Guidance Note for Water Take Applications in Tukituki Catchment

Completing the application form to take and use water?
Please supply more information about your proposed water take.

Please provide an appropriate level of information relative to the scale of your activity. If your proposed take is small, i.e. 300 m^3 per week, is outside the groundwater allocation zone and there are no nearby wells, your description might fit in the space on Form B - you can probably do it yourself.

However, if you seek consent to take a large volume of surface water, or from a well located close to a surface water body, you will need to engage a technical consultant to help you. Writing 'Not Applicable' is not enough. You need to add some comment, such as: 'My proposed water take complies with Policy TT9 as it is an existing groundwater take, and I don't propose to increase the rate of take'.

Only particularly relevant parts of policies and objectives are shown here. Full text, relevant objectives and policies are available at: http://www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/policies-plans-strategies/rrmp/

1. Sustainable management (RMA, Part 2)

The purpose of the Resource Management Act is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. Your proposed activity must use natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, to enable people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, and for their health and safety. Your proposed activity must also:

- sustain the potential of natural and physical resources to meet the needs of future generations; and
- safeguard the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and
- avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

Please explain why you think your proposed water take is sustainable

2. Relevant legislation (Section 104(1)(b))

Objective TT1: water resources must be sustainably managed in the Tukituki River catchment, so that:

- Groundwater levels, river flows, lake and wetland levels and water quality maintain or enhance the habitat and health of aquatic ecosystems, macroinvertebrates, native fish and trout;
- Water quality and quantity enables safe and reliable human drinking water supplies;
- The taking and use of water for primary production and the processing of beverages, food and fibre is provided for.

Objective TT4: the abstraction of surface water and groundwater must be managed in a minimum flow regime and observe allocation limits to achieve Objective TT1, recognising that existing takes support significant investment.

Policy TT8 provides allocation limits. The taking of groundwater and surface water in the Tukituki River catchment are to be managed by:

- Recognising that allocation limits for surface water should be set to give a reasonable security of supply, though unachievable in the Tukituki River catchment due to minimum flows set in Table 5.9.3[1] and existing volumes of water being abstracted;
- Recognising significant interconnectedness between groundwater in the Ruataniwha Basin and surface water flows in the basin overall and consequently surface flows further downstream;
- Setting surface water and groundwater allocation limits based on the existing volume of consented abstraction (in the tables below).

Surface Water Allocation Zones (Schedule XVI)	Direct Take Allocation Limit (L/sec)	Surface Water Depletion Allocation Limit (L/s)	Total Allocation Limit (L/sec)
Zone 1 - Lower Tukituki River	519	412	931
Zone 2 - Waipawa River and Tributaries above RDS/SH2	643	269	912
Zone 3 - Tukituki River and Tributaries above Tapairu Road	763	716	1,479
Sub- catchment allocation of allocation limit for Zone 3:			
Zone 3 - Kahahakuri Stream	176	174	350
Zone 3 – Makaretu Stream	32	8	40
Zone 3 - Tukipo River	152	84	236
Total catchment	1,925	1,397	3,322

Groundwater Allocation Zones (Schedule XVII)	Allocation Limit (m^3/year)
Zone 1 – Otane Basin	4,134,000
Zone 2 – Ruataniwha Basin north of the Waipawa River	Tranche 1 7,224,000
Zone 3 – Ruataniwha Basin south of the Waipawa River	Tranche 1 21,277,000
Zones 2 and 3 collectively	Tranche 2 15,000,000
Rest of the catchment	No limit set[27]

Policy TT9 outlines how the minimum flow regime (shown in table below) and allocation limits are implemented in the Tukituki River catchment:

- It allows for the renewal of existing surface water and groundwater take consents provided:
  - There is no increase in the rate or the maximum 7-day[2] volume of take
  - A seasonal volume[3] or annual volume is imposed as per Schedule XVIII
    - After the replacement and review of existing Ruataniwha Basin consents in 2015, allowing for the further allocation of water as long as the new allocation does not result in any exceedance of the allocation limits in Table 5.9.4 or Table 5.9.5
    - Not imposing annual volume restrictions on takes for frost protection

[1] See Appendix 2

[2] Where existing consents are renewed, but if a 28-day maximum limit is sought in place of a 7 day limit (as per Policy TT14 (g)) then the maximum 28-day limit will be four times the current, maximum 7 day limit.

[3] Seasonal volume is the actual crop water requirement required over a crop's growing season (including any crop rotation).

- Consented takes for public water supplies, animal drinking water, animal welfare and sanitation (including dairy shed wash down and milk cooling), marae, schools and other educational facilities need to reduce their daily rate of take to a reasonable and justifiable amount as per their consent conditions;

