

Title: Allocating water in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Purpose: To provide information on how water (quantity) is allocated in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (proposed Plan)

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1 Background

The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee first met in February 2014. Its roles include:

- assessing and recommending alterations to existing water allocation limits
- programmes or activities that will support or contribute to the achievement of the freshwater objectives identified by the whaitua committee.

In August 2014 a revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) included requirements for regional plans to establish freshwater management objectives, water allocation limits (including flows and water levels), freshwater management units, and to improve and maximise efficient allocation and use of water.

The Regional Freshwater Plan that was made operative in 1999 includes water allocation limits, minimum flows and water levels, and management units. The Regional Freshwater Plan is being replaced by the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (the proposed Plan) which was publicly notified in July 2015. The proposed Plan has the following components:

- a region-wide framework for allocating water that addresses minimum flows, allocation limits (core allocation), efficient use of water, and managing adverse effects, and
- application of the region-wide framework to catchments in the Whaitua chapters of the proposed Plan.

At this stage of the process developing the Natural Resources Plan, the whaitua chapters of the proposed Plan are vehicles for carrying allocation limits based on a region-wide approach. Allocation measures are the only provisions in the whaitua chapters. They are needed now to provide continuity between the Regional Freshwater Plan and the new Natural Resources Plan. Whaitua committees are ultimately responsible for developing the whaitua chapters of the proposed Plan, which is why the following notes are included in the plan chapters:

Minimum flows, minimum water levels and core allocation referred to in the Plan are interim to the extent that they will be reviewed by whaitua committees and may be amended by plan changes or variations following recommendations of whaitua committees.

In addition to policies on minimum flows, minimum water levels and core allocation that follow, policies in chapter 4 of the Plan also apply equally to minimum flows, minimum water levels and core allocation for the Ruamāhanga Whaitua.

In addition to rules for the take and use of water that follow, rules in chapter 5 of the Plan also apply equally to rules for the Ruamāhanga Whaitua.

2- What's in the proposed Plan?

Since 1999, water allocation has been managed through the Regional Freshwater Plan. The Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region is now replacing the Regional Freshwater Plan. The process for preparing the new plan involves publicly notifying region-wide provisions in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (the proposed Plan) followed by including within it catchment-specific provisions recommended by Whaitua Committees. The proposed Plan was publicly notified on 31 July 2015. Engagement with stakeholders during preparation of region-wide provisions and collaboration with communities during preparation of catchment-specific provisions will help ensure there are no surprises in the transition from the Regional Freshwater Plan to the Natural Resources Plan.

2.1- Integrating ground and surface water management

The proposed Plan (Policy 108) identifies two sources of available water. The first source of water is from rivers, lakes, and areas of groundwater directly connected to rivers and lakes. The second source of available water is from areas of groundwater not directly connected to surface water. These two sources of water are referred to in the proposed Plan as “core allocation for surface water” and “core allocation for groundwater”. As shown in Figure 1, groundwater that is directly connected to surface water (category A and directly connected category B groundwater) is allocated with surface water in the same bucket (total amount available). Groundwater that is **not** directly connected to surface water (category C and category B groundwater **not** directly connected to surface water) is allocated within a separate groundwater allocation bucket.

