



Working near rural waterways not in flood control and drainage schemes

Land disturbance, vegetation clearance and cultivation are generally discouraged near waterways to minimise the risk of contaminants and sediment getting into water. The purpose of this guidance is to provide some basic advice for working near waterways.

Near a waterway means...

There are two key setback distances to be aware of. These are five meters or 10 meters depending on the Values of the waterway. The setback distance is site specific, but a [Consents Planner](#) can check what applies in your specific situation.

Activities allowed by the One Plan

Land disturbance and vegetation clearance activities allowed by the One Plan without conditions or standards are:

1. Grazing animals;
2. Establishing a fence line (not in biodiversity habitats);
3. Maintenance or upgrade of existing tracks, structures (including fences), or infrastructure;
4. Actions to protect, maintain or enhance biodiversity habitats;
5. Clearance of vegetation that is fallen over or dead (not in a biodiversity habitat);
6. Activities undertaken within the boundaries of land held or managed under the Conservation Act 1987; and
7. Clearance of thistles, ring ferns, carpet ferns, rushes, ink weed, briar rose, barberry, introduced pampas grass (other than toetoe), mingimingi, wilding pinus species, Japanese poplar, Japanese walnut, and pest plants referred to in the Regional Council's [Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy](#).

[See the One Plan [definitions](#) of "vegetation clearance" and "land disturbance."]

Vegetation clearance in established riparian margins

Horizons will recognize the actions of farmers that have fenced off riparian margins along their waterways by using a simple, cost free process if a resource consent is required for maintaining them.

Removing a single tree or plant

Removing a single plant is not vegetation clearance and therefore not restricted by the One Plan.

Additional information

For further information go to www.horizons.govt.nz OR to speak with someone about activities near waterways please contact us on freephone 0508 800 800.