

Report to Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee
from Stephen Thawley, Resource Advisor, Planning and Resources

Water Take Compliance Monitoring

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of the compliance monitoring of water takes for the 1999/2000 year.

2. Background

2.1 Under the Resource Management Charging Policy, the following water takes are required to be inspected:

- all large takes greater than 40 litres/sec
- moderate size takes greater than 15 litres/sec in stressed surface water catchments
- all new water takes

2.2 Also monitoring of low flows in rivers and streams is required, and where appropriate the implementation of water restrictions or bans may be necessary.

3. Inspections

3.1 In total 36 inspections and monitoring of water takes were completed during the past year. A number of inspections were unable to be completed as there was low water use during summer due to timely periods of rainfall. These planned inspections have either being deferred to next year, or alternatively charges will be remitted.

3.2 Generally the level of compliance was good, particularly with irrigation takes.

4. Low Flows

- 4.1 Due to below average rainfall in the Tararua Ranges, particularly during the latter part of the summer period, rivers originating from the ranges recorded significant low flows.
- 4.2 As a consequence of the low flows experienced, many water use restrictions and in some cases irrigation bans were applied in various catchments as evident below.

No. of Days Under Water Use Restriction or Ban

<i>Watercourse</i>	<i>Irrigation</i>		<i>Water races, public water supplies</i>	
	<i>Restriction</i>	<i>Full Ban</i>	<i>Restriction</i>	<i>Full Ban</i>
Kopuaranga	0	7	N/A	N/A
Tauherenikau	N/A	N/A	4	0
Waiohine	0	4	4	0
Upper Ruamahanga	0	7	7	0
Waingawa	22	0	22	0

5. Non-Compliance

- 5.1 One abatement notice was issued to a consent holder for breaching a number of conditions in their resource consents for taking and damming water in a stream near Carterton. Follow up work is still being completed in relation to this incident.
- 5.2 A number of unconsented water takes were noted this summer. Follow up on these activities is currently occurring.

6. Recommendation

That the report be received and the information noted.

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission by:

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