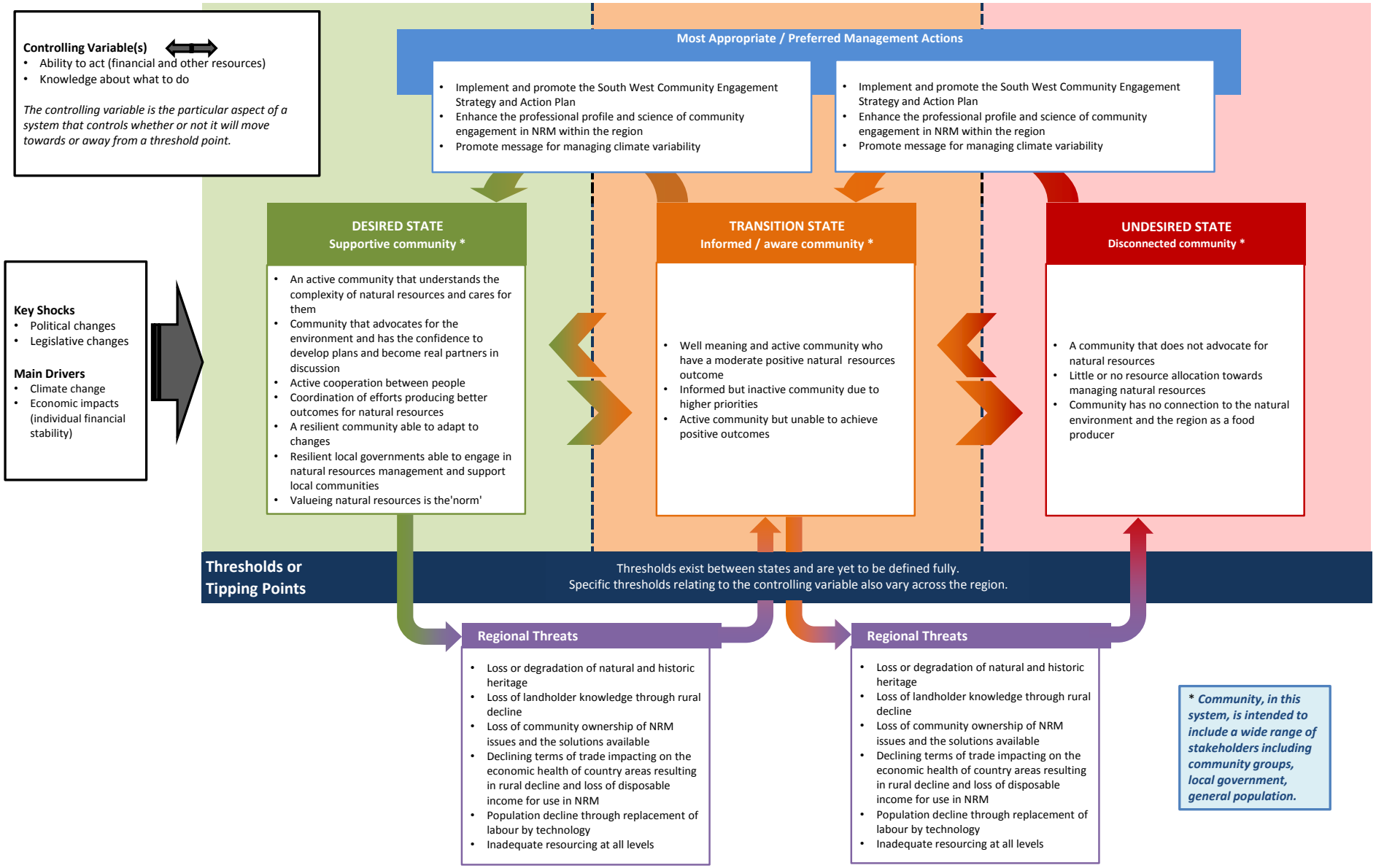
Controlling Variable(s)
• Ability to act (financial and other resources)
• Knowledge about what to do
The controlling variable is the particular aspect of a system that controls whether or not it will move towards or away from a threshold point.
Most Appropriate / Preferred Management Actions
• Implement and promote the South West Community Engagement Strategy and Action Plan
• Enhance the professional profile and science of community engagement in NRM within the region
• Promote message for managing climate variability
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Key Shocks
• Political changes
• Legislative changes
Main Drivers
• Climate change
• Economic impacts (individual financial stability)
DESIRED STATE
Supportive community *
• An active community that understands the complexity of natural resources and cares for them
• Community that advocates for the environment and has the confidence to develop plans and become real partners in discussion
• Active cooperation between people
• Coordination of efforts producing better outcomes for natural resources
• A resilient community able to adapt to changes
• Resilient local governments able to engage in natural resources management and support local communities
• Valueing natural resources is the'norm'
TRANSITION STATE
Informed / aware community *
• Well meaning and active community who have a moderate positive natural resources outcome
• Informed but inactive community due to higher priorities
• Active community but unable to achieve positive outcomes
UNDESIRED STATE
Disconnected community *
• A community that does not advocate for natural resources
• Little or no resource allocation towards managing natural resources
• Community has no connection to the natural environment and the region as a food producer
Thresholds or Tipping Points
Thresholds exist between states and are yet to be defined fully.
Specific thresholds relating to the controlling variable also vary across the region.
Regional Threats
• Loss or degradation of natural and historic heritage
• Loss of landholder knowledge through rural decline
• Loss of community ownership of NRM issues and the solutions available
• Declining terms of trade impacting on the economic health of country areas resulting in rural decline and loss of disposable income for use in NRM
• Population decline through replacement of labour by technology
• Inadequate resourcing at all levels
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* Community, in this system, is intended to include a wide range of stakeholders including community groups, local government, general population.