

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM) was gazetted on 12 May 2011 and took effect from 1 July 2011. As of 1 July 2011, decision-makers under the RMA must have regard to the NPSFM in consenting decisions. The NPSFM sets out objectives and policies that direct local government to manage water in an integrated and sustainable way, while providing for economic growth within set water quantity and quality limits.

The NPSFM inserts two transitional policies directly into regional plans which require Councils to consider specific criteria when making decisions on a resource consent application for a discharge. Policies were inserted into the Wellington Regional Freshwater Plan (by Plan Change 4) in December 2011 to give effect to the interim policies of the NPSFM (being Policy 5.2.10A and 6.2.4A). The matters listed for consideration under those policies have been thoroughly regarded as part of this application. Council has undertaken a rigorous assessment of the potential effects of the proposed activity, concluding that the potential effects will not adversely affect safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of freshwater and associated ecosystems, where those effects cannot be avoided. Overall, this application provides for the sustainable management of freshwater with any adverse effects able to be appropriately mitigated and managed by way of conditions of consent. The proposed activity gives effect to the NPSFM.

National Environmental Standard on Ecological Flows and Water Levels

On 20 March 2008 the Minister for the Environment notified a proposed National Environmental Standard on Ecological Flows and Water Levels (NESEFWL). While submissions on the proposed NESEFWL closed on 29 August 2008, it is currently on-hold pending consideration of advice from the Land and Water Forum. The Land and Water Forum has also recommended that the NESEFWL be reviewed (see recommendation 36 of the Land and Water Forum's Second Report).

The proposed NESEFWL is intended to complement and enhance the existing RMA process for establishing environmental flows and water levels through regional plans. The overall objective for a proposal to address ecological flows and water levels is to meet the relevant outcome of the Sustainable Water Programme of Action in a nationally consistent and cost-effective manner. The relevant outcome of the Sustainable Water Programme of Action is to:

“Provide for growing demands on water resources and encourage efficient water management through increased national direction, working with local government to identify options for supporting and enhancing local decision-making, and developing best practice”

Under Section 104(1) of the RMA, as the NESEFWL is only currently proposed, it does not need to be considered with regard to this application. However, it has been included to note that in terms of flows and water levels and freshwater available, this application is being assessed in a clear decision-making context.

For this application the minimum flow for the Waikanae River is set at 750 L/s in the Regional Freshwater Plan and further regulated through Council's existing water permit enabling the abstraction of water from the Waikanae River for water supply purposes (WGN050024 [23848]). Equally, the Waikanae borefield aquifer has been investigated to have sufficient water available for this proposal and the aquifer can be suitably monitored and managed over time to provide for its sustainable management.

National Environmental Standard for Drinking Water Supply

The National Environmental Standard for Sources of Human Drinking Water is intended to reduce the risk of contaminating drinking water sources such as rivers and groundwater. It does this by requiring Regional Councils to consider the effects of activities on drinking water sources in their decision making. This proposal will provide drinking water to the WPR area that will meet this standard.

Other regulations

The Resource Management (Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes) Regulations 2010 seeks to ensure consistent and accurate measuring and reporting of water takes. Council proposes to measure and report on the proposed water takes in accordance with this regulation.

Wellington Regional Policy Statement(s)

The Wellington Regional Policy Statement (RPS) identifies the regionally significant issues around the management of the region’s natural and physical resources and sets out what needs to be achieved (objectives) and the way in which the objectives will be achieved (policies and methods). Both regional and district plans are required to give effect to the RPS.

Both the Operative and Proposed Wellington RPS need to be given regard to when resource consents are processed, although more weight can be afforded to the Proposed RPS due to the fact that decisions have been released by Greater Wellington Regional Council. For completeness, the most relevant objectives and policies of both the Operative and Proposed (version incorporating decisions) RPS are identified and assessed below.

Operative Regional Policy Statement

The Wellington Regional Policy Statement (RPS) was made operative in May 1995. The most relevant chapters of the Operative RPS to the proposed activity are:

- Chapter 4 – Iwi Environmental Management System;
- Chapter 5 – Freshwater; and,
- Chapter 9 – Ecosystems.

i. Chapter 4 – Iwi Environmental Management System

Chapter 4 provides objectives, policies and methods which address the relationship that regulatory authorities have with tāngata whenua of the region and with the Treaty of Waitangi. The most relevant provisions are assessed below.

Operative RPS Provision	Comment
Objective 2: <i>The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are taken into account in resource management.</i>	Council is working in partnership with tāngata whenua in relation to water management, including both the water supply and conservation initiatives. Te Āti Awa, as the tāngata whenua of the water catchment area, has been actively involved in this project from the early stages of option assessment through to the detailed assessment of RRwGW. This process of partnership on water management was further endorsed during October 2010 with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Relation to Water between Council and Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai signed at the Whakarongotai Marae. The MoU states that “ <i>Council and Te Āti Awa will work together in the spirit of partnership to explore practical, innovative, culturally appropriate management of water, including the supply of potable water to all communities within the Waikanae, Paraparaumu and Raumati catchment area</i> ” Te Āti Awa has recently completed their Cultural Impact
Policy 4: <i>To recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.</i>	
Objective 3: <i>There are increased opportunities for tāngata whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga in the Region.</i>	
Policy 6: <i>To recognise and promote the role and importance of kaitiakitanga.</i>	
Objective 4: <i>There are increased opportunities for the cultural aspirations and tikanga of tāngata whenua with regard to natural and physical resources to be met.</i>	

	<p>Assessment (CIA) for both the RRwGW and Maungakotukutuku dam projects, completed by Hāpai Whenua Consultants. The complete Cultural Impact Assessment is provided within Volume 3 and summarised in Section 6.9 of this Report.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objectives 2, 3 and 4 and supporting Policies 4 and 6.</p>
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ii. Chapter 5 – Freshwater

The issues section of the Freshwater Chapter of the Operative RPS (Chapter 5) identifies that the sustainable management of water requires an adequate residual flow to be maintained in rivers to safeguard fish and wildlife habitats and provide for other in-stream values.

One of the specific uses that the RPS states fresh water is of importance for is to the community as a source of public water supply – the Waikanae River (upstream of the railway bridge) is specifically stated. The following sections address the most relevant objectives and policies.

