

APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENT

Office Use Only

TAKE SURFACE WATER



THE WEST COAST
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Location

Please provide details / a detailed map of where the activity will occur.

You must supply a location map or diagram on a separate sheet of paper that shows the site of your activity and its local environment. A useful addition to this application would be recent site photographs.

This helps us determine what or who may be affected by your proposal. Please show:

- orientation (North arrow and scale)
- site location
- the location and name of the nearest road or state highway
- location/s of the water take for which you are applying for consent
- intake details
- property boundaries and neighbouring properties (as well as neighbouring property owners' names)
- if applicable, a Certificate of Title
- location and names of any nearby natural features such as geothermal activity, waterways, wetlands or wildlife habitats
- historic or waahi tapu sites
- access roads or tracks
- structures, eg culverts, bridges, stopbanks
- area that will be irrigated (if applicable)
- location of other known water takes

Note: West Coast Regional Council can help you create a base map to assist with your location plan. Please call us on (03) 768 0466 or 0508 800 118 during office hours for assistance, or call in to our office at 388 Main South Road, Paroa, Greymouth.

Is this consent application seeking to replace an existing one?

Yes No

If yes, please ensure you complete the section "Value of Consent Holder Investment" on Form 1: Administration.

If yes, what is the current consent number?

What is the name of the waterbody from which you are sourcing the water (name of stream, river, lake, etc)?

What type of water body will water be taken from?

River/stream/creek
Spring
Lake/pond

(Tick appropriate box for either river/stream/creek, or spring, or lake/pond and answer those questions)

River/stream		
What is the average channel width?		Metres
What is the average depth of water?		Metres
What is the estimated average water flow velocity?		Metres per second

How would you describe the bed of the river or stream? (Tick more than one if appropriate)

- Gravel and boulders
- Muddy
- Sandy
- Hard rock

What is the 7 day Mean Annual Low Flow (MALF)?		Litres per second
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Are you proposing to reduce the water downstream of your point of take to less than 75% of MALF?

- Yes No

How was the MALF calculated or obtained?

Spring		
What is the estimated minimum flow rate from the spring?		Litres per second

How was the minimum flow rate estimated?

- Volumetric measurement (eg using a bucket)
- Flow measured accurately (eg gauged)

Please show how you calculated the estimated minimum flow:

Lake/Pond

What is the current capacity of the lake/pond?

What is the proposed percentage of the capacity that you wish to take?

For all applications:

Will your proposed take affect the average flow or depth of water?

Yes No

If No, why?

What will the water be used for?

Primary Use			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Irrigation	State method of irrigation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stock		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drinking / Community	State number of households/population State Private or community	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydro		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	State type of industry	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	Please describe	

What is the maximum volume of water to be taken (Note: 1 cubic metre (m³) = 1000 litres, 1 gallon = 4.54 litres).

		Take rate/volume
instantaneous rate of take	litres/second	
each day	m ³ /day	
each week (where applicable)	m ³ /week	
each month (where applicable)	m ³ /month	
each season (where applicable)	m ³ /season	
total annual volume	m ³ /year	

How have you calculated the amount of water that you need?

Provide the information and calculations you used to decide on the rate and volumes of water that you require (for example, MAF advice, irrigation consultant, previous water requirements).

The number of hours you intend to take per day):

Are there regular times when this occurs?

Yes No

If yes, provide details:

Are there any particular seasonal requirements that may alter your water take requirements?

Yes No

If yes, provide details:

Why do you need this amount of water?

Describe the method of water take in detail including any structure necessary to facilitate taking of water. If a structure on, under, or over a waterbody is needed please sketch a plan of the structure including dimensions and attach this to your application.

Is there a water meter fitted to measure the amount of water taken?

Yes No

Will metering be required?

Yes No

Method of take?

Pump
 Gravity Feed

Pump Details:

If water is to be pumped:

What is the pump make, type and model?

What is the maximum capacity of your pump?		Litres per second
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For Irrigation:

What area will you be irrigating?		Hectares
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What will you be irrigating?

Crops (list type of crop below)		Hectares
Pasture		Hectares
Horticulture		Hectares
Other (list below)		Hectares

Please list type of crop or provide details for "Other"

Does the taking of water also involve:

Dams/weirs

Yes No

Diversion

Yes No

Intake structure

Yes No

Other structure

Yes No

Discharge

Yes No

If you answered Yes to any of the above, a separate consent application may be required. Please contact the Council and discuss this with a member of the Consents team.