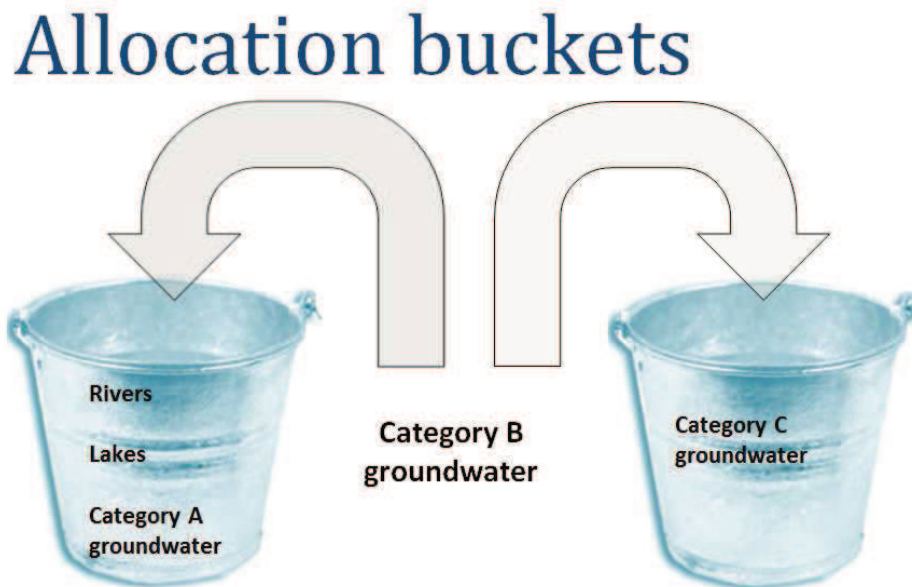


Figure 1: The core allocation “buckets”

2.2 Minimum flows and lake levels

Minimum flows and lake levels in the proposed Plan are the same as those for specific rivers and lakes identified in the Regional Freshwater Plan. In the proposed Plan, for rivers not identified in the Regional Freshwater Plan, current best practice is applied using a region-wide default flow based on the Proposed National Environmental Standard on ecological flows and water levels put forward in 2008. The minimum flow adopted is 90% of the mean annual low flow. The mean annual low flow is the average of the lowest flow measured in each year at a flow monitoring site. Numerical minimum flows for rivers in the Ruamāhanga catchment and water levels for Lake Wairarapa in the proposed Plan are given in Attachment 1.

2.3 Managing allocation at low flows and lake levels

Policies (P111, P115) of the proposed Plan require the taking of water to not result in flows or water levels falling below minimums except for firefighting, reasonable domestic needs and stock use; permitted activities; and specific consented activities. The exceptions of firefighting, reasonable domestic use and stock water are determined by the RMA (section 14(3)). Specific consented activities excused from meeting minimum flow requirements are water for the health needs of people from a group or community water supply; water for industry from a group or community water supply for a transitional period of 7 years; rootstock protection; and taking groundwater.

Allowing water to be taken for the health needs of people as part of group and community water supplies recognises the priority given to human health needs by Policy 17 of the Regional Policy Statement. Having a transition period for industrial water takes to cease at minimum flows as part of community water supplies recognises that rural and urban water takes should be treated equitably. Most communities in the region have alternative water sources (including groundwater) available to them. Communities such as Masterton do not have such alternative water sources and providing a transition period of 7 years to continue taking water for industry at minimum flows is appropriate, so that alternative sources, such as storage, can be investigated.

Allowing some water to be taken below minimum flows for rootstock protection was considered as a special case. The Final Report and Decisions of the Tukituki Catchment Proposal (EPA 2014) allowed water for rootstock protection below minimum flows for the sole purpose of avoiding death of permanent horticulture or viticulture crops. The exception applies only to crops that take many years to grow and replace. An annual crop that can be replanted and establish in the following year is not addressed within the provisions of the policy for rootstock protection.

Reducing the take of category A groundwater (directly connected to surface water) by 50% is required at minimum river flows. Such reduction is appropriate because modelling establishes that due to the immediacy of impact, abstraction from category A groundwater can be considered as similar to direct surface water abstraction in terms of magnitude and the response of stream depletion effects. Full cessation of category A groundwater at minimum flows was considered. However, doing so would result in significant economic cost to landowners in some places.

Reducing category A groundwater takes by 50% at minimum flows reflects current Wellington Regional Council practice when existing resource consents to take category A groundwater are renewed or new consents are considered. In total, consistent with such practice, 115 resource consents in the region already reduce category A groundwater takes by 50% at minimum flows. Thirty one existing resource

consents have no such restriction but would be expected to have such a condition included on their resource consent when it is renewed

2.4 Core allocation

Core allocation is “the maximum amount of water that can be taken by all resource consents within a catchment management unit and catchment management sub-unit, other than the amount allowed by supplementary allocation” Like minimum flows or lake levels core allocation is a limit in terms of the NPS-FM

Management units

Management units for water allocation are identified and mapped in the proposed Plan Maps showing rivers and Lake Wairarapa, and groundwater to a depth of 20 metres are shown in Attachment 2 Additional maps are included in the proposed Plan for groundwater between depths of 20 and 30 metres and groundwater deeper than 30 metres

The following criteria were regarded as particularly important when deciding on management units:

- taking water at an upstream location in a catchment should be treated equally to taking water at a downstream location
- the existing spatial framework for allocating water (how much is used and the locations where it is used)
- the locations of the river monitoring network (for accounting purposes)
- groundwater and surface water connectivity

To ensure allocation across a catchment is equitable, a catchment wide management unit is applied to surface water allocation This is necessary because the lower part of a catchment may be fully-allocated while the upper part of the catchment may be under-allocated In the event that additional water is taken from the upper part of the catchment, the allocation status of the lower catchment would be exacerbated because it would move from fully allocated to over-allocated Such is the case in the Ruamāhanga where the lower part of the catchment is already fully allocated but some water is available in areas of the upper and middle catchment Taking available water in the upper or middle catchment would lead to over-allocation in the lower Ruamāhanga catchment To allow such takes would be inconsistent with the directive of the NPS-FM that “... no decision will likely result in over-allocation...” (Objective B2 and Policy B5)

Sub-catchment management units also apply to surface water allocation in the proposed Plan For example, the Kopuaranga River, the Waingawa River, the upper Ruamāhanga River and their directly connected groundwater are sub-units within the overall Ruamāhanga catchment management unit These sub-units enable amounts of water being taken and used to be considered in the context of localised effects within the Ruamāhanga catchment Groundwater that is not directly connected to surface water is also broken up into separate sub-management units

Surface water allocation

Policy P R2 set out in Attachment 3 states that core allocation shall not exceed whichever is the greater of the total amount allocated by resource consents, or the numerical allocation amount identified in Rule R R1 for the Ruamāhanga Whaitua. Rule R R1 is also set out in Attachment 3.

Determining core allocation for surface water and directly connected groundwater uses the approach of the *Proposed National Environmental Standard on ecological flows and water levels* (NES) put forward in 2008. The proposed NES recommends that the following approach be adopted:

- for rivers and streams with mean flows less than or equal to 5 m³/s, core allocation is whichever is the greater of:
 - 30% of mean annual low flow; or
 - The total allocation from the catchment.
- for rivers and streams with mean flows greater than or equal to 5 m³/s, core allocation is whichever is the greater of:
 - 50% of mean annual low flow; or
 - The total allocation from the catchment.

The approach to identifying core allocation enables existing users to continue taking and using water for an interim period prior to limits being established in the proposed Plan by variations or plan changes that adopt the recommendation of the whaitua committees. Potential users without resource consents are able to obtain water if the numerical allocation amounts in the tables 73, 74 and 75 in Attachment 4 are not exceeded.

An allocation calculator has been developed that keeps a record of how much water has been consented and how much remains available for taking and using. The allocation calculator is updated as resource consents are granted and expire. The allocation calculator will ensure that total amounts of water allocated by resource consents are known at any time.

The use of a restricted discretionary activity rule in Rule R R1 in Attachment 3 limits the matters for consideration in a resource consent application to those over which discretion is retained. Environmental assessment requirements for applicants are less stringent than for a discretionary activity consent application because allocation is already quantified and assessed for each management unit.

Policy P116 of the proposed Plan does not allow water freed up by existing resource consents to be re-allocated in fully allocated management units if the numerical allocation amounts in Rule R R1 (Attachment 3) are exceeded. The policy provides a “sinking lid” on re-allocation of water in management units that are fully allocated. The policy is consistent with the core allocation framework allowing whichever is the greater of existing consented use or a default numerical allocation amount. The “sinking lid” is for an interim period before the recommendations from whaitua committees on final catchment (or sub-catchment) allocation limits are brought into the proposed Plan through variations or plan changes.

Objective O8 of the proposed Plan is ‘the take and use of water for social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits is recognised and provided for within the Plan’s allocation framework’. Hence, an important element of the allocation framework in the proposed Plan is keeping within core allocation. For this reason, if core allocation amounts are exceeded, the proposed Plan prohibits the activity in Rule R R3 and no application can be made for a resource consent.

Groundwater allocation

Core allocation for groundwater **not** directly connected to surface water uses the same approach as core allocation for surface water. The core allocation for groundwater relies on the maximum amount of groundwater available to be taken and used by resource consents not exceeding whichever is the greater of the maximum amount allocated by resource consents or a numerical allocation amount identified in Table 7.5 of Rule R R1 in Attachment 4 of this report. Determining numerical allocation amounts in the rules for groundwater **not** directly connected to surface water takes account of cumulative depletion effects over the course of many weeks to months, aquifer recharge and through flow.

2.5 Supplementary allocation

Policies in the proposed Plan enable water to be taken from rivers above median flows in addition to the core allocation amounts. The median flow is the flow rate that is exceeded 50% of the time. No limits have been included in the proposed Plan for taking water above median flows.

Policies P117 and P120 of the proposed Plan recognise that above the median river flow water is often readily available. Information on the in-stream effects of taking water from rivers at median to high flows suggests that providing for flushing flows and maintaining some river flow above the median flow will not result in adverse effects. Such an approach is taken in Rule R R1 in Attachment 3. This rule enables users to take water without further examination of environmental effects if the following criteria are met:

- the frequency of flushing flows exceeding three times the median river flows is not changed, and
- 50% of river flow remains in the river above the median flow.

In the event that additional water is taken above the median flow, discretionary activity Rule R R2 is available to consent applicants. Applying for resource consent under this rule would require a consent applicant to demonstrate an understanding of how changes to the hydrology of the river would impact on river ecology, principally in relation to effects on periphyton.

2.6 Efficient allocation and use of water

Objective O52 of the proposed Plan seeks to improve and maximize the efficient allocation and use of water. The proposed Plan includes policies promoting the efficient use of water. For example, particular matters to be considered in resource consent applications relating to reasonable and efficient water use are identified in Policy P118, including criteria that rely on good practice for irrigators, public water supply, water races and good practice that is available to other industries. Policy 119 identifies circumstances when “unused” water will not be re-allocated to existing users. Overall, apart from providing criteria for the transfer of water permits the issue of allocation efficiency is not addressed in the proposed Plan. It retains the approach of first-in-first serve, which is the default position of the RMA.

2.7 Managing adverse effects

Policies in the proposed Plan on managing adverse effects address such matters as cumulative effects; preventing salt water intrusion; flow variability; interference effects associated with groundwater takes or surface water takes on other water users; site dewatering; cross contamination of aquifers; backflow of contaminants; and constructing or decommissioning bores. These matters are either carried over from policies of the RFP or are currently applied through resource consents as best practice. They are implemented through resource consents when consent applications are made.

2.8 Rules in the proposed Plan

Rules in the proposed Plan determine whether activities are permitted or prohibited, or whether resource consent is required. There are five permitted activity rules and one controlled activity rule in the proposed Plan for taking and using water. These activities are general use (up to 20 cubic metres per property at a rate of 2.5 litres per second), farm dairies, takes from water races, pumping tests and dewatering. Four of the permitted activities and the controlled activity (Rules R136, R138, R139, R140 and R141) involve relatively small quantities of water. Individually and cumulatively these five activities have adverse effects that are less than minor. An additional permitted activity (Rule R137 – existing farm dairy washdown and cooling water) uses larger amounts of water (individually) at about 250 individual properties in the region. The amount of water taken and used by farm dairies can be assessed and accounted for.

For other activities taking or using water, the proposed plan reflects the underlying presumption of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) by requiring resource consent. Requiring resource consent is appropriate for reasons that include:

- water is a commonly held resource without ownership, but managed sustainably by the WRC for people and communities of the Wellington Region;
- the requirement of the NPS-FM to account for quantities of fresh water taken and used; and
- the amount of water available for use differs in every catchment (according to land area, climate, topography, geology etc.), but is finite.

As mentioned above in section 2.4, if core allocation amounts are exceeded, the proposed Plan prohibits the activity.

3⁻ What's not in the proposed Plan

In addition to the provisions in the proposed Plan the following matters relevant to water allocation and the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee's task are not addressed in the proposed Plan but must be considered in order to give effect to the NPS-FM:

- catchment specific freshwater objectives
- limits (or targets) that will achieve catchment specific freshwater objectives
- how water "given up" is re-allocated
- reliability of supply
- efficient allocation of water
- transferable water permits in the Ruamāhanga catchment
- use of water user groups to assist with water management

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Date: 1 December 2015

Attachments

Attachment 1: Minimum flows and water levels in the Whaitua Chapter of the proposed Plan

Table 7.1: Minimum flows for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River and Lake Wairarapa catchments

River (shown in Figure 7.1)	Management point	Minimum flow (L/s)	
Kopuaranga River upstream of the confluence with the Ruamāhanga River	Palmers	270	
Waipoua River upstream of the confluence with the Ruamāhanga River	Mikimiki Bridge	250	
Waingawa River upstream of the confluence with the Ruamāhanga River	Kaituna	1,100	
Parkvale Stream upstream of the confluence with the Ruamāhanga River	Renalls Weir recorder	100	
Mangatarere Stream	upstream of Belvedere Road Bridge	Gorge recorder	240
	Between the confluence with the Waiohine River and the Belvedere Road Bridge	Gorge recorder	200
Waiohine River upstream of the confluence with the Ruamāhanga River	Gorge recorder	2,300	
Papawai Stream upstream of the confluence with the Ruamāhanga River	Fabians Road recorder	180	
Upper and Middle Ruamāhanga River upstream of the confluence with the Waiohine River	Wardells	2,400	
Otukura Stream upstream of the confluence with Dock/Stonestead Creek	Weir recorder	95	
Tauherenikau River upstream of Lake Wairarapa	Gorge recorder	1,100	
Lower Ruamāhanga River between the boundary with the coastal marine area and the Waiohine River confluence	Waihenga recorder	8,500	

Table 7.2: Minimum lake levels and minimum water levels for Lake Wairarapa

Time period	Minimum lake levels at Burlings recorder	Minimum water levels
1 December to 29 February	10.15m	For the purpose of allocating water, minimum water levels in Lake Wairarapa shall be determined by: (i) minimum lake levels, and (ii) the minimum flow for the Tauherenikau River in Table 7.1, and (iii) no net decline in lake level over the preceding five days.
1 March to 31 May	10.00m	
1 June to 30 September	9.95m	
1 October to 30 November	10.00m	

Attachment 2: Some of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua management areas identified in the proposed Plan

Figure 7.2: Upper Ruamāhanga catchment - rivers and groundwater (0-20m deep) in Tables 7.3 and 7.5



This version of the map is not complete. The version of this map available online through the online web map viewer shows the complete, detailed information on a GIS overlay that is not shown on this hard copy. The online version is available on the Council's website at <http://mapping.gw.govt.nz/gwrc/> (select theme Proposed Natural Resources Plan 2015) and can be accessed from the Council offices or public library.