Operative RPS Provision	Comment
<p>Objective 1: <i>The quantity of freshwater meets the range of uses and values for which it is required, safeguards its life supporting capacity, and has the potential to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.</i></p> <p>Policy 1: <i>To manage the quantity of freshwater so that it is available for a range of uses and values, and,</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Its life supporting capacity is safeguarded</i> 2. <i>Its potential to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations is sustained, and</i> 3. <i>For surface water, any adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</i> <p>Policy 2: <i>To promote the conservation and efficient use of fresh water.</i></p> <p>Policy 3: <i>To control the use and allocation of groundwater so that it is not depleted in the long term and seawater intrusion is minimised.</i></p>	<p>This proposal provides for a sustainable and secure water supply for the WPR area (current community and the foreseeable needs of future generations) while safeguarding the life supporting capacity of the environment and aquatic ecosystem.</p> <p>Council is promoting an active water conservation strategy that seeks to promote the efficient use of fresh water. The intention is to stabilise daily WPR consumption at 400 litres per person per day (L/person/day), with an additional allowance of 90 L/person/day for water losses. Council has a wide range of conservation initiatives for reducing demand, from the Green Plumber and the Green Gardener services; the Eco Design Advisor; the Kāpiti Coast Sustainable Home and Garden Show, the Summer On The Coast programme, Plan Change 75 (requiring a water tank/ grey water system for any new or relocated dwelling), education in local schools, water metering and financial incentives that provide loans for installation of non-potable water systems.</p> <p>The RRwGW scheme proposes to control the use and allocation of groundwater so that it is not depleted in the long term and seawater intrusion is minimised. The aquifer system will be carefully monitored and managed over time as the proposal is staged to meet demand.</p> <p>Overall, the proposal is consistent with Objective 1 and supporting Policies 1-3.</p>

<p>Objective 2: <i>The quality of fresh water meets the range of uses and values for which it is required, safeguards its life supporting capacity, and has the potential to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.</i></p>	<p>The quality of freshwater (both surface and groundwater) will not be unduly compromised as a result of this proposal. The investigations undertaken by NIWA have shown that the quality of the groundwater from the aquifer that will be discharged to the Waikanae River during certain and occasional low flow periods is of an acceptable environmental quality that will not render the Waikanae River water quality unsuitable for any purpose specified in the Regional Freshwater Plan. The environmental effects of the discharge can be appropriately monitored and managed.</p>
<p>Policy 4: <i>To maintain and protect the quality of fresh water so that it is available for a range of uses and values, and:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Its life supporting capacity is safeguarded; and</i> 2. <i>Its potential to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations is sustained; and</i> 3. <i>For surface water, any adverse effects on aquatic and riparian ecosystems are avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</i> 	<p>The proposed works within the bed of the Waikanae River for the intake and discharge structures and the stream crossings for Stage 1 will be temporary and minor and able to be sufficiently managed by way of conditions of consent. This proposal is consistent with Objective 2 and supporting Policies 4, 6 and 9.</p>
<p>Policy 6 <i>To ensure that the effects of contaminants contained in point source discharges on the quality of fresh water and aquatic ecosystems are avoided, remedied, or mitigated and allowing for reasonable mixing:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Do not render any fresh water unsuitable for any purpose specified in any regional plan for that water;</i> 2. <i>Do not prevent the receiving fresh water from meeting any standards established in any regional plan for that water;</i> 3. <i>Do not render any water in the coastal marine area unsuitable for any purpose specified in a regional coastal plan for the Wellington Region.</i> 	
<p>Policy 9: <i>To avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse effects of modifications to the beds of water bodies on water quality, groundwater, aquatic ecosystems, and the amenity and cultural values of water.</i></p>	<p>The Waikanae River has a high value for cultural, spiritual, scenic, ecosystem, natural, recreational and amenity reasons. None of those values will be unduly compromised as a result of this proposal.</p>
<p>Objective 3: <i>Freshwater resources of significance or of high value for cultural, spiritual, scenic, ecosystem, natural, recreational, or other amenity reasons are protected or enhanced.</i></p>	<p>Council will maintain a comprehensive monitoring regime for managing the risk of effects on wetlands and implement a controlled adaptive management protocol based on agreed triggers and actions. Adaptive management actions may include:</p>
<p>Policy 11: <i>To ensure that, in respect of all water bodies not covered by Fresh Water Policy 10, any adverse effects on amenity values or the intrinsic values of ecosystems which may result from any use and development, and on any natural or near natural areas, are avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reconfigure bore use (reduce take from bores near affected wetlands) - Decommission bores, create new bores (spread the effects appropriately across the borefield) - Management of wetland system (controlling water levels through placement of weirs, redirecting drains, direct wetting of wetlands, restricting bore use in the area of wetlands during significant drought periods)
<p>Policy 13: <i>To recognise the cultural relationship of the tāngata whenua with rivers, lakes, wetlands, and other water bodies, and to promote the management of fresh water in ways that take into account iwi values and beliefs. In addition, to promote the protection and management of sites of significance to iwi within the beds of water bodies.</i></p>	<p>The healthy functioning of existing wetlands can be monitored and managed.</p>
<p>Policy 14 <i>To protect the healthy functioning of wetlands and their biological communities from the inappropriate effects of land and water use and to promote the restoration of degraded wetlands and the creation of artificial wetlands.</i></p>	<p>This proposal is consistent with Objective 3 and supporting Policies 11, 13 and 14.</p>

iii. Chapter 9 – Ecosystems

Chapter 9 contains the objectives, policies and methods which address ecosystems and their sustainable management. The most relevant objectives and policies are assessed below.

Operative RPS Provision	Comment
<p>Objective 1 <i>The overall quality of ecosystem in the Region is increased.</i></p>	<p>It is unlikely that this proposal will increase the overall quality of ecosystems in the Region (Objective 1); however it will certainly not unduly detract from them. The assessment of environmental effects has shown that the proposal will avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities on ecosystems and that those effects that cannot be avoided can be sufficiently managed by way of conditions of consent.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objectives 1 and 2 and supporting Policies 1 and 4.</p>
<p>Objective 2 <i>Healthy, functioning ecosystems are distributed throughout the Region, including the rural and urban environments.</i></p>	
<p>Policy 1 <i>To increase understanding of the Region's ecosystems to a level to enable the effective monitoring of change.</i></p>	
<p>Policy 4 <i>To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities on ecosystems, and in particular, to avoid, remedy or mitigate any of the following effects:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Reduction in the indigenous biodiversity of an ecosystem;</i> 2. <i>Prevention of the natural processes of an ecosystem, including nutrient cycles and energy flows, from operating effectively;</i> 3. <i>Simplification of the structure of indigenous ecosystems; and</i> 4. <i>Reduction in the quality or quantity of the non-living parts of an ecosystem (e.g., decaying plant and animal remains, water, air, soil) to a level which adversely affects the life-supporting capacity of the ecosystem.</i> 	

Proposed Regional Policy Statement (decisions version 18 May 2010)

The Proposed RPS was publicly notified on 21 March 2009. Decisions on submissions on the proposed RPS were approved by Greater Wellington Regional Council on 18 May 2010 and notified on 22 May 2010. The appeals period for the proposed RPS has closed with 8 appeals lodged. The proposed RPS is well through its process towards becoming operative and therefore can be afforded significant weight. The most relevant objectives and policies of the Proposed RPS are assessed below.