Surface Water Allocation Zone	Flow Management Site	Level of habitat protection	Minimum Flows (L/sec)	Period to which Minimum Flow applies
Zone 1 Lower Tukituki	Tukituki River at Red Bridge V22: 466581	Current level of protection	3500	Until 30 June 2018
		80% habitat protection for trout upstream of Red Bridge	4300	From 1 July 2018 until 30 June 2023
		90% habitat protection for trout upstream of Red Bridge	5200	From 1 July 2023
		80% habitat protection for trout between Red Bridge and Black Bridge	4300	From 1 July 2018
Zone 1 Papanui Stream	Papanui Stream at Middle Rd V22: 278432	90% habitat protection for longfin eel (estimated equivalent)	53	Ongoing
Zone 2 Waipawa River	Waipawa River at RDS/SH2 V22: 153339	Current level of protection	2300	Until 30 June 2018
		90% habitat protection for longfin eel	2500	From 1 July 2018
Zone 2 Mangaonuku Stream	Mangaonuku Stream U/S Waipawa V22: 116373	Current level of protection	n/a	n/a
		90% habitat protection for highest flow demanding fish species (estimated equivalent)	1170	From 1 July 2018
Zone 3 Tukituki River	Tukituki River at Tapairu Road V22: 183312	Current level of protection	1900	Until 30 June 2018
		90% habitat protection for longfin eel	2300	From 1 July 2018
Zone 3 Tukipo River	Tukipo River at SH50 U22: 948324	Current level of protection	150	Ongoing
Zone 3 Tukipo River	Tukipo River Ashcott Road U22: 080311	90% habitat protection for highest flow demanding fish species (estimated equivalent)	1043	From 1 July 2018

- Takes for frost protection and takes for filling agrichemical spray tanks shall continue to be allowed without further restriction;
- The taking of water authorised soley to avoild the death of horticultural or viticultural root stock or crops shall be allowed to occur to any extent allowed by conditions of consent as follows:
    - Water allocated for this purpose shall not exceed a cumulative instantaneous limit across all Surface Water Allocation Zones of 200 L/s;
    - The water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practicable alternative sources of water are available or accessible;
    - Access to the water shall be provided as a first priority to the protection of the root stock of permanent horticulture such as orchards and viticulture; and
    - Access to the water shall be provided as a second priority to the protection of crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize).
- All other consented takes shall cease, or be managed in accordance with Policy TT11 (managing stream depletion effects).

Policy TT10 (*table next page*) shows a high flow allocation regime. This policy allows for abstraction of 2000 L/s from the catchment above median flow. Of this total allocation limit, up to 1000 L/s can be taken from the upper catchment (500 L/s) from each of the Waipawa and Tukituki Rivers.

River name	Flow Management Site	High Flow Minimum Flow (L/sec)	High Flow Allocation Limit (L/sec)	High Flow Allocation Limit (m^3/day)
Tukituki River	At Red Bridge	22,022	2000[32]	172,800[32]
Tukituki River	At Tapairu Road	9,892	500	43,200
Waipawa River	At Waipawa (RDS/SH2)	8,991	500	43,200

Policy TT13A outlines how in-stream dams are to be managed so that:

- The minimum flows in the table above are not breached more frequently or for a longer duration than would occur without the in-stream dam;
- Flow variability above minimum flows in the table above is provided for, giving effect to Objective TT1;
- Potential adverse effects of High Flow takes[4] are considered.

Policy TT11 sets out the process for assessing the hydraulic connection between groundwater takes and surface water and the management of surface water stream depletion effects. Policy TT11(1) states the steps for initial stream-depletion assessments required for wells screened shallower than 50m below groundwater level[5] [6]. Policy TT11(2) and the table below state how to manage the effects of groundwater takes on surface water bodies (including wetlands).

3. Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE)

Please try and add a sentence or two about each of these points

- The actual or potential effects of your proposed water take on the environment?
  You can comment on positive effects, as well as possible adverse/ negative effects.

  If you propose to take surface water have a think about:

  - The surface water body from which you propose to take water. What do you call it? Is it soft bottomed, stony or grassy stream?
  - What aquatic animals and plants are living in the water body and on the banks of the stream you want to take from? How will your take impact them?
  - What is the surface waterbody used for, i.e. recreation, food cultivation?
  - Will your proposed take effect the ability of other users of surface water to take water?

  If you propose to take groundwater, have a think about the following:

  - The groundwater resource in your area
    – What is the water level in your well? Does your well freeflow, i.e. flow without pumping? Does the water level vary with pumping, and/ or across the year? Have you ever had to lower your pump to get better access to water?

[4] High flow takes are addressed in Policy TT10
[5] Or 40m below ground level in the lower Tukituki catchment downstream of Red Bridge
[6] Wells screened deeper than 50m or 40m respectively are excluded from Policy TT11(1)(a)

- People living near you
  – Do you know where the closest well is, not located on your property? What is it used for? Are you aware of any problems in the area with people accessing well water?
- Nearby surface water bodies
  – how far away are they? Is it permanent or does it only flow some of the time? If permanent, how does the water level vary across a year? If only flowing some of the time, when does it normally flow? What do you call it? Does your groundwater take seem to affect the amount of water/ flow in nearby surface water bodies?

- How have you calculated the amount of water you require?
- What is the distance between your proposed point of take and the closest surface water take? Where is the closest public water supply?
- Will the take impact amenity, social, recreational and cultural values associated with the waterway?
- Are there any waahi tapu or other significant cultural sites at or near your proposed take point? Will your proposed take impact the values associated with those sites?
- Information about anything you intend to do to try and reduce the effect that your take may have on the environment.
- Details of anyone you have talked to about your proposed take because you think the activity might affect them.

If you have questions about what to provide, or want to arrange a meeting to discuss your application before you formally lodge it with HBRC
contact the Consents Advisor on 06 833 8090.

TUKI TUKI

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL