

27 April 2022



Dear 

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2022-22

Thank you for your email of 28 March 2022 to the Carterton District Council requesting the following information:

*“Just reading through the draft Annual Plan and there is a line that says:
“The council’s resource consent to take water from the Kaipatangata Stream expired in 2013.
An application has been lodged to renew the consent.”*

- *I see in the Long Term Plan it is stated that under a new consent “it is likely that the water take allowed from this surface catchment source will be reduced, and we will need to supplement the supply from an alternative source and reduce demand for water.*
- *Can you please outline the consent conditions regarding the amount of water take allowed under the consent that expired in 2013?*
- *What is the peak/average/and lowest water take in the 2021 calendar year?*
- *When did the council lodge a new resource consent?*
- *How is the council currently operating on an expired consent?*
- *What are the challenges in the current resource application process/why is it taking so long?*
- *What other water sources are being investigated by the council and what year are they likely to be in effect if chosen?”*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 (the Act).

My response to your request is provided in the point order of your request below.

I see in the Long Term Plan it is stated that under a new consent “it is likely that the water take allowed from this surface catchment source will be reduced, and we will need to supplement the supply from an alternative source and reduce demand for water.

There is the water augmentation project in the LTP. The Council has a consultant looking at options to supply water in the district. The tender requested "Professional Services Consultant to undertake all investigations and studies to establish the feasibility of alternative water supply options through a process that is transparent, defensible and efficiently prioritises options as detailed in the Carterton Districts Councils Request for Proposals (RFP) plus any subsequent correspondence".

Can you please outline the consent conditions regarding the amount of water take allowed under the consent that expired in 2013?

The Kaipatangata consent is attached as Appendix A.

What is the peak/average/and lowest water take in the 2021 calendar year?

The Daily water take in 2021 calendar year were as follows:

- min 922m³
- median 2281m³
- Max 4352m

When did the council lodge a new resource consent?

How is the council currently operating on an expired consent?

An initial consent application was lodged in 2012, 6 months prior to the expiry date, which allows the continued operation under the old consent while the re consenting process continues. The Council has answered several further information requests; ecological studies, water management plans, cultural impact studies. However, it has also been delayed by the new plan; uncertainty with the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) rules, new water allocation limits through the Whaitua process; and other new legislation.

What are the challenges in the current resource application process/why is it taking so long?

The bulk of the PNRP were finalised by environment court in late 2021 with parts are still being discussed. The Whaitua recommendations are due to be added to the PNRP in 2024.

What other water sources are being investigated by the council and what year are they likely to be in effect if chosen?"

Answered above, it is planned for the completion of the first stage of the water augmentation project to be completed in June, allowing more in-depth investigation/detailed design of the preferred options.

Please note, the Council now proactively publishes LGOIMA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. If you have further questions please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at comms@cdc.govt.nz.

If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Geoff Hamilton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Geoff Hamilton
Chief Executive
Carterton District Council

RELEASED UNDER LGOIMA

Appendix A

Consent No.	WAR 020050 (21979)	Category:	Water permit
	WAR 020050 (21980)		Water permit
	WAR 020050 (21981)		Water permit
	WAR 020050 (21982)		Discharge permit
	WAR 020050 (21983)		Land use consent

Pursuant to Sections 105 and 108, and subject to all the relevant provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 and any Regulations made thereunder, a consent in respect of a natural resource is hereby granted to:

Name	Carterton District Council	
Address	P O Box 9, Carterton	
Term of Consent	Effective: 25 March 2003	Expires: 25 March 2013
Purpose for Which Right is Granted	To take water from the Kaipaitangata Stream; and To dam water in the Kaipaitangata Stream; and To divert water in the Kaipaitangata Stream; and To discharge water containing contaminants into the Kaipaitangata Stream; and To maintain structures in the bed of the Kaipaitangata Stream; for the purpose of the Carterton public water supply.	
Location	Kaipaitangata Stream, at or about NZMS 260 S26: 2715331 6021231	
Legal Description of Land	Section 12 Part 2 3 Section 1 SO 26541 Block V Tiffin SD - TNA - Waterworks Valuation reference number: 18140 362 0 Section 12 Part 2 3 Section 1 SO 26541 Block V Tiffin SD - TNA Valuation reference number: 18140 362 0 A Part Section 2 3 Block V Tiffin SD - TNA Valuation reference number: 18140 362 0 B	
Volume/Quantity/Rate	Maximum daily take of 5000 m ³ , with a maximum abstraction rate of 80 litres per second	
Conditions	as attached	