Assessment of Environmental Effects

Where your water take could have a significant adverse effect on the environment a more detailed environmental assessment is required in accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Will the taking of water have an effect on water availability to downstream users?

Yes No

Within a reasonable distance up or downstream of the abstraction point are there any:

- Obvious signs of biota (eg. fish, eels, insect life, aquatic plants)? Yes No
- Areas where food is gathered from the stream (eg. watercress, eels, wild fowl, kaimoana)? Yes No
- Wetlands (eg. swamp areas)? Yes No
- Waste discharges (eg. from rural sources, industries, sewerage plants)? Yes No
- Recreational activities carried out (eg. swimming, fishing, canoeing)? Yes No
- Areas of particular aesthetic or scientific value (eg. scenic waterfall, archaeological sites)? Yes No
- Areas or aspects of significance to iwi? Yes No

If you have answered Yes to any of the questions above, describe what effects your water take may have, and the steps you propose to take to mitigate these.

Continue on a separate page if necessary

Are there any alternative water sources available to you (eg. ground water, ponds, lakes, rivers)?

Yes No

If Yes, why have you not chosen any of these?

Is the watercourse subject to seasonal low flows?

Yes No

Describe/attach any stream flow data or observations which show that there is sufficient water available in the watercourse.

What, if any, monitoring do you propose to carry out to ensure that your take does not have any adverse effect?

Important information – please read carefully

The Resource Management (Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes) Regulations 2010 requires that continuous monitoring and annual reporting of all consented water takes of at least 5 litres per second. A Consents Officer from the Council will be able to provide you with information on this regulation.

More information

For more information on the application process or resource consents, visit our website at www.wcrc.govt.nz or phone the Consents team on (03) 768 0466 or 0508 800 118.



388 Main South Road, Paroa, Greymouth 7805
PO Box 66, Greymouth 7840
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Website www.wcrc.govt.nz

OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND RULES THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO THE TAKE OF SURFACE WATER

This may not be a complete list, please consult with a Council Consents Officer if you require further information.

REGIONAL LAND AND WATER PLAN

Objectives

7.2.1 To retain flows and water levels in water bodies sufficient to maintain their in stream values, natural character, and life supporting capacity.

Explanation

This Objective seeks to maintain sufficient flows and water levels in rivers and other water bodies to provide for in stream values, natural character, and life supporting capacity.

7.2.2 To provide for the water needs of the West Coast's industries, network utility operators, and community water supplies.

Explanation

The economic, social and cultural wellbeing of the West Coast's people and communities rely on their access to securing suitable quantities of water. Network utility operators also require access to water to ensure the continued maintenance and operation of infrastructural networks thereby providing for the economic, social, and cultural wellbeing of the West Coast's people and communities. The present and reasonably foreseeable needs for water will need to be met, provided any adverse effects are sustainably managed. This includes existing users who rely on current takes of water, as well as future users.

7.2.3 To promote the efficient use of water.

Explanation

Efficient use of water occurs when the volume of water taken is sufficient to meet the needs of the use, with the least possible wastage, or overestimation of need.

7.2.4 To avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the quality of source and receiving water, including its ecology and mauri, where such water is subject to any inter-stream or inter-catchment transfer.

Explanation

New transfers may result in changes to receiving and source water quality, or the introduction of species to areas where they are not already present and the loss of values associated with the source water body.

Policies

7.3.1 Takes from rivers where the total volume of water allocated is less than 20% of the river's mean annual low flow will require no minimum flow.

Explanation

Water in a river may already be allocated to a number of uses including lawfully established takes, takes that are permitted under the Rules of this Plan, and takes provided for under Section 14 of the RMA. When only a small proportion of the available water in a river is taken, there is little need for a consent condition restricting use at low flows because of the low risk of adverse effects due to the taking. The costs of administering minimum flows are high, and it is not cost effective to set minimum flows on takes that have a low risk of causing effects.

The need for gaugings to determine mean annual low flow (MALF) will be at the discretion of Council staff. MALF is determined at the point of take, but needs to take account of the cumulative water takes at other points in the catchment. Once calculated, the MALF for a river will be fixed for the duration of the plan. For smaller streams with high in stream values the location and rate of take and the seasonal timing of the take can be controlled by conditions on the consent.