Proposed RPS Provision	Comment
Infrastructure	
<p>Objective 10: <i>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of regionally significant infrastructure are recognised and protected.</i></p>	<p>The new water supply infrastructure provided by this proposed RRwGW scheme will be of regional significance and will provide regional benefits. A secure long-term sustainable water supply that can be appropriately staged over time to meet the demands of the district's main urban</p>
<p>Policy 38: <i>Recognising the benefits from regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy and</i></p>	

Proposed RPS Provision	Comment
<i>regionally significant infrastructure</i>	<p>catchment represents a significant infrastructure investment.</p> <p>Also, importantly, this proposal uses the existing Waikanae borefield infrastructure in an innovative way, recognising the considerable community investment sunk into this infrastructure.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objective 10 and Policy 38.</p>
Freshwater	
<p>Objective 12: <i>The quantity and quality of fresh water:</i></p> <p>a) <i>meet the range of uses and values for which water is required;</i></p> <p>b) <i>safeguard the life supporting capacity of water bodies; and</i></p> <p>c) <i>meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.</i></p>	<p>This proposal provides for a sustainable and secure water supply for the WPR area (current community and the foreseeable needs of future generations) while continuing to provide for the range of uses and values for which the water is required and safeguarding the life supporting capacity of the water bodies.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objective 12 and supporting Policy 39.</p>
<p>Policy 39: <i>Maintaining and enhancing aquatic ecosystem health in water bodies</i></p>	
<p>Objective 13: <i>The region's rivers, lakes and wetlands support healthy functioning ecosystems</i></p>	
<p>Policy 42: <i>Protecting aquatic ecological function of water bodies</i></p>	<p>The assessment of environmental effects has shown that the proposal will avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities on ecosystems and that those effects that cannot be avoided can be sufficiently managed by way of conditions of consent.</p> <p>The ecological function of the Waikanae River will be protected by the known quality of the discharge proposed and the comprehensive monitoring framework and adaptive management approach.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objective 13 and supporting Policy 42.</p>
<p>Objective 14: <i>Water is used efficiently and is not wasted</i></p>	
<p>Policy 43: <i>Managing water takes to ensure efficient use</i></p>	
<p>Policy 44: <i>Using Water efficiently</i></p>	<p>This proposal represents an efficient use of water and will be staged over time to meet the water demands of the WPR community.</p> <p>Council is promoting an active water conservation strategy that seeks to promote the efficient use of fresh water. The intention is to stabilise daily WPR consumption at 400 litres per person per day (L/person/day), with an additional allowance of 90 L/person/day for water losses. Council has a wide range of conservation initiatives for reducing demand.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objective 14 and supporting Policy 43 and 44.</p>
Tangata Whenua	
<p>Objective 23: <i>The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are taken into account in a systematic way when resource management decisions are made.</i></p>	<p>These matters are similar to the outcomes sought for the operative RPS and have been assessed above.</p> <p>In addition to those comments, a secure and sustainable supply of potable water is essential for the health and well-being of all people and communities, including iwi.</p>
<p>Policy 47: <i>Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi</i></p>	
<p>Objective 24: <i>The concept of kaitiakitanga is integrated into the sustainable management of the Wellington region's natural and physical resources.</i></p>	<p>Te Āti Awa has recently completed their Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) for both the RRwGW and</p>

Proposed RPS Provision	Comment
Objective 25: <i>Mauri is sustained, particularly in relation to coastal and fresh waters.</i>	Maungakotukutuku dam projects, completed by Hāpai Whenua Consultants. The complete Cultural Impact Assessment is provided within Volume 3. The proposal is consistent with Objectives 23-27 and supporting Policies 47 and 48.
Objective 26: <i>Mahinga kai and natural resources used for customary purposes, are maintained and enhanced, and these resources are healthy and accessible to tāngata whenua.</i>	
Objective 27: <i>Adverse effects on the cultural relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga are avoided.</i>	
Policy 48: <i>Avoiding adverse effects on matters of significance to tāngata whenua</i>	

Wellington Regional Freshwater Plan

The Wellington Regional Freshwater Plan (WRFP) contains objectives, policies and rules seeking to avoid, remedy or mitigate potential adverse effects of the use and development of waterbodies, including the discharge of contaminants to water. The following objectives and policies of the WRFP are considered most relevant to this application.

The WRFP was made operative on 17 December 1999. We note the following provisions of the WRFP in the consideration of this resource consent application:

- **Water Bodies with a High Degree of Natural Character:** Appendix 2 lists rivers and their margins with a High Degree of Natural Character. The Waikanae River is not listed under Part A: Surface Water to be Managed in its Natural State or Part B: Surface Water to be Managed for Aquatic Ecosystem Purposes;
- **Water Bodies with Nationally Threatened Indigenous Fish:** Appendix 3 (Part A) identifies Water Bodies with Nationally Threatened Indigenous Fish Recorded in the catchment). The Waikanae River, as generally shown in Figure 3.1, contains short-jawed kokopu and koaro;
- **Water Bodies with Important Trout Habitat:** Appendix 4 lists Water Bodies with Important Trout Habitat (including spawning areas) - Water Quality to be Managed for Fishery and Fish Spawning Purposes. The Waikanae River from R26 899 353 to R26 807 347 is listed;
- **Waterbodies with Important Amenity and Recreational Values:** Appendix 5 lists waterbodies in which Water Quality is to be Managed for Contact Recreation Purposes. The Waikanae River from State Highway 1 at R26 838 340 to the river mouth at R26 792 352 is used for swimming and angling;
- **Waterbodies with Water Quality to be Managed for Water Supply Purposes:** Appendix 6 lists waterbodies to be managed for water supply purposes. The Waikanae River upstream of the Water Treatment Plant at R26 845 333 is listed;
- **Minimum Flows, Safe Yields, and Water Allocation:** Table 6.1 of the WRFP contains the Minimum Flows and Water Allocation for Some Rivers in the Wellington Region.² The details for the Waikanae River are as follows:

