INTRODUCTION

Description of the District

The Manawatū District covers an area of 256,300 hectares and stretches from Rangiwahia in the north, to Himatangi Beach and Palmerston North City in the south. The western boundary of the District follows the Rangitikei River and the eastern boundary is the Ruahine Ranges.

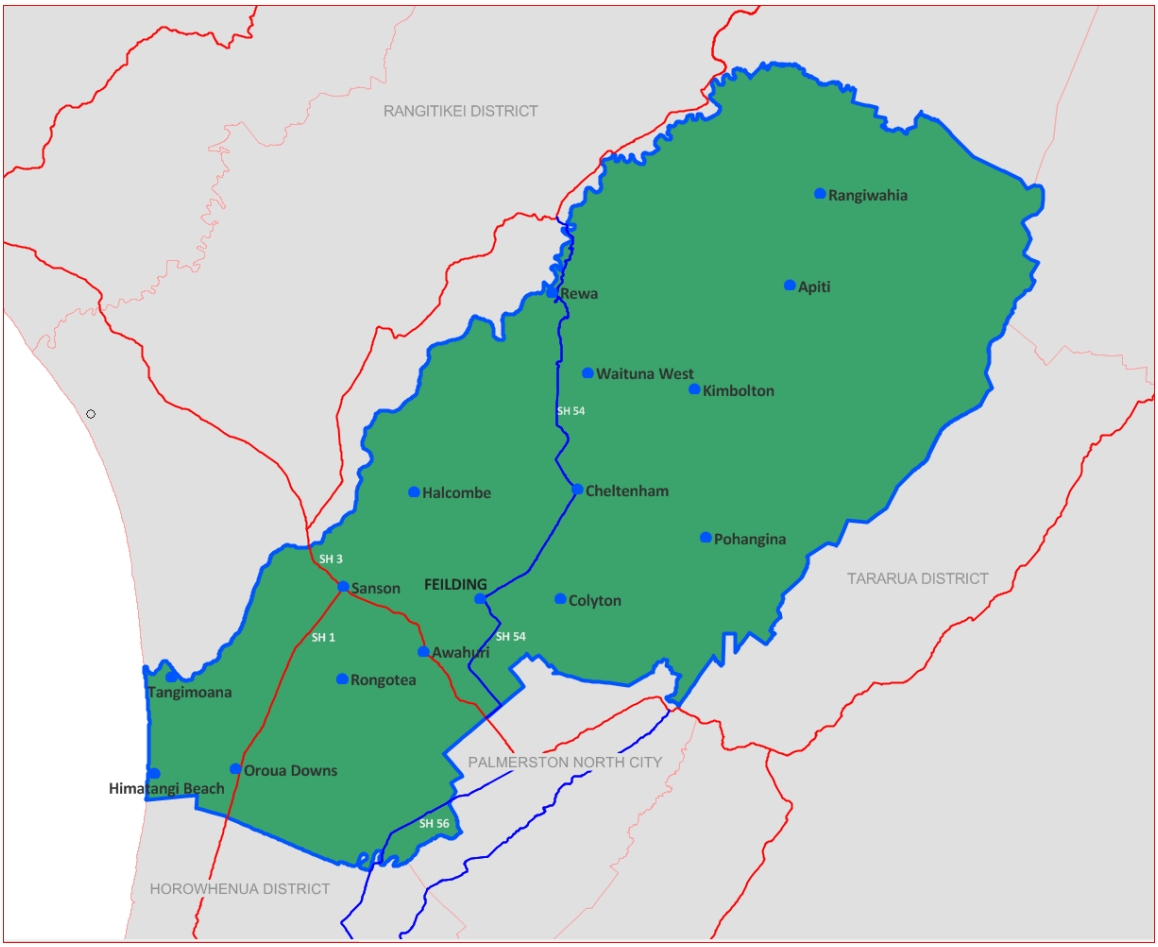


Figure 1 – Extent of the Manawatū District

Within the Manawatū District, are a range of natural features stretching from the rugged peaks of the Ruahine Ranges to the natural beauty of the Pohangina Valley and the wind swept West Coast beaches and sand dunes.

The Manawatū District is a thriving rural district with agriculture as its leading *industry*. Feilding maintains a role as a service centre to the surrounding rural community with a number of rural-

based businesses being located there. The smaller communities around the District provide access to local services.