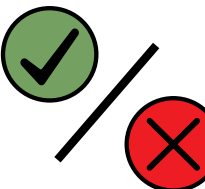
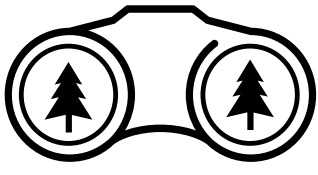

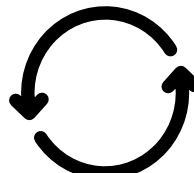
INITIAL FUNCTIONS



IMPLEMENT
NES-PF

COUNCILS DAY-TO-DAY FUNCTIONS



	Administration
	Processing consents
	Monitoring compliance (e.g. with management plans & other permitted activity conditions)
	Enforcement
	Continuous improvement (includes information gathering)

IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCILS

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS



Understanding NES-PF

Councils will need to take time to understand the regulations and what they mean for them

Up-Skilling Staff (Ongoing)

Provision of training and support tools needed to administer and implement

Plan Alignment

All rules that duplicate or conflict with NES-PF need to be removed from district and regional plans

Collaboration

Regional and district councils will need to work out what NES-PF requires of them

Consenting

Some councils may have an initial increase in consents required. This will reduce in time

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

If you have any questions after today
please get in touch



Helpline 0800 008333



Email Support: info@mpi.govt.nz