

An application for a resource consent to take water is called a water permit. The Marlborough District Council considers applications for water permits for taking of surface, ground and seawater. These guidelines are designed to familiarise applicants with the particular requirements for each of these water permits.

INTRODUCTION

In considering each application for a water permit to take ground or surface water, the Council takes into account the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and Marlborough's resource management plans, both of which address this issue. Water from these sources is usually taken for domestic water, community water schemes, stock water, land irrigation, fire-fighting and commercial and industrial use.

With applications for a water permit to take sea water, the Council takes into account the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010, in addition to the RMA and Marlborough's resource management plans. Water from this source is usually taken for land based marine farming.

These guidelines provide some background information for each type of water permit and the information you need to provide with your application.

It is important that, before seeking a water permit, you first read the

Council's brochure *Guidelines for Applying for a Resource Consent*, particularly the section dealing with the assessment of the environmental effects of your application. Council staff are available to discuss your application.

If your proposal is complicated or will have significant environmental effects, it is strongly recommended that you engage a suitably qualified person to help you with your application.

SURFACE WATER

Surface water is water you can see such as a lake, a river or stream. A water permit is usually required to take surface water. In some instances, if the water is to be used for domestic use for one house, stock water or fire-fighting requirements, a permit may not be required.

A water permit is required if you wish to dam or divert water.

Sometimes you will require additional consents for your

proposal. For example, constructing an intake structure on a riverbed or building a dam will also require a land use consent.

... water take details

The description of your proposed water take should include:

- details of the activity for which you require the water. If it is required for irrigation, state the land area (in hectares) to be irrigated, the crop type, the method of irrigating (spray, trickle etc) and the delivery

rate. If diverting or damming water, indicate whether you propose this being temporary or permanent.

- method of taking the water. If the water is to be pumped, state the number of pumps, rate of pump flow and the delivery pipe diameter.
- the maximum quantity of take, specified as litres per second, cubic metres per day, cubic metres per year for a dam.
- distances to any other water intakes, streams or wells. Your site plan should clearly indicate these. Include a photograph of the site if possible.

... environmental effects

An assessment of the environmental effects of the proposed water take is a very important part of your application. Include details of any consultation.

Have you considered:

- possible alternatives?
- the surrounding environment and its users? Is it used for recreational purposes such as fishing or swimming? Is it habitat for fish or wildlife?
- any possible effects of significance to iwi?
- the effect of any reduced water flow, area or depth? Will this increase the water temperature and, if so, what effect will this have on the algae growth and oxygen

levels, and how will this affect the water's ecosystem?

- the effect to downstream users if from a river or stream?
- how you will avoid, minimise or reduce any adverse effects?
- how can the effects of your water take be monitored?

GROUNDWATER

Marlborough has a significant amount of groundwater in a series of aquifers, most of them underlying the Wairau Plain. A water permit is required to take groundwater. In some instances, if the water is to be used for domestic use for one house, stock water or fire-fighting requirements, a permit may not be required.

It is recommended that you discuss the characteristics of the aquifer with Council staff.

If you are constructing a new bore or altering an existing bore you will also require a land use consent. The bore must be in place before your application for a water permit will be considered.

... water take details

The description of your proposed water take should include:

- details of the activity for which you require the water. If it is for irrigation, state the land area (in hectares) to be irrigated, the crop type, the method of irrigating (spray, trickle etc) and the delivery rate.



- the well number (if the source of water is an existing well, - e.g. P28w/1224), the depth from ground level to the screen (metres), the diameter of the well (mm) and the results of any pump test.
- the maximum quantity of water take, specified as cubic metres per day and/or cubic metres per year if going to a dam.
- distances to any other wells, streams or rivers and any possible sources of contamination - e.g. septic tanks, stock effluent systems. Your site plan should clearly indicate these.

... environmental effects

An assessment of the environmental effects of your proposed water take is a very important part of your application. Include details of any consultation.

Have you considered:

- alternative locations and methods of obtaining water?
- the possible effect on neighbouring wells? Will there be a reduction in water available for their use?
- the possible effect on the aquifer and neighbouring water sources? If the well is shallow, will it affect any nearby lakes, streams or rivers and their users?
- any possible effects of significance to iwi?
- how you will avoid, minimise or reduce any adverse effects on the aquifer, nearby lakes, streams or rivers and any neighbouring wells?

- how can the effects of your water take be monitored?

SEAWATER

Marlborough's resource management plans allow for taking of seawater in limited quantities, provided there is no adverse effect to coastal waters. Some activities, such as land based marine farming, may require a resource consent to take seawater as well as the other consents they require.

Iwi take particular interest in applications for resource consent within the coastal marine area.

Consultation with iwi is strongly recommended as part of your application.

... take of seawater details

The description of your proposed take should include:

- details of the activity and location for which you require the seawater
- the method of taking the seawater. For land based operations include the size of the pipes, the intake structure details, the intake and pipe's exact location, the method of anchoring the pipe.
- the water depth at the intake | the seabed details at the intake location
- the average quantity of take, specified as litres per second, cubic metres per day and/or cubic metres per week
- an accurate GPS fix or NZ Map Service grid reference.



... environmental effects

An assessment of the environmental effects of the proposed use and discharge is a very important part of your application. Include details of any consultation. Have you considered:

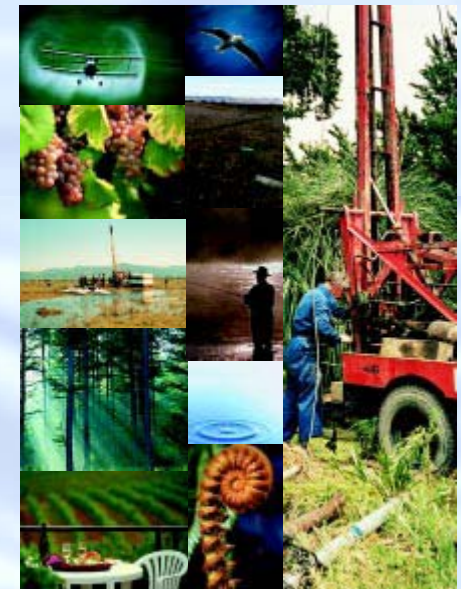
- any alternatives to your proposal?
- the surrounding environment and its users – is it used for recreational purposes such as fishing or swimming?
- possible adverse effects on the marine ecosystem?
- any possible effects of significance to iwi? (Provide details of your consultation with iwi.)
- the suction effects of the intake - e.g. turbulence and safety?
- how will you avoid, minimise or reduce any adverse effects?
- how can the effects of your water take be monitored?

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Guidelines for Applying for a

WATER PERMIT



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