Note: General policies for the management of flows are outlined in Policies 7.3.1-7.3.7, while specific Policies for the management of flows associated with the run of the river dams are outlined in Policies 7.3.8-7.3.14. For other dam schemes, Policies 7.3.1-7.3.7 may apply as well.

7.3.2 Where Policy 7.3.1 does not apply, a minimum flow based on 75% of the mean annual low flow will be applied as a consent condition.

Explanation

Where more than 20% of any stream has been allocated, a minimum flow will be applied to any new consent for taking water. In the absence of detailed hydrological information, minimum flow assessments can be based on a percentage of the MALF. A minimum flow of 75% of MALF will provide for the natural character, and life supporting capacity of the aquatic ecosystem. In small streams (less than 250l/s MALF) with documented significant trout spawning values, Fish and Game New Zealand may be considered an affected party. Where multiple takes occur, rationing may need to occur before minimum flow is reached.

7.3.3 To consider granting an application for a resource consent to take water from a river, subject to a minimum flow lower than that specified in Policy 7.3.2, on a case-by-case basis, provided:

- (a) Any adverse effects on in stream values or natural character of the source water body or any other connected water body are avoided, remedied or mitigated; and**
- (b) Any adverse effects on lawfully existing takes of water are no more than minor; and**
- (c) The application if granted, together with the cumulative effect of other existing lawful takes, avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects on the life supporting capacity of any waterbody.**

Explanation

This Policy provides criteria for the granting of consents to take water as an exception to the requirements of Policy 7.3.2. This will generally require the applicant to undertake assessment methods on a site specific basis to determine a flow regime that provides for all in stream values including ecological and human use values. Scientific assessments are the most accurate method of determining low flow habitat requirements. However, it is recognised that scientific assessments will not always be appropriate or practical. The cumulative effects of multiple takes will also be considered.

Where adverse effects are considered to be unavoidable, a resource consent may be declined or, if granted, may be subject to conditions requiring unavoidable adverse effects to be remedied, mitigated or to be appropriately compensated for. This Policy is adopted to enable consideration of applications for the taking of water as an exception to the requirements of Policy 7.3.2 where such a take will have no more than a minor effect.

7.3.4 Minimum flows required by Policies 7.3.2 or 7.3.3 will not apply to existing community water supply takes identified in Schedule 7B.

Explanation

Under low flow conditions, priority is given to protecting takes for existing community water supply. This policy exempts scheduled existing community water supplies from restriction in terms of the minimum flow requirements applied to other takes. New community takes and any increase in the current level of take will be considered under Policies 7.3.1 to 7.3.3.

This Policy is adopted to enable continued operation of Schedule 7B existing community water supplies. Human health and safety are dependent on a reasonable supply of water and imposing minimum flows on existing takes may compromise human health and safety unnecessarily.

7.3.5 To suspend the taking of water when minimum flows have been reached.

Explanation

When the flow in any river is at or below that minimum flow, all takes that are subject to that minimum flow will be suspended. Conditions relating to minimum flows and suspension will be placed on resource consents for water takes. Permitted activity takes are not restricted by any minimum flows.

7.3.6 To promote the efficient use of water and to consider the need to cap the overall allocation from any water body.

Explanation

The efficient use of water will be assessed on a case by case basis as it is not possible to establish a definition of efficiency that is appropriate or applicable for all potential water. For irrigation applications rate of take should be determined based on area to be irrigated, soil type, and vegetation.

In the future, demand for water may necessitate a cap on further allocation. If this is deemed necessary, the Council will formally resolve that no further permits to take water will be granted in that catchment.

7.3.7 To monitor the taking and use of water, requiring the volume and rate of take to be measured as or where appropriate.

Monitoring water use enables better management of the resource. For significant takes, Council may require the instantaneous rate and weekly volume to be monitored. Monitoring is unlikely to be useful for short term or non-consumptive takes.

Rule 39 Take and use of water from listed sources

The taking and use of surface water from the main stem of the:

- Karamea River;
- Buller River downstream of Te Kuha (BS21:921678);
- Grey River downstream of the Clarke River confluence;
- Ahaura River downstream of Jims flat (BT21:955015);
- Taramakau River downstream of the Otira River confluence;
- Hokitika River;
- Whataroa River;
- Haast River;
- Arawhata River;
- Mikonui River;
- Waitaha River;
- Wanganui River;
- Waiho River;
- Karangarua River; or
- Paringa River

is a **permitted activity** if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The total take per landholding including both consented and permitted takes does not exceed 50 litres per second, up to a maximum volume of 1,500,000 litres per day; and
- (b) The water is used on the land holding except where the purpose is for a community water supply; and
- (c) The intake is protected by a fish screen which ensures as far as is practicable, that eels, fish and fry are prevented from passing through the intake and from being trapped against the fish screen; and
- (d) The Council is informed in writing of the location, expected rate and frequency of the take prior to the take occurring and contact details of the person taking.

Note: The Council will from time to time monitor and verify the location, frequency, and rate of take as appropriate.

Rule 40 Take and use of water where not permitted by Rule 39

Where not permitted by Rule 39, the taking and use of surface water is a **permitted activity** if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The total take per landholding does not exceed 2 litres per second, up to a maximum volume of 25,000 litres per day; and
- (b) No other lawful take of water is adversely affected as a result of the take; and
- (c) The intake is protected by a fish screen which ensures as far as is practicable, that eels, fish and fry are prevented from passing through the intake and from being trapped against the fish screen; and
- (d) The Council is informed in writing of the location, expected rate and frequency of the take prior to the take occurring and contact details of the person taking.

Rule 41 Water take and use or diversion for small scale hydro electricity generation

The take, use or diversion of surface water for small scale hydro electricity generation is a **permitted activity** provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The total rate of take does not exceed 200 litres per second; and
- (b) The rate of take does not exceed 25% of the instantaneous river flow at the point of take; and
- (c) No other lawful take of water is adversely affected by the take; and
- (d) The intake is protected by a fish screen which ensures as far as is practicable that eels, fish and fry are prevented from passing through the intake and from being trapped against the fish screen; and

- (e) The Council is informed in writing of the location, expected rate and frequency of the take prior to the take occurring, and contact details of the person taking water; and
- (f) On request from the Council, the user shall cease water use for a period not exceeding 48 hours to undertake monitoring of the natural water flows; and
- (g) On request from the Council, the user shall measure and record daily totals of water taken and the residual water flow immediately downstream of the take or diversion point. These records shall be provided to Council when requested.

Explanation

This Rule enables people to use water to generate hydroelectricity, provided the above conditions are met. If all conditions are met, the effects of such an activity will be no more than minor. This Rule is considered to be consistent with, and reflect the intent of the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation (2011). The conditions of Rule 67 must be met for the subsequent discharge of water.

Rule 42 Temporary take and use

Any take and use of surface water for no more than ten days in any one month and for no more than six consecutive months, is a **permitted activity**, providing:

- (a) The rate of take is no greater than ten litres per second, up to a maximum volume of 150,000 litres per day; and
- (b) No other lawful take of water is adversely affected by the take; and
- (c) No more than one take per person occurs from any surface water body; and
- (d) The intake is protected by a fish screen which ensures as far as is practicable, that eels, fish and fry are prevented from passing through the intake and from being trapped against the fish screen; and
- (e) The total volume of water taken does not exceed 20% of the instantaneous flow.

Rule 55 Take and use of surface water

Unless permitted by Rules 39, 40, or 42, or controlled by Rules 52 or 53, the taking and use of surface water where:

- (i) The total volume of water allocated from the river is less than 20% of the mean annual low flow (MALF) of the river; or
- (ii) The applicant accepts a minimum flow based on 75% of the mean annual low flow (MALF) of the river;

is a **restricted discretionary** activity.

In considering any resource consent under this rule the council will restrict the exercise of its discretion to the following:

- (a) The amount of water to be taken;
- (b) The flow available in the source water body;
- (c) The current allocation from the source water body;
- (d) The minimum flow to be applied to the take, if required;
- (e) Any adverse effect on any existing lawful take of water, if consent is granted;
- (f) The instream values supported by the source water body and related waterbodies, and any potential adverse effect of the taking on those values, if consent is granted;
- (g) Any need to prevent fish and eel entering the intake;
- (h) The means and timing of the take, and the rate of take;
- (i) The quantity of water required for the intended use;
- (j) The duration of the resource consent;
- (k) The information and monitoring requirements; and
- (l) The review of conditions of the resource consent.

An application for resource consent under this Rule does not need to be notified.

For smaller streams with high instream values the location and rate of take and the seasonal timing of the take can be controlled by conditions on the consent as set out in the explanation to Policy 7.3.1.