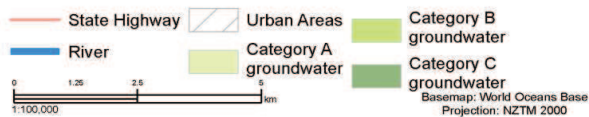
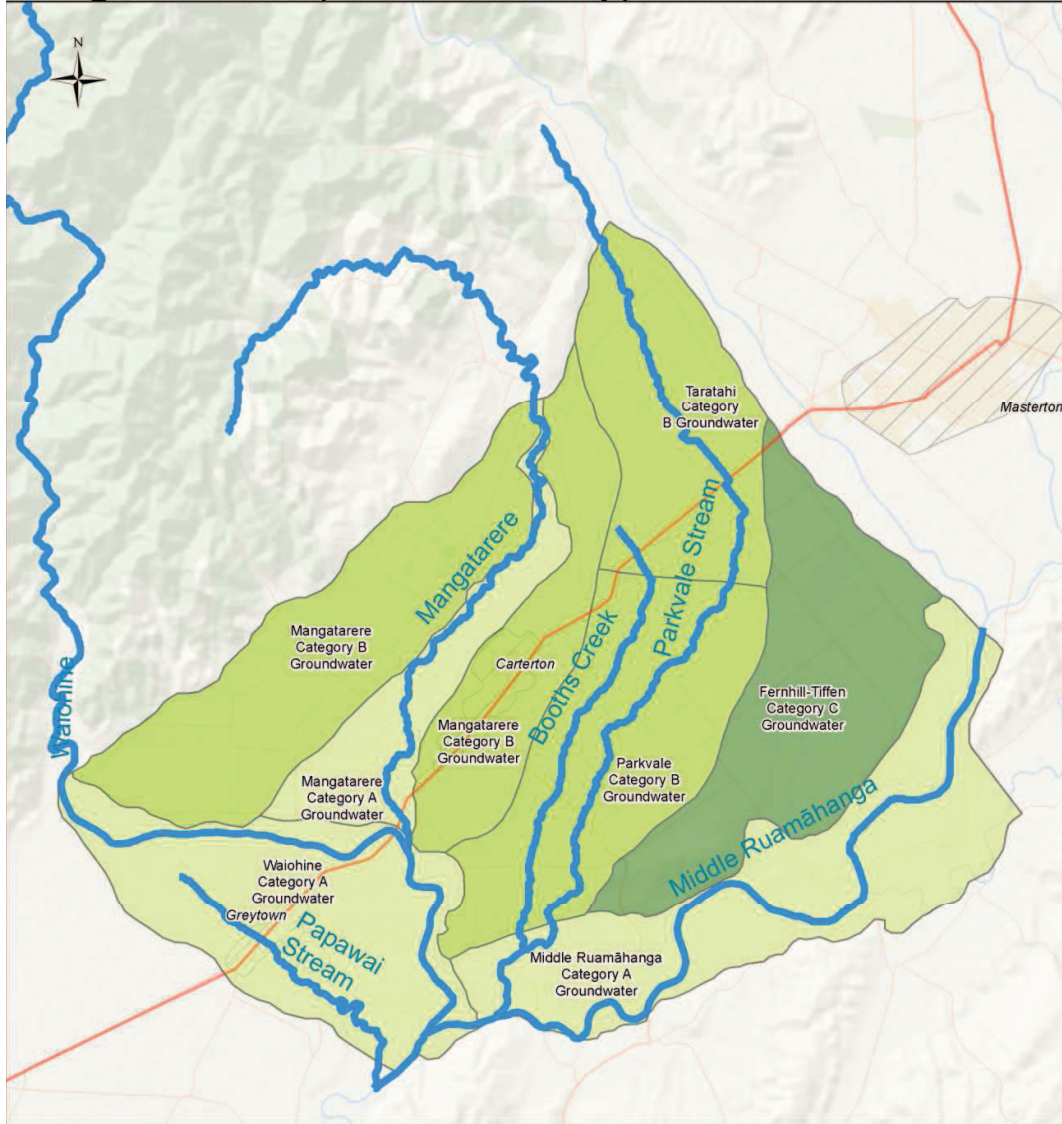
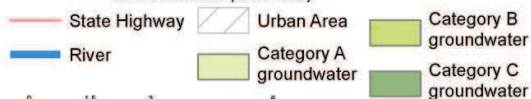


Figure 7.5: Middle Ruamāhanga catchment - rivers and groundwater (0-20 metres deep) in Tables 7.3 and 7.5



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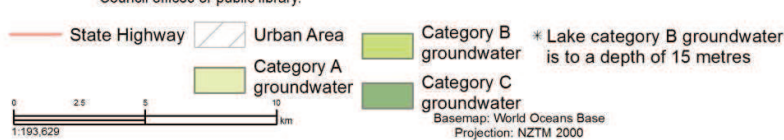


Basemap: World Oceans Base
Projection: NZTM 2000

Figure 7.8: Lower Ruamahanga - rivers and groundwater (0-20 metres deep) in Tables 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5



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Attachment 3: Policy R.P2 and Rule R.R1 in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Chapter of the proposed Plan

Policy R.P2: Core allocation in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua

The maximum amount of water available for allocation from rivers (including **tributaries**), Lake Wairarapa (including **tributaries**), and groundwater in the Ruamāhanga River catchment, above the Lake Wairarapa outflow, and in the Lake Wairarapa catchment, at the time an application is made for resource consent to take and use water, shall not exceed whichever is the greater of:

- (a) the total amount allocated by resource consents, or
- (b) the allocation amounts identified in Tables 7.3-7.5,

except for the taking and use of water identified in Policy P117 at flows above the **median flow**.

Rule R.R1: Take and use of water in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua – restricted discretionary activity

The take and use of water from any river (including **tributaries**), Lake Wairarapa (including **tributaries**), and groundwater in the Ruamāhanga River catchment above the Lake Wairarapa outflow, and in the Lake Wairarapa catchment, is a restricted discretionary activity provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) the take and use shall not occur below the **minimum flows or water levels** in Table 7.1 or 7.2, except that this condition does not apply to:
 - (i) water for the **health needs of people** as part of a **group drinking water supply** or **community drinking water supply** or water for rootstock protection, and
 - (ii) water used by industry from a **community drinking water supply** for a period of seven years from the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and
 - (iii) taking groundwater, and
- (b) in any **catchment management unit** and **catchment management sub-unit** in Tables 7.3-7.5, the amount of water taken and used, in addition to all **existing resource consents**, does not exceed whichever is the greater of:
 - (i) the maximum amount allocated by resource consents at the date the consent application is lodged, or
 - (ii) the allocation amounts in Tables 7.3-7.5,

except that this condition does not apply to the take and use of water at river flows above the **median flow**, and

- (c) at flows above **median flow**:
- (i) the frequency of **flushing flows** that exceed three times the **median flow** of the river is not changed, and
 - (ii) 50% of the river flow above the **median flow** remains in the river.

Matters for discretion

- 1 The reasonable and efficient use of water, including the criteria in Schedule Q (efficient use)
- 2 The timing, amount, and rate of taking of water; including instantaneous (L/sec), daily (m³/day), and seasonal requirements and duration and timing of peak daily take rate
- 3 For **group drinking water supplies** or **community drinking water supplies**, the amount and rate of water taken and used for the **health needs of people**
- 4 Reduction in the rate of take from surface water and **groundwater directly connected to surface water** at times of low flow and restrictions when rivers approach or fall below the **minimum flows**, including the guideline for **stepdown allocation** and flows in Schedule R (stepdown guideline)
- 5 Effects due to local flow or water level depletion on wetlands, springs, or downstream river reaches in the same **catchment management sub-unit**
- 6 Interference effects on existing lawful water takes
- 7 Prevention of salt water intrusion into the **aquifer**, or landward movement of the salt water/fresh water interface
- 8 For a take and use in **category B groundwater (directly connected)** or **category B groundwater (not directly connected)**
- 9 Preventing fish from entering water intakes
- 10 Measuring and reporting, including the guideline in Schedule S (measuring takes).

Attachment 4: Core allocation in Tables 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5 of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Chapter of the proposed Plan

Table 7.3: Surface water allocation amounts for rivers and groundwater directly connected to surface water in the Ruamāhanga River catchment above the Lake Wairarapa outflow

Catchment management unit ¹	Allocation amount ² (L/s)
Ruamāhanga River and tributaries , upstream of (but not including) the confluence with the Lake Wairarapa outflow, and all category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected) identified in the catchment management sub-units below in Table 7.3	7,535
Catchment management sub-units in the upper Ruamāhanga catchment¹ (shown in Figures 7.2 and 7.3)	Allocation amount² (L/s)
Kopuaranga River and tributaries , category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	180
Waipoua River and tributaries , category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	145
Waingawa River and tributaries , category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	920
Ruamāhanga River and tributaries upstream of the confluence with the Waingawa River, category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected) , excluding all the above catchment management sub-units in the Ruamāhanga catchment (above this row in Table 7.3)	1,200
Catchment management sub-units in the middle Ruamāhanga catchment¹ (shown in Figures 7.5, 7.6 and 7.7)	Allocation amount² (L/s)
Parkvale Stream and tributaries and category B groundwater (directly connected)	40
Booths Creek and tributaries and category B groundwater (directly connected)	25
Mangatarere Stream and tributaries , category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	110
Waiohine River and tributaries (excluding Mangatarere Stream and tributaries) and category A groundwater	1,590
Papawai Stream and tributaries and category A groundwater	65
Ruamāhanga River and tributaries upstream of the confluence with the Papawai Stream, excluding all the above catchment management sub-units in the Ruamāhanga catchment (above this row in Table 7.3)	1,240

¹ When assessing **surface water allocation**, both the relevant **catchment management unit** and **catchment management sub-unit** must be considered

² This **allocation amount** has been derived as a default based upon one of two rules; for rivers with a mean flow of greater than 5,000 litres/sec, the **allocation limit** is equal to 50% of the natural seven-day **mean annual low flow (7d MALF)** and for rivers with a mean flow of less than 5,000 litres/sec, the **allocation limit** is equal to 30% of the 7d MALF.

Table 7.4: Surface water allocation amounts for rivers, Lake Wairarapa and groundwater directly connected to surface water in the Lake Wairarapa catchment

Catchment management unit ³ (shown in Figures 7.8 and 7.9)	Allocation amount ⁴ (L/s)
Lake Wairarapa and tributaries above the confluence of the Lake Wairarapa outflow with the Ruamāhanga River, category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	1,800
Catchment management sub-units ³ (shown in Figures 7.8 and 7.9)	Allocation amount ⁴ (L/s)
Otukura Stream and tributaries above (but not including) the confluence with Dock/Stonestead Creek and category B groundwater (directly connected)	30
Tauherenikau River and tributaries , category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	410

Table 7.5: Groundwater allocation amounts for groundwater not directly connected to surface water in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

Upper Ruamāhanga catchment management sub-units ³ (shown in Figures 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4)	Allocation amount (m ³ /year)
Te Ore Ore category B groundwater (not directly connected)	480,000
Waingawa category B groundwater (not directly connected) and Waingawa category C groundwater	1,900,000
Ruamāhanga category B groundwater (not directly connected) and Ruamāhanga category C groundwater	3,550,000
Middle Ruamāhanga catchment management sub-units ³ (shown in Figures 7.5, 7.6 and 7.7)	Allocation amount (m ³ /year)
Fernhill-Tiffen category C groundwater (not directly connected)	1,200,000
Taratahi category B groundwater (not directly connected) and Taratahi category C groundwater	1,400,000

³ When assessing **surface water allocation**, both the relevant catchment management–unit and catchment management sub-unit must be considered

⁴ This **allocation amount** has been derived as a default based upon one of two rules; for rivers with a mean flow of greater than 5,000 litres/sec, the **allocation limit** is equal to 50% of the natural 7d MALF and for rivers with a mean flow of less than 5,000 litres/sec, the **allocation limit** is equal to 30% of the 7d MALF.

Upper Ruamāhanga catchment management sub-units³ (shown in Figures 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4)	Allocation amount (m³/year)
Parkvale category B groundwater (not directly connected) and Parkvale category C groundwater	350,000 [unconfined] 1,550,000 [confined]
Mangatarere category B groundwater (not directly connected) and Mangatarere category C groundwater	2,300,000
Lower Ruamāhanga catchment management sub-units³ (shown in Figures 7.8 and 7.9)	Allocation amount (m³/year)
Tauherenikau category B groundwater (not directly connected)	6,600,000
Lake Category B groundwater (not directly connected) and Lake Category C groundwater	6,750,000
Huangarua Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	650,000
Martinborough Category C groundwater	800,000
Dry River Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	650,000
Onoke Category C groundwater	2,100,000