² Two options (Option A and Option B) are given in Table 6.1 for the Waikanae River. When resource consent applications are made for community water supply, the applicant can advise the consent authority on which of the two options the consent authority should have regard to when considering the application.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3 Policy 6.2.1(1)	Column 4 Policy 6.2.1(2)	Column 5 Policy 6.2.1(3)	Column 6 Policy 6.2.1(4)		Column 7 Policy 6.2.1(4)	
Part of the river/ stream within which allocations in columns 4, 5 6 & 7 apply	The location of recorders where flows in columns 3, 5, 6 & 7 are measured	Minimum Flow (litres/second)	Core Allocation (litres/second)	Flow required for supplementary allocation (litres/second)	Flow below which first stepdown allocation takes effect (litres/second)	First stepdown allocation (litres/second)	Flow below which second stepdown allocation takes effect (litres/second)	Second stepdown allocation (litres/second)
Waikanae River (Option A) from the headwaters to the boundary of the coastal marine area	At the Water Treatment Plant	750	290	2000	900	150	750	120
Waikanae River (Option B) from the headwaters to the boundary of the coastal marine area	At the Water Treatment Plant	750		750				

- **Groundwater:** Table 6.2 of the WRFPP provides the Aquifer Allocation Limits for the Kāpiti Coast (the proposal will utilise the Waikanae Gravel Aquifer which is greater than 40 m in depth).

Groundwater Zone	Aquifer Depth (metres)	Safe Yield (m ³ /day)
Waikanae (Sand Aquifer)	0-45	14,450
Waikanae (Gravel Aquifer)	10-17	4,200
	> 40	10,700

WRFPP Provision	Comment
General Provisions	
<p>Objective 4.1.1 The relationship of tāngata whenua and their culture and traditions with fresh water, and with ancestral sites, waahi tapu and other taonga within the beds of rivers and lakes, is recognised and provided for.</p> <p>Objective 4.1.2 The mauri of water bodies and river and lake beds is protected.</p> <p>Objective 4.1.3 The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are taken into account in the management of the Region's water bodies and river and lake beds.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.1 To manage sites of special value to the tāngata whenua in water bodies and river and lake beds so that the cultural values of those sites are not adversely affected.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.2 To encourage applicants to consult directly with affected tāngata whenua when making an application for a resource consent which is for an activity within, upstream, or immediately downstream of any identified site of special value to the tāngata whenua. As part of this consultation the applicant should determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether granting the resource consent could have any adverse effects on the special values of the site. 	<p>Council is working in partnership with tāngata whenua in relation to water management, including both the water supply and conservation initiatives. Te Āti Awa, as the tāngata whenua of the water catchment area, has been actively involved in this project from the early stages of option assessment through to the detailed assessment of RRwGW.</p> <p>This process of partnership on water management was further endorsed during October 2010 with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Relation to Water between Council and Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai signed at the Whakarongotai Marae. The MoU states that “Council and Te Āti Awa will work together in the spirit of partnership to explore practical, innovative, culturally appropriate management of water, including the supply of potable water to all communities within the Waikanae, Paraparaumu and Raumati catchment area”</p> <p>Te Āti Awa has recently completed their Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) for both the RRwGW and Maungakotukutuku dam projects, completed by Hāpai Whenua Consultants. The complete Cultural Impact Assessment is provided within Volume 3 and summarised</p>

WRFP Provision	Comment
<p>2. How any potential adverse effects that might result from the activity could be avoided or remedied.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.3 To not allow the use or development of water bodies and river and lake beds that would restrict the access of tāngata whenua to any identified site of special value in a publicly owned river or lake bed, unless that access can specifically be provided for, or the loss can be adequately remedied or mitigated.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.4 To avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse effects of the use and development of water bodies and river and lake beds on the habitats of species traditionally harvested by the tāngata whenua.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.5 To have regard to the values and customary knowledge of the tāngata whenua, where these have been identified by the tāngata whenua, when assessing resource consent applications for the use and development of water bodies and river and lake beds.</p>	<p>in Section 6.9 of this Report.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objectives 4.1.1-3 and supporting Policies 4.2.1-5.</p>
Natural Values	
<p>Objective 4.1.4 The natural character of wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, is preserved and protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p> <p>Objective 4.1.5 The life-supporting capacity of water and aquatic ecosystems is safeguarded from the adverse effects of any subdivision, use and development.</p> <p>Objective 4.1.6 Significant indigenous aquatic vegetation and significant habitats of fresh water fauna in water bodies are protected.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.9 To have regard to the following characteristics of wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, when considering the protection of their natural character from the adverse effects of subdivision, use, and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ecosystems, habitats and species; and ■ water quality; and ■ the natural flow characteristics and hydraulic processes (such as sediment transport) of rivers or the pattern and range of water level fluctuations that occur naturally in wetlands or lakes; and ■ the topography and physical composition of river or lake beds and the course of the river. <p>Policy 4.2.10 To avoid adverse effects on wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, identified in Appendix 2 (Parts A and B), when considering the protection of their natural character from the adverse effects of subdivision, use, and development.</p>	<p>The proposal will not have a significant adverse effect on the natural character of the Waikanae River. Much of the natural character of the Waikanae River is located well above the Waikanae WTP, which will remain unaffected by this proposal. The minimum flow of the River as measured at the Waikanae WTP will remain unaffected. The nature of the water discharged to the Waikanae River is of such a quality as to not have a significant adverse effect on ecosystems, habitats and species.</p> <p>The investigations undertaken by NIWA have concluded that the proposal will have a minor and manageable effect on the life-supporting capacity of the Waikanae River. NIWA has concluded that effects on invertebrate communities and fish will be minor and any effects relating to increased algal growth can be appropriately mitigated and remedied.</p> <p>Similarly, Boffa Miskell has assessed effects of wetlands over and above their natural cycles of dry-out/replenish as minor and manageable.</p> <p>The comprehensive monitoring framework proposed will ensure that the environmental effects potentially generated by the RRwGW scheme can be appropriately monitored and managed over time.</p> <p>This proposal is consistent with Objectives 4.1.4-6 and supporting Policies 4.2.9-14.</p>

