

NZ Suburbs and Localities

Guidance for customers migrating from NZ Localities

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Table of Contents

NZ Suburbs and Localities.....	3
Introduction	3
What's new	3
What's changed	4
Examples comparing both datasets	9

NZ Suburbs and Localities

Introduction

The NZ Suburbs and Localities dataset describes the spatial extent and name of communities in urban areas (suburbs) and rural areas (localities) to help locate people and properties.

This dataset is based on NZ Localities (<https://data.linz.govt.nz/layer/104830-fire-and-emergency-nz-localities/>), which is currently maintained by Fire and Emergency New Zealand.

While creating NZ Suburbs and Localities, Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) has taken the opportunity to restructure the data based on customer feedback. Our intention is to make the suburbs and localities data easier to understand and use.

NZ Suburbs and Localities is currently a pilot dataset while we gather customer feedback on proposed changes to the data structure. Fire and Emergency NZ will continue to maintain NZ Localities during this pilot phase to allow for the transition to NZ Suburbs and Localities.

The purpose of this document is to explain the proposed changes to the data structure, and to provide guidance for customers planning to migrate from NZ Localities to NZ Suburbs and Localities once the pilot phase is completed.

What's new

1. Adopted Official Place Names

The New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB) is New Zealand's national place naming authority responsible for official place names in New Zealand.

Official place names recorded by the New Zealand Geographic Board have been adopted as the suburb or locality name. This includes names with macrons and dual names.

More information: <https://www.linz.govt.nz/regulatory/place-names/about-new-zealand-geographic-board>

Example: Taupō and Riverton/Aparima

2. Ascii Fields

All name fields have a corresponding ascii field where all special characters including macrons have been removed. This is to facilitate querying the data and to support customers unable to work with macrons at this time.

Example: Taupo and Riverton Aparima

3. Territorial Authority

Every suburb and locality has been assigned to a Territorial Authority.

There are a number of suburb and localities which are located in multiple Territorial Authorities. Each Territorial Authority name is listed, comma separated, and ordered alphabetically.

This work referenced the Stats NZ 2022 Territorial Authority dataset. Note that offshore islands are not included in Territorial Authority boundaries.

<https://datafinder.stats.govt.nz/layer/106668-territorial-authority-2022-generalised>

Example: Ashhurst is assigned to three Territorial Authorities:

Manawatu District, Palmerston North City, Tararua District

What's changed

4. Name Field

Every suburb and locality now has a single name. This has been taken from the highest of the 4th order, 3rd order, 2nd order or 1st order names in NZ Localities.

If an official place name has been gazetted by the New Zealand Geographic Board, this name will replace the original name used in NZ Localities, sourced from <https://data.linz.govt.nz/table/105353-nz-localities-nzgb-compliant-names/>

Example: Miranda has been replaced by Pūkoro / Miranda

5. Additional Names

The intention of the additional name field is to capture any common, in use names for the suburb or locality. The additional name field is populated from a number of sources:

- Locality Alias related table where type is alternate name

Example:

Name: Wellington Central

Additional Name: Wellington CBD

- The lower order names where a feature has multiple order names in NZ Localities. This relates mainly to water features.

Example:

Name: Whitianga Bay

Additional Name: Bay of Plenty

- The parent locality identified by the parent_ID field in NZ Localities. This also relates mainly to water features.

Example:

Name: Waiheke Island

Additional Name: Hauraki Gulf

6. Combined Major Name and City Name

Major Name and City Name have been combined into a single field, mainly to avoid nulls and improve geocoding.

It is still possible to identify a City Name from a Major Name using the Major Name Type field.

It may be useful to note that City Name is adopted as a component of an address in NZ Addresses and Addressing Information Management System (AIMS), but Toitū Te Whenua do not adopt the Major Name as part of an official physical address.

Further work is required in future to define the purpose of Major Name and to confirm with our stakeholders the names have been correctly assigned.

7. Historic Names

The New Zealand Geographic Board sometimes records historic names in the Gazetteer and NZGB is the authoritative source for these historic names. In the Gazetteer names are classified as replaced, discontinued, removed, withdrawn, collected, original Māori name and original Moriori name. NZGB's role is to make names for one feature or place discoverable, but most importantly point to the official place names or recorded place names (where there is no official place name), as the two classifications of names to be used in the new NZ Suburbs and Localities dataset.

New Zealand Geographic Board Gazetteer - <https://gazetteer.linz.govt.nz/>

Historic names were held in NZ Localities Locality Alias related table.

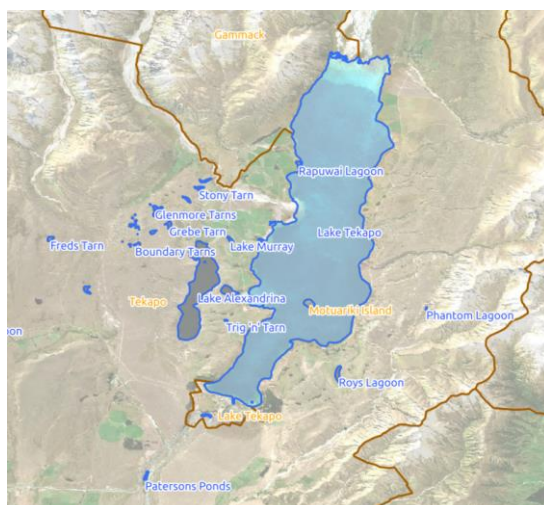
8. Lakes

Small lakes and tarns have been removed from NZ Suburbs and Localities.

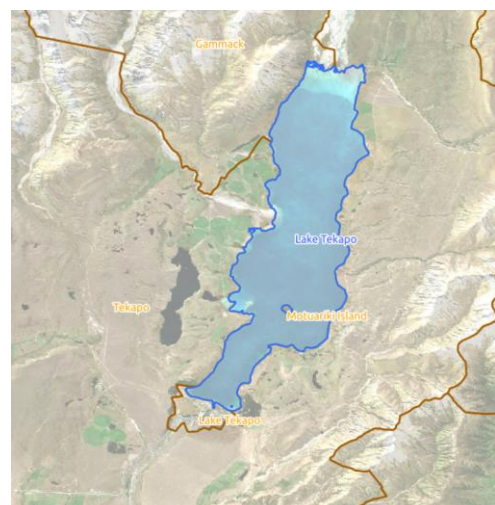
Some lakes remain in the dataset if their boundary defines part of a suburb and locality boundary. In addition, Fire and Emergency NZ have confirmed named bays as being critical to an emergency response, and so any lake with a named bay remains within NZ Suburbs and Localities.

Toitū Te Whenua and Fire and Emergency NZ are working together to ensure that all lakes removed from NZ Localities are available in the NZTopo50 Lakes layer

<https://data.linz.govt.nz/layer/50293-nz-lake-polygons-topo-150k/data>



Lakes in NZ Localities



Lakes in NZ Suburbs and Localities

9. Data Model

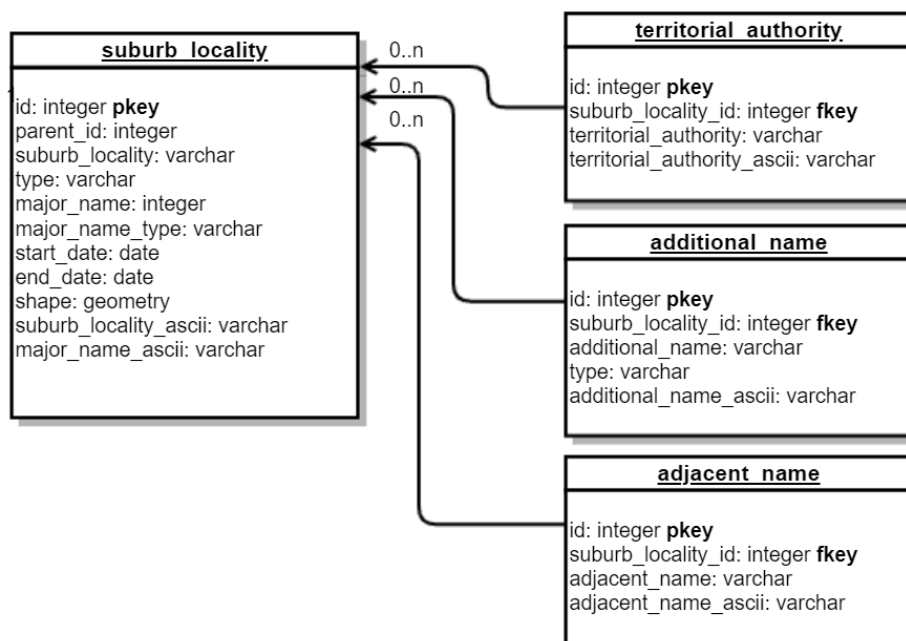
Customer feedback suggests the current NZ Localities data structure is too complex. To respond to this feedback NZ Suburbs and Localities has been created as a single table.

