

Information for well owners

Horizons Regional Council (HRC) manages the Region's underground water resources to ensure groundwater is used efficiently and fairly.

We require that well drillers forward us information for new or modified wells (well log, water quality and aquifer test). See requirements listed below.

A threaded socket is to be provided on all new wells to enable us to carry out pressure or water level measurements.

We must be informed of the expected completion date of new wells if a resource consent is required. A resource consent must be obtained for groundwater takes of more than 50 cubic metres per day.

Well log, water quality and aquifer testing requirements

Well logs should include:

- the well owner's name and address;
- the well location;
- casing and screen details;
- static water level;
- a summary of the aquifer test, including flow rate, drawdown and duration; and
- a description of the strata penetrated.

Water quality tests

Groundwater should be tested for the following constituents at least:

- nitrate-nitrogen;
- conductivity;
- iron; and
- manganese.

Shallow wells should also be tested for bacteria.

Aquifer test

Aquifer properties need to be determined in order to assess the effect of your groundwater take on other wells

tapping the same aquifer. These properties are calculated by testing the aquifer's response to water being removed from the aquifer (drawdown) by an "aquifer test".

The test is often called a "pump test", but if the well has artesian flow the well can be tested by letting the well flow at the set rate and measuring the change in head as if pumping.

If a resource consent **is not** required, a minimum of three hours testing is recommended. If a resource consent **is** required, contact our groundwater scientists for appropriate test rate and duration on 0508 800 800.

Control of artesian overflow

If a well penetrates an artesian aquifer, we require that there is a means to control and stop the artesian flow so that there is no waste of groundwater.

Flow metering

Groundwater abstraction consents are issued with the requirement to install a water meter with a pulse count output and an accuracy of +/- 10 % or better. See irrigation suppliers for the appropriate flow meter for your setup.

**Horizons Regional Council's consents team can be contacted
on free phone 0508 800 800 for more information.**