WRFP Provision	Comment
<p>Policy 4.2.11 To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of the use and development of water bodies and river and lake beds on aquatic habitats and freshwater ecosystems by having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the maintenance of biological and physical processes; and ■ the maintenance of habitat for feeding, breeding and sheltering aquatic life; and ■ the maintenance of the diversity of aquatic life; and ■ the maintenance of the ability of fish to disperse and migrate; and ■ the times which will least affect feeding, spawning, dispersal or migratory patterns of fish and other aquatic species; and ■ the prevention of irreversible adverse effects. 	
<p>Policy 4.2.12 To promote the maintenance and enhancement of aquatic habitats and ecosystems when considering the adverse effects of the subdivision, use and development of land outside river and lake beds.</p>	
<p>Policy 4.2.13 To protect the nationally threatened indigenous aquatic plants identified in Part B of Appendix 3 and to protect nationally threatened freshwater fauna, in the water bodies identified in Part A of Appendix 3 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ managing water quality so that Polices 5.2.1 to 5.2.7, whichever is (are) relevant, is (are) satisfied; and ■ managing the flows and levels of water bodies so that Policies 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.12, and 6.2.13, whichever is (are) relevant, is (are) satisfied; and ■ maintaining migratory and dispersal pathways for fish; and ■ avoiding adverse effects on habitats that are important to the life cycle and survival (including spawning areas) of fish and birds; and ■ promoting landowner and user knowledge of nationally threatened species, the sites where they are present, and how they can be protected. 	
<p>Policy 4.2.14 To avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on important trout habitat in the Region, identified in Appendix 4, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ managing water quality so that Policy 5.2.3 is satisfied; and ■ managing the flows and levels of water bodies so that Policies 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.12, and 6.2.13, whichever is (are) relevant, is (are) satisfied; and ■ having particular regard to offsetting adverse effects on trout habitat; and 	

WRFP Provision	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>having particular regard to maintaining the same, or similar, river bed configuration in the rivers identified.</i> 	
<p>Amenity Values and Access</p>	
<p>Objective 4.1.7 <i>The amenity and recreational values of wetlands, lakes, and rivers are maintained and, where appropriate, enhanced.</i></p>	<p>The proposal will have a negligible long-term effect on the overall amenity and recreational values of the Waikanae River and environment of the Waikanae Catchment.</p>
<p>Objective 4.1.8 <i>The quality of lawful public access to and along river and lake beds is maintained and, where appropriate, enhanced.</i></p>	<p>The proposal will have no significant adverse effect on lawful public access to and along the Waikanae River and other water bodies.</p>
<p>Policy 4.2.15 <i>To avoid, remedy, and mitigate any adverse effects of use and development on the water bodies identified in Appendix 5 as regionally important for their amenity and recreational values, by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>managing water quality so that Policy 5.2.4 is satisfied; and</i> ■ <i>managing the flows and levels of water bodies so that Policies 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.12, and 6.2.13, whichever is (are) relevant, is (are) satisfied; and</i> ■ <i>having particular regard to offsetting adverse effects on amenity and recreational values; and</i> ■ <i>having particular regard to the timing of use and development so that, where practicable, adverse effects on amenity values and recreational use are minimised.</i> 	<p>This proposal is consistent with Objectives 4.1.7 and 4.1.8 and supporting Policies 4.2.15-17.</p>
<p>Policy 4.2.16 <i>To ensure there is no reduction in the quality of lawful public access along the beds of lakes and rivers unless exceptional circumstances arise that make restrictions necessary, including to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>protect any characteristic of any site or feature which gives a water body its special value or any conservation value; or</i> ■ <i>provide for public health and safety; or</i> ■ <i>provide for security on private property; or</i> ■ <i>protect the rights of property owners, including the protection of crops and stock.</i> 	
<p>Policy 4.2.17 <i>To promote lawful public access to water bodies when the subdivision, use and development of land adjacent to water bodies is being considered, particularly those water bodies which:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>have a high degree of natural character (Policy 4.2.10), are important trout habitat in the Region (Policy 4.2.14),</i> ■ <i>or are regionally significant for amenity values and recreational use (Policy 4.2.15); or</i> ■ <i>are considered by the relevant territorial authority to be of benefit to the local community for their recreational,</i> 	

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<i>cultural, scenic, spiritual, or other amenity values.</i>	
Use and Development	
Objective 4.1.11 <i>People and communities are able to use and develop freshwater resources to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well being and for their health and safety.</i>	<p>This proposal will enable the Council to provide a sustainable long-term potable water supply to the people and community of the WPR area. This will give long term security of supply and provide for the social, economic, and cultural well-being of the community and for their health and safety.</p> <p>The assessment of environmental effects has shown that the proposal will avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities on freshwater resources and that those effects that cannot be avoided can be sufficiently managed by way of conditions of consent.</p> <p>The Kāpiti district community, key stakeholders and iwi have had significant input into the option selection process for this project and have had opportunities to be involved in decision making milestones for this project. These opportunities are summarised in Volume 4 of this application. In addition, this application will be publicly notified, providing a further opportunity to make submissions and be involved in the decision making process.</p> <p>Council has proposed a set of conditions as a means of avoiding, remedying or mitigating the potential adverse effects generated by RRwGW. Council anticipates that these conditions may be further revised and/or added post-lodgement by GWRC as the consenting authority.</p> <p>There are significant benefits arising from this proposal, involving significant Council and community investment. The provision of a secure, sustainable long-term potable water supply is a fundamental cornerstone of the well-being and life of a community.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.23 requires GWRC to have regard to the benefits arising from this proposal.</p> <p>Policy 4.2.26 is particularly relevant to this proposal – Council is proposing a precautionary approach by implementing an adaptive management framework for the RRwGW scheme that will be supported by a comprehensive monitoring regime.</p> <p>The priority for the Waikanae River water allocation is for drinking water and for safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of aquatic ecosystems. Council is the only consented existing water take user of the Waikanae River and this proposal advances the needs of existing users. The Sustainable Water Management Strategy: Water Matters (2003) set out Council’s vision for water management in the district over a fifty year timeframe.</p>
Objective 4.1.12 <i>The adverse effects of the use and development of freshwater resources are avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</i>	
Objective 4.1.15 <i>Opportunities are provided for people and communities to be involved in decision making on significant freshwater resource management issues in the Wellington Region.</i>	
Objective 4.1.17 <i>Conditions placed on resource consents are used as a means of avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects.</i>	
Policy 4.2.23 <i>To have regard to the benefits arising from any proposal for the use and development of a water body when assessing the proposal.</i>	
Policy 4.2.24 <i>To have regard to the effects on other established activities when considering any proposal for the use and development of water bodies.</i>	
Policy 4.2.25 <i>To encourage users of fresh water to adopt an ethic of guardianship for future generations.</i>	
Policy 4.2.26: <i>To adopt a precautionary approach to the management of freshwater in the Wellington Region where information is incomplete or limited.</i>	
Policy 4.2.29 <i>To recognise the needs of existing lawful users of fresh water by:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>allowing existing users to upgrade progressively their environmental performance where improvements are needed to meet the provisions of the Plan; and/or</i> ■ <i>giving priority to existing users over new users at locations where the demand for the use of water is greater than the resource can sustain.</i> 	
Policy 4.2.30: <i>To work with other relevant agencies and tāngata whenua in order to achieve the integrated management of fresh water.</i>	
Policy 4.2.31 <i>To ensure that the process for making decisions relating to the management of fresh water is fair and transparent. In particular, to ensure that as far as practicable, all interested people and communities have the opportunity to be involved in freshwater resource management processes, including significant resource consents.</i>	
Policy 4.2.33: <i>To provide for those activities which have</i>	