For and on behalf of
WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

.....
Manager, Planning & Resources

Date:

WAR 020050

Conditions for resource consents WAR 020050 (21979), (21980), (21981), (21982) and (21983)

General consent conditions

1. The location, design and operation of the activity shall be in accordance with the consent application and supporting documents lodged with the Wellington Regional Council on 16 April 2002 and additional information supplied on 24 July 2002.
2. The term of this consent shall be for a period of 10 years from the date of commencement of the consent.
3. The Wellington Regional Council may review any or all conditions of these consents except the condition relating to the duration of the consent by giving notice of its intention to do so pursuant to section 128 of the Resource Management Act 1991, at any time within 3 months of the second, fourth, sixth and eighth anniversaries of the grant date for any of the following purposes:
 - To deal with any adverse effects on the environment which may arise from the exercise of these consents, and which it is appropriate to deal with at a later stage.
 - To enable monitoring and reporting requirements and low flow conditions to be reassessed should environmental information show reassessment is required.
4. The Wellington Regional Council shall be entitled to recover from the consent holder the costs of the conduct of any review, calculated in accordance with and limited to that Council's scale of charges in force and applicable at that time pursuant to Section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
5. The consent holder may apply pursuant to Section 127 of the Resource Management Act 1991 for a change or cancellation of any consent condition other than the condition relating to the duration of this consent.
6. A resource management charge, set in accordance with Section 36(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991 shall be paid to the Wellington Regional Council for the carrying out of its functions in relation to the administration, monitoring, and supervision of resource consents and for the carrying out of its functions under Section 35 (duty to gather information, monitor, and keep records) of the Act.

Investigations

7. The consent holder shall investigate and report on options for a long-term water supply strategy for Carterton, meeting the requirements of (a) to (d) below:
 - (a) The long-term water supply will be designed so that the take from the Kaipaitangata Stream can be reduced or ceased at times to allow compliance with minimum flow conditions following the expiry of this consent.
 - (b) The long-term water supply will be investigated with the aim of removing the main dam on the Kaipaitangata Stream.
 - (c) The consent holder shall provide a progress report on those investigations identified above within one month of the second, fifth, seventh and ninth anniversaries of the commencement date of this consent. The report shall be provided to the Wellington Regional Council (Manager, Planning and Resources), the Department of Conservation, Fish & Game NZ and Choice Health Wairarapa.
 - (d) The final report submitted shall outline the proposed future of the main dam on the Kaipaitangata Stream.

Note: The long-term water supply means the water supply scheme(s) for which the consent holder intends to seek resource consents for before or upon the expiry of this resource consent.

Abstraction stepdown

8. The total daily net take from the Kaipaitangata Stream shall not exceed 5000 m³. The maximum instantaneous rate of net take from the Kaipaitangata Stream shall reduce according to natural flow in the stream, as outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Carterton public water supply abstraction regime

Natural flow in the Kaipaitangata Stream (litres/sec) at or about map reference S26: 1621-1993	Maximum abstraction rate (litres/sec)
< 100	60
100 – 150	70
150 – 200	75
> 200	80

Note: The net take is defined as the amount of water exiting the screen building and flowing to the treatment plant. The natural flow in the Kaipaitangata Stream is defined as the flow that would be present if no abstraction was occurring under this consent.

Monitoring

9. The consent holder shall install a flow meter with a measurement error of no more than $\pm 5\%$, and keep continuous records of the instantaneous net take from the Kaipaitangata Stream. The meter shall be installed within six months of the commencement of the consent.
10. To ensure compliance with Condition 8, the consent holder shall install an automatically recording, telemetered, flow measurement site to continuously monitor flow in the Kaipaitangata Stream at or about NZMS 260 S26: 1621-1993. The monitoring site shall be constructed, calibrated, and maintained to ensure the measurement error is less than $\pm 10\%$. The accuracy of the site shall be checked with a minimum of two gaugings per year when the flow in the stream is below 200 litres/second. The site shall be installed within eight months of the date of commencement of the consent.

Note: To calculate the flow under natural conditions as required to ensure compliance with Condition 8, the instantaneous abstraction records collected under Condition 9 will need to be added to the flow records obtained at the monitoring site. This process will need to be automated to ensure that the natural flow rate in the stream is known at all times.