<u>nz_suburb_and_locality</u>
id: integer pkey suburb_locality: varchar additional_name : varchar type: varchar major_name: varchar major_name_type: varchar territorial_authority: varchar suburb_locality_ascii: varchar additional_name_ascii: varchar major_name_ascii: varchar territorial_authority_ascii: varchar shape geometry

10. Related Tables

To ensure the capability to use the data for geocoding is retained, a full version of the data model will be published, which includes three related tables to form a one-to-many relationship for Territorial Authorities, Additional Name and Adjacent Name.

The full data model will be published via the LINZ Data Service once the data structure of the single table has been approved by our stakeholders.



11. Removed Fields

A number of fields have been identified as redundant either as part of the data restructure, or based on feedback from Fire and Emergency NZ.

The following fields have been removed:

- Type_Order
- Has_AddressRoad
- City ID
- MajorLocality_ID
- Start_Date
- End_Date

Examples comparing both datasets

NZ Suburbs and Localities: Ashhurst

id	63
suburb_locality	Ashhurst
additional_name	Raumai, Awahou South
type	Suburb
major_name	Ashhurst
major_name_type	City
territorial_authority	Manawatu District, Palmerston North City, Tararua District
suburb_locality_ascii	Ashhurst
additional_name_ascii	Raumai, Awahou South
major_name_ascii	Ashhurst
territorial_authority_ascii	Manawatu District, Palmerston North City, Tararua District

NZ Localities: Ashhurst

id	63
parent_id	0
suburb_4th	Ashhurst
suburb_3rd	NULL
suburb_2nd	NULL
suburb_1st	NULL
type_order	0
type	SUBURB
city_id	100146
city_name	Ashhurst
has_addres	Y
start_date	2005-06-13
end_date	NULL
major_id	100146
major_name	Ashhurst

NZ Suburbs and Localities: Roys Bay

id	7458
suburb_locality	Roys Bay
additional_name	Lake Wānaka
type	Inland Bay
major_name	NULL
major_name_type	NULL
territorial_authority	Queenstown-Lakes District
suburb_locality_ascii	Roys Bay
additional_name_ascii	Lake Wanaka
major_name_ascii	NULL
territorial_authority_ascii	Queenstown Lakes District

NZ Localities: Roys Bay

id	<input type="text" value="7458"/>
parent_id	<input type="text" value="4052"/>
suburb_4th	<input type="text" value="Roys Bay"/>
suburb_3rd	<input type="text" value="NULL"/>
suburb_2nd	<input type="text" value="NULL"/>
suburb_1st	<input type="text" value="Lake Wanaka"/>
type_order	<input type="text" value="4"/>
type	<input type="text" value="INLAND BAY"/>
city_id	<input type="text" value="0"/>
city_name	<input type="text" value="NULL"/>
has_addres	<input type="text" value="N"/>
start_date	<input type="text" value="2005-05-06"/>
end_date	<input type="text" value="NULL"/>
major_id	<input type="text" value="0"/>
major_name	<input type="text" value="NULL"/>