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<p><i>no more than minor adverse effects on the environment. As a guide, the adverse effects of activities are likely to be no more than minor if the following criteria are met:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(1) the activity does not require exclusive use of the river or lake bed, and does not preclude lawful public access to, and use of, the river or lake bed (subject to the circumstances listed in Policy 4.2.16 that make restrictions necessary); and</i> <i>(2) any adverse effects on plants, animals or their habitats are confined to a small area or are temporary, and the area will naturally re-establish habitat values comparable with those prevailing before commencement of the activity; and</i> <i>(3) there are no significant or prolonged decreases in water quality; and</i> <i>(4) there are no off-site adverse effects; and</i> <i>(5) river bank or lake shoreline stability is not adversely affected; and</i> <i>(6) there are no adverse effects on mahinga kai, waahi tapu, or any other sites of special value to tāngata whenua; and</i> <i>(7) there are no adverse effects on the natural character of wetlands, and lakes and river and their margins.</i> <hr/> <p>Policy 4.2.34 <i>To avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects which are associated with, or are a consequence of, an activity by placing conditions on resource consents, particularly where adverse effects are likely to occur on the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>characteristics of spiritual, historical or cultural significance to tāngata whenua; or</i> ■ <i>natural values; or</i> ■ <i>amenity and recreational values; or</i> ■ <i>lawful public access.</i> 	<p>Consultation with local communities was an integral part in the development of that Strategy. 'Water Matters' was the building block and ultimate driver for the Kāpiti Coast Water Supply Project, setting the framework within which this resource consent application has been prepared. This proposal is consistent with Objectives 4.1.11, 4.1.12, 4.1.15 and 4.1.17 and supporting Policies 4.2.23-26, 4.2.29-31, 4.2.33-34.</p>
Water Quality	
<p>Objective 5.1.1: <i>The quality of freshwater meets the range of uses and values for which it is required while the life supporting capacity of water and aquatic ecosystems is safeguarded.</i></p> <hr/> <p>Objective 5.1.2: <i>The quality of freshwater has the potential to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.</i></p> <hr/> <p>Objective 5.1.3: <i>The quality of water is, as far as practicable, consistent with the values of the tāngata whenua.</i></p> <hr/> <p>Policy 5.2.3: <i>To manage water quality for trout fishery and fish spawning purposes in those rivers or parts of rivers, identified in Appendix 4.</i></p> <hr/> <p>Policy 5.2.4: <i>To manage water quality for contact recreation purposes in those waterbodies identified in</i></p>	<p>The main purpose of this proposal is to provide safe and secure water supply for future generations, by increasing quality and quantity of water supply in the context of increasing demand from a growing population. Regard has been had to the water quality guidelines in Appendix 8 to the plan in the preparation of this application. There is nothing in the application that conflicts with these guidelines. The proposal is consistent with Objectives 5.1.1-3 and Policies 5.2.3-8.</p>

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<p>Appendix 5.</p> <p>Policy 5.2.5: To manage water quality for water supply purposes in those water bodies, or parts of water bodies, identified in Appendix 6 (subject to Policy 5.2.10)</p> <p>Policy 5.2.6: To manage the water quality of all surface water bodies in the Region for aquatic ecosystem purposes.</p> <p>Policy 5.2.7: To manage all groundwater in the Wellington Region so that there are no net adverse effects on its quality as a result of discharges to surface water or groundwater.</p> <p>Policy 5.2.8: To have regard to the relevant guidelines in Appendix 8 when deciding whether a discharge is able to satisfy Policies 5.2.1 to 5.2.7 (above) when considering applications for resource consents (subject to Policy 5.2.10).</p>	
<p>Policy 5.2.10A When considering any application for a discharge the consent authority must have regard to the following matters:</p> <p>a) the extent to which the discharge would avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water including on any ecosystem associated with fresh water; and</p> <p>b) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any more than minor adverse effect on fresh water, and on any ecosystem associated with fresh water, resulting from the discharge would be avoided.</p> <p>2. This policy applies to the following discharges (including a diffuse discharge by any person or animal):</p> <p>a) a new discharge or</p> <p>b) a change or increase in any discharge – of any contaminant into fresh water, or onto or into land in circumstances that may result in that contaminant (or, as a result of any natural process from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant) entering fresh water.</p> <p><i>Policy 5.2.10A, in square brackets, was inserted by Plan Change 4 to the Regional Freshwater Plan in December 2011 in accordance with section 55 of the RMA to give effect to policy A4 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011</i></p>	<p>Council has had regard to the matters listed in Policy 5.2.10A. To the extent practicable, the proposed discharge of groundwater to river water will avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water. The water quality of the groundwater is well understood and displays qualities similar to a spring-fed stream (a 'harder' water from flowing through the aquifer). NIWA has assessed the adverse effects on the fresh water ecosystem as being minor. The discharge is to maintain the minimum flow (or natural flow) of the Waikanae River whilst allowing Council to feed river water to the WPR communities for potable supply. On balance, when considering the range of values that the Waikanae River is used for, this proposed discharge represents a feasible solution with minor adverse effects.</p>
<p>Policy 5.2.11: To ensure that any zones allowed on a discharge permit for reasonable mixing of contaminants or water with the receiving water are determined by having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the purpose for which the receiving water is being managed, and any effects of the discharge on that management purpose; and ■ any tāngata whenua values that may be affected; and 	<p>The discharge of ground water into water has been designed to provide for reasonable mixing. It will mean the flow downstream will comprise 65% groundwater and 35% river water at worst case scenario in the year 2060. The groundwater will be discharged to an open channel firstly to aerate and 'normalise' to some extent, before being further aerated by the waterfall cascade onto the riprap river bank and discharged to the Waikanae River</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the volume of water or concentration of contaminants being discharged, and the area of receiving water that could potentially be affected; and ■ the physical, hydraulic and hydrological characteristics of the receiving water. 	
Water Quantity	
<p>Objective 6.1.1: People and communities are able to take, use, dam, or divert surface water, and take and use groundwater, while ensuring that the flows in rivers, and water levels in lakes and wetlands, are sufficient to maintain the natural and amenity values of water bodies.</p>	<p>Council proposes to take a sufficient amount of water to supply the forecasted demand of the WPR community over the 35 year consent period (including headroom to account for high population growth). The proposal ensures that the minimum flow of the Waikanae River is maintained to maintain its natural and amenity values.</p> <p>Council proposes an efficient use of the water resource, only taking water for the required public water supply purposes. The full scheme will be efficiently managed; water taken from the borefield will replace water taken from the river, effects will be monitored and adaptive management actions are available to respond to effects, including aquifer injection.</p> <p>Safe yields of the aquifer in relation to saline intrusion and effects on existing bore users and wetlands will be monitored and managed to ensure adverse environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</p> <p>The adaptive management measures proposed will involve working in partnership with iwi on water management matters.</p>
<p>Objective 6.1.3: Water abstracted from rivers, streams, lakes and aquifers is used efficiently and water conservation is promoted</p>	
<p>Objective 6.1.2: People and communities are able to take and use groundwater while ensuring that the construction of bores and abstractions do not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Exceed the safe yield of aquifers; or, ■ Adversely affect the yields of nearby bores through interference, inefficient borehole construction, or excessive drawdown; or, ■ Adversely affect water quality. 	
<p>Objective 6.1.4: The flows in rivers and water levels in lakes and wetlands are, as far as practicable, consistent with the values of the tāngata whenua.</p>	
<p>Policy 6.2.1 To manage the allocation of water and flows in the parts of the rivers and streams shown in column 1 of Table 6.1 [repeated below] by:</p> <p>(1) recognising the flows shown in column 3 as minimum flows that should be achieved in low flow conditions; and</p> <p>(2) authorising, through resource consents, the taking of no more than the core allocation shown in column 4 (except where the requirements for supplementary allocation in clause (3) of this policy are satisfied); and</p> <p>(3) authorising, through resource consents, the taking of a supplementary allocation when the flow exceeds that shown in column 5 (which is additional to the core allocation provided for in clause (2) of this policy); and</p> <p>(4) authorising, through resource consents, the taking of no more than the first and second stepdown allocations shown in columns 6 and 7, respectively, when the river or stream is below the stepdown flows, also shown in columns 6 and 7 respectively.</p>	<p>The minimum flow figures tabulated in Table 6.1 are a guide that provides an indication of flows in the river or stream that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ safeguard the life-supporting capacity of ecosystems; and ■ meet the needs of future generations; and ■ provide for adequate water quality. <p>Greater Wellington Regional Council has chosen to include Table 6.1 by way of a policy rather than a standard. As stated in the Plan, the minimum flows are guides rather than inflexible thresholds.</p> <p>Nevertheless, this application is consistent with the levels set by this policy, and Council is very focussed on maintaining this standard as flows in the river are of real importance to iwi and the community.</p> <p>The proposal is consistent with Policy 6.2.1.</p>

Table 6.1 – relevant extract.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3 Policy 6.2.1(1)	Column 4 Policy 6.2.1(2)	Column 5 Policy 6.2.1(3)	Column 6 Policy 6.2.1(4)		Column 7 Policy 6.2.1(4)	
Part of the river/ stream within which allocations in columns 4, 5 6 & 7 apply	The location of recorders where flows in columns 3,5, 6 & 7 are measured	Minimum Flow (litres/second)	Core Allocation (litres/second)	Flow required for supplementary allocation (litres/second)	Flow below which first stepdown allocation takes effect (litres/second)	First stepdown allocation (litres/second)	Flow below which second stepdown allocation takes effect (litres/second)	Second stepdown allocation (litres/second)
Waikanae River (Option A) from the headwaters to the boundary of the coastal marine area	At the Water Treatment Plant	750	290	2000	900	150	750	120
Waikanae River (Option B) from the headwaters to the boundary of the coastal marine area	At the Water Treatment Plant	750		750				

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<p>Policy 6.2.3: To manage the aquifers in each groundwater zone using the safe yield shown.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Groundwater Zone</th> <th>Aquifer Depth (metres)</th> <th>Safe Yield (million cubic metres per year)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Waikanae (Sand Aquifer)</td> <td>0-45</td> <td>[5.3]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waikanae (Gravel Aquifer)</td> <td>10-17</td> <td>[1.5]</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>> 40</td> <td>[3.9]</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Groundwater Zone	Aquifer Depth (metres)	Safe Yield (million cubic metres per year)	Waikanae (Sand Aquifer)	0-45	[5.3]	Waikanae (Gravel Aquifer)	10-17	[1.5]		> 40	[3.9]	<p>The implications for groundwater have been assessed for the Waikanae aquifer. The results derived from the modelling of the groundwater aquifer systems predict that the long term effects of groundwater use for the proposal will be minor and able to be comprehensively monitored and managed as the project is staged over time.</p>
Groundwater Zone	Aquifer Depth (metres)	Safe Yield (million cubic metres per year)													
Waikanae (Sand Aquifer)	0-45	[5.3]													
Waikanae (Gravel Aquifer)	10-17	[1.5]													
	> 40	[3.9]													

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<p>Policy 6.2.4: To ensure that land use permits to construct a bore / well avoid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Damage to the structural integrity of an aquifer; or ■ Contamination of any aquifer from external sources. <p>Policy 6.2.4A When considering any application the consent authority must have regard to the following matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the extent to which the change would adversely affect safeguarding the life- supporting capacity of fresh water and of any associated ecosystem and b) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water and of any associated 	<p>These matter listed in Policy 6.2.4A have been given regard to as part of the thorough investigations to support this application.</p> <p>This policy seeks priority afforded to public drinking water supply and therefore should be afforded priority.</p> <p>Policy 6.2.7 encourages users to take groundwater as an alternative to surface water resources where the groundwater is of sufficient quality and quantity for the prospective use; and there are no significant environmental, technical, or financial constraints associated with abstracting groundwater.</p>

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<p>ecosystem resulting from the change would be avoided.</p> <p>Policy 6.2.4A was inserted in December 2011 by Plan Change 4 to the Regional Freshwater Plan in accordance with section 55 of the RMA to give effect to policy B7 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011</p>	
<p>Policy 6.2.5: To give priority over other users to the abstraction of water for the public health water needs of people including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the use of water by any statutory authority which has a duty for public water supply under any Act of Parliament or regulation; or ■ the use of water for reticulation into a public water supply network; <p>when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ water takes exceed the core allocation shown in Table 6.1; or ■ water takes exceed the safe yields shown in Tables 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5; or ■ a water shortage direction is issued under section 329 of the Act. 	
<p>Policy 6.2.7: To encourage users to take groundwater as an alternative to surface water resources where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the groundwater is of sufficient quality and quantity for the prospective use; and ■ there are no significant environmental, technical, or financial constraints associated with abstracting groundwater. 	
<p>Policy 6.2.8: To ensure that water permits to take groundwater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider excessive reductions in the yields of nearby bores; and ■ Avoid significant adverse effects on surface water bodies. 	<p>The ground water study undertaken has given due consideration of the implications for ground water yields and there has been extensive consideration of the implications of ground water take on wetlands. The outcome of groundwater investigations are that the effects of RRwGW can be sufficiently managed</p>
<p>Policy 6.2.14: To provide for minor or temporary diversions of water in any river, lake or wetland, where they are associated with authorised works and/or the exercise of a resource consent.</p>	<p>As part of the works on the site minor and temporary works will take place in the stream bed.</p>
<p>Policy 6.2.18: To have regard to the following when considering an application for a resource consent to take water:</p>	<p>Demand management has been extensively modelled. Headroom has been used for the difference between the demands calculated from the high and medium growth</p>

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<p>1) <i>the amount of water required is reasonable, considering the intended use of the water; and</i></p> <p>2) <i>the need for accurate measurement of the take from any river listed in Table 6.1 or Method 8.5.5; and</i></p> <p>3) <i>for any applicant taking water for public supply, the extent of any:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>demand management programmes; or</i> ■ <i>drought management plans.</i> 	<p>population forecasts. This means demand headroom of 0% in 2011 increasing to 24% in 2060.</p> <p>Council has set the future gross peak day demand for the WPR water supply be set at 490 L/person/day.</p>
<p>Policy 6.2.19: <i>To encourage water conservation, particularly in water shortage areas.</i></p>	<p>Water conservation is actively promoted by the Council</p>
Use of Beds of Rivers	
<p>Objective 7.1.1: <i>Appropriate uses of the beds of rivers and lakes are allowed while avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects.</i></p>	<p>To extract and discharge water from the Waikanae River use of the bed of the river must be made. This has been done in a manner to minimise impacts</p>
<p>Objective 7.1.2: <i>The risk of flooding or erosion is not increased by locating structures or carrying out activities in the beds of rivers and lakes.</i></p>	<p>Flood occurrence or erosion activity will not be altered by the proposed activity.</p>
<p>Objectives 7.1.4: <i>The uses of river and lake beds are, as far as practicable, consistent with the values of the tāngata whenua.</i></p>	<p>The use of the bed of the river for the taking river water and discharging ground water will not interfere with the values of tāngata whenua as discussed in the cultural impact assessment.</p>
<p>Policy 7.2.1: <i>To allow the following uses within river and lake beds:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>Structures for transportation and network utility purposes;</i> ■ <i>Structures for activities which need to be local in, on, under, or over the beds of rivers,</i> ■ <i>The diversion of water associated with activities that are otherwise authorised</i> <p><i>Provided that any adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated and that the significant adverse effects identified in Policy 7.2.2 are avoided.</i></p>	<p>This proposal involves structures for utility purposes and therefore is supported by this policy.</p>
<p>Policy 7.2.10: <i>To ensure all structures in or on the beds of rivers and lakes which are visible are adequately maintained so that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>The structure is safe, and,</i> ■ <i>Any adverse effects on the visual amenity of the area are minimised.</i> 	
<p>Policy 7.2.11: <i>To ensure that the use of any river or lake bed which is not covered by water does not disturb nesting birds or any of the nationally threatened plant species identified in Part B of Appendix 3.</i></p>	<p>No nesting bird or nationally threatened plant species will be disturbed by this application.</p>

Kāpiti Coast District Plan

The Kāpiti Coast District Plan reinforces Council's special relationship with iwi and the partnership approach to resource management. A key vision is a *district which provides and maintains public utility services at an affordable cost to meet needs, with minimal adverse effects on the environment, and with particular regard for water quantities and respect for cultural sensitivities*. Plan Change 75 is a recent example of Council's commitment to sustainable water management, seeking to ensure that the demand for public potable water supply from new development does not adversely reduce water available to existing residents.

Other Matters

Water Matters: Kāpiti Coast District Sustainable Water Management Strategy

Council, similar to Greater Wellington Regional Council, has a duty to provide for the sustainable management of natural resources and takes this role very seriously. Kāpiti Coast District Sustainable Water Management Strategy: Water Matters (2003) set out Council's vision for water management in the district over a fifty year timeframe. Local communities were an integral part in the development of the strategy. 'Water Matters' was the building block and ultimate driver for the Kāpiti Coast Water Supply Project, setting the framework within which this resource consent application has been prepared.

'Water Matters' recognises that water, as a finite resource, needs to be shared between the district's natural ecosystems and human systems, if both are to remain healthy and functioning. It recognises that the health of the natural systems, especially the rivers, streams, aquifers and coastal waters, is essential to people's health and pleasure in their world, and to a large extent, is essential to the local economy. Of particular relevance to this proposal, Water Matters recognises the important partnership approach between Council and iwi with regards to water management and sets a preference for in-catchment solutions as a priority for the WPR area.

Council's Long Term Plan 2012-2032 identifies water supply as a service, with RRwGW and water meters stated as a key priority. This is further supported in the Annual Plan which allocates funding for the RRwGW project in addition to the future-proofing of the dam site.