

Guidance Note for Gravel Extraction Activities

HBRC has two processes for obtaining approval for extracting gravel from riverbeds.

Within River Control Scheme Areas.

In the River Control Scheme areas, HBRC Asset Management Group holds a global resource consent for gravel extraction. They are able to authorise operators to take gravel from these areas under their resource consent.

River scheme covered by HBRC Global consent



Outside River Control Scheme Areas:

Outside River Control Scheme areas the taking of gravel from a river bed (in excess of 0.25 m³) will require a resource consent. This is administered by the Consents Section. Forms A and B for Gravel Extraction from Beds of Rivers and Lakes must be completed.

Large-scale riverbed gravel extraction is a Restricted Discretionary Activity under the RRMP. Matters of control to be considered when assessing an application are:

- a. Location of extraction sites and stockpile areas.

- b. Volume of gravel extracted.
- c. Rate of removal of gravel.
- d. Period of extraction.
- e. End use of the gravel.
- f. Dust management.
- g. Other matters set out in Policy 53.
- h. Financial contributions.
- i. Duration of consent.
- j. Review of consent conditions.
- k. Compliance monitoring.

POL 53 DECISION-MAKING CRITERIA - RIVER BED GRAVEL EXTRACTION

In considering consent applications for the extraction of river bed gravel, to have regard to the following criteria:

- (a) The capability to restore the extraction site upon completion of the extraction operation, and to repair any damage caused to any banks, access roads, fences, gates, or other structures.
- (b) The avoidance of any contaminants from machinery use entering water bodies
- (c) The avoidance of any increases in sediment discharge or water turbidity, particularly during the fish spawning period of May to October.
- (d) The continuation of existing fish passage.
- (e) The avoidance of any adverse effects on flood control assets or river protection works.
- (f) The avoidance of any activity that would cause flood control measures or river protection works to be required.
- (g) The avoidance of any offensive or objectionable discharge of dust.

(h) The end uses of the gravel, in order that high quality gravel is allocated to uses which require such gravel.

(i) The location of, and potential effect on, any downstream water takes/users.

(j) The effect on the ecology of the river.

(k) The extent to and the time over which natural processes will be capable of returning the river bed to a state of equilibrium following extractive activity.

In addition to these provisions. Rivers are generally listed as Statutory Acknowledgement areas. The relevant Treaty Settlement party will be provided with a summary of any application and asked if they have any interest in or concerns with each proposal. It is desirable to discuss proposals with mana whenua in advance of any application and to include advice on these discussions with the application, if possible. In the Mohaka River, there is a Memorandum of Understanding with Ngati Pahauwera with regard to gravel extraction.