11. The consent holder shall continuously monitor temperature in the Kaipaitangata Stream at the flow monitoring site (described in Condition 10) and at another site downstream of the water treatment plant between NZMS 260 S26: 1665-1939 and NZMS 260 S26: 1934-1635 (where the Kaipaitangata Stream crosses Dalefield Road). This temperature monitoring shall be performed for at least two years from October to May inclusive. Temperature in the stream shall be recorded on an hourly basis, and the results forwarded to the Wellington Regional Council (Manager, Planning and Resources) on 31 May after each monitoring season.

Note: This will require the installation of a continuous temperature logger at each of the two sites.

12. The consent holder shall measure the amount of flow being diverted to the screen building from the Kaipaitangata Stream on at least five occasions during the first two years of the consent. The flow measurements must be performed during a range of Kaipaitangata Stream flow conditions, to the satisfaction of the Manager, Planning and Resources. The records shall be submitted to the Wellington Regional Council within 2 months of the final flow measurement being performed, and shall be accompanied by records of the net take and flow in the Kaipaitangata Stream at the time of each measurement.

Reporting

13. The consent holder shall keep abstraction and flow records, and supply summaries of the records to the Wellington Regional Council (Manager, Planning and Resources). The summary shall include:
- The daily maximum rate of net take;
 - The total daily take;

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- The daily minimum natural flow in the Kaipaitangata Stream (once the monitoring site has been installed);
 - The dates and times during which the plant has been shut down due to high turbidity in the Kaipaitangata Stream; and
 - Any significant changes in operating practice.

This information shall be supplied in a format agreed to with the Wellington Regional Council (Manager, Planning and Resources), on a three-monthly basis for the term of the consent.

14. If so requested by the Wellington Regional Council (Manager, Planning and Resources) the consent holder shall supply continuous graphical plots and/or digital data of flow in the Kaipaitangata Stream and/or the rate of net take on a particular day or days.
15. The consent holder shall provide a report to the Wellington Regional Council (Manager, Planning and Resources) every year prior to 31 May for the first five years of the consent, and thereafter at the request of the Wellington Regional Council, on progress with water use reduction measures. These measures are outlined in the Assessment of Environmental Effects Report, and include:
- Active leak detection;
 - Metering of extraordinary users and charging to discourage excessive use;
 - Installation of bulk water meters;
 - Providing advice through leaflets to community;
 - Mains replacement;
 - Staged water use restrictions;
 - Toby valve replacement;
 - Universal water metering for demand management and leak detection;
 - Reservoir drawdown testing; and
 - A revised strategy for minimisation via demand and supply management.

Structures and fish passage

16. The consent holder shall remove the two redundant weirs on the Kaipaitangata Stream, at or about NZMS 260 S26: 153-212 and NZMS 260 S26: 152-212, within 6 months of the grant date of this consent.

Note: The removal of structures is a permitted activity under Rule 33 of the Regional Freshwater Plan. If you cannot meet the conditions of permitted activity Rule 33 a resource consent will need to be applied for.

17. The consent holder shall install and maintain fish passage over the weirs remaining on the Kaipaitangata Stream and its tributaries. The fish passages must be installed within 1 year of the commencement date of this consent, and be to the satisfaction of the Wellington Regional Council.
18. The designs for the fish passage measures required under Condition 17 shall be sent to the Department of Conservation and Fish & Game NZ for comment at least 3 months prior to installation.

Discharges and maintenance

19. The rate at which water is discharged into the Kaipaitangata Stream from the treatment plant shall not exceed 20 litres/second, with a maximum daily flow of 130 m³.

20. The consent holder shall record the frequency of discharge to the Kaipaitangata Stream from the treatment plant, and the records shall be made available on request to the Wellington Regional Council.
21. The consent holder shall ensure that the discharge of water from the treatment plant does not cause scour of the banks or streambed where the discharge enters the Kaipaitangata Stream.
22. The consent holder shall take all practicable steps to minimise adverse effects on the receiving environment of the discharge from the feed main. Practical steps could include, but are not limited to:
 - Restricting the discharge to times when the stream is above average flow; or,
 - Restricting the discharge to times when turbidity is too high to treat the water.
23. The discharge of water into the Kaipaitangata Stream shall not result in any of the following effects after reasonable mixing:
 - The production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums and foams, or floatable or suspended material;
 - Any conspicuous change in water colour or visual clarity;
 - The rendering of freshwater unsuitable for consumption by farm animals; or,
 - Any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.
24. The consent holder will ensure that the digging out of the dam to remove accumulated material is restricted to times of low flow when there is not a significant discharge from the dam.
