

**RESOURCE CONSENT DECISION
GRANTED**

Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd

to take up to 700 cubic metres per day (700 m³/day) from an unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero Stream for snowmaking purposes subject to the attached condition schedule

Application Reference: APP- 2000008491.01
Granted Date: 9 May 2017
Review Date: July 2019, July 2024
Expiry Date: 1 July 2029

Application Summary

Application Reference	APP- 2000008491.01
Purpose of Application	To take up to 700 cubic metres per day (700 m ³ /day) from an unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero River for snowmaking purposes.

Activity Summary

The following summarises the activities that are associated with this Resource Consent, please refer to the applicable section for individual activity details.

Table 1: Summary of activities

Activity Description	Relevant Rules and Activity Status	Authorisation Number
Water, Surface water , to take water for snowmaking purposes	Rule 16-5: Takes and Uses of water complying with core allocations (controlled)	ATH-2000008548.01

Assessment Summary

The application has been assessed against the following:

1.1 Policies, Plans, Objectives & Rules

The application has been assessed against the following Regional Policies, Plans, Objectives & Rules:

Policy, Plan or Rule Name

Regional One Plan Policy Statement, 2016 (ROPPS)

Objective	Policy
5-3 – Water Quantity and Allocation	5-1 – Water Management Zones and Values 5-13 – Efficient use of water 5-14 – Overall approach for surface water allocation 5-15 – Core allocations and minimum flows
12-2 – Consent duration, Review and Enforcement	12-5 – Consent durations 12-6 – Consent Reviews

Regional One Plan, 2016 (ROPS)

Objective	Policy
16-1 Regulation of takes, uses and diversions of water	16-1 – Consent decision making for takes, uses of surface water and groundwater 16-8 – Monitoring requirements of consent holders

The application is consistent with the objectives and policies of the One Plan Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan.

1.2 Environmental Effects

This application has been assessed with regard to actual and potential adverse environmental effects, the following outlines the conclusions and considerations:

Potential Environmental Effects

The application has been assessed by Raelene Mercer, Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council's Water Quantity Scientist. Ms Mercer has assessed the effect of the proposed take on the overall surface water resource, and effects on any neighbouring surface water bodies. The abstraction is a renewal of an existing consent for the same volume. This takes fits within the core allocation for the water management zone.

Effect on the overall surface water resource

The abstraction point is located within the Upper Mangawhero Water Management Zone. Reports

indicate that there is sufficient water within the core allocation for this zone to continue to support this renewal.

The water is to be used for artificial snow-making, and will be generally taken from June to September or October, but occasionally extending to November depending on natural snow conditions. The bulk of the water is likely to be taken in August.

The stream is a small headwater stream fed mainly by snow melt – at the time of the site visit in February; the stream had a very low baseflow. Given the nature of the catchment, peak flows are likely to occur in spring when the water demand for this activity is likely to be higher.

The One Plan Schedule A assessment identifies the following values for the unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero: Trout spawning, life-supporting capacity, mauri, stock drinking water. In regard to the trout spawning value – the time of year when brown trout spawn is likely to coincide with the maximum abstraction from the stream, however, as the stream freezes over in places at these times, and due to the water temperature and altitude spawning activity in the upper reaches of this stream would be unlikely.

Conclusion

Based on the assessment by Ms Mercer and the conditions included below, I consider that the effects of the proposed take will be less than minor.

Duration

The abstraction is located in the Upper Mangawhero (Whau_3d) subzone of the Lower Whangaehu Water Management Zone in the One Plan (2016).

I consider that a term of 12 years is appropriate as it aligns with the One Plan common catchment expiry for the Lower Whangaehu Water Management Zone under Policy 12-5(b).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the resource consent application by **Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd** for the activities identified in the activity summary be granted, subject to conditions for the following reasons:

- a. the activity/activities has been assessed by Ms Raelene Mercer, Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council's Water Quantity Scientist. Based on her advice I am satisfied the proposal will have less than minor actual or potential adverse effects on the environment; and
- b. the activity is consistent with the relevant Objectives and Policies; and
- c. the activity is consistent with the purpose and principles of the Resource Management Act 1991.



Fiona Morton

CONSULTANT PLANNER

Decision

The Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council Regulatory Manager (under delegated authority), grants resource consent for the reasons stated in the recommendation, to **Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd** under section 104, 104B and 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to:

Activity Summary

Water, Surface water, , to take water for snowmaking purposes

for a term expiring on **1 July 2029** subject to the conditions outlined in the applicable condition schedule(s).



Greg Bevin

REGULATORY MANAGER

9 May 2017

1. Activity, Water Permit (Surface Water)

The following details the location, classifications and conditions associated with the activity.

Authorisation number	ATH-2000008548.01
Activity Type	Water, Surface Water
Activity Class	Controlled Activity
Primary Activity Purpose	Recreational, Rivers, Lakes and Watercourses
Replaces Consent	101135

Location

The following summarises the authorised location for the consented activity.

Activity Location Description	Turoa, above Ohakune Mountain Road, Mount Ruapehu, Ohakune
Valuation Number	12260/378/00B
Legal Description	Tongariro National Park DP 29594 Top of Ohakune Mountain Road Blk CI Ruapehu SD
Map References	NZTopo50 BK34:177-461 / Easting: 1817788 / Northing: 5646170

Classifications

The following summarises the classifications associated with the application activity.

Water Management Zone	Whangaehu Catchment, Lower Whangaehu, Upper Mangawhero
Associated River	WHANGAEHU RIVER, Mangawhero River

Condition Schedule

Descriptive Specification

1. This consent authorises the abstraction of surface water from an unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero River on the property legally described as Tongariro National Park DP29594 Top of Ohakune Mountain Road Blk XI Ruapehu SD (hereafter referred to as the property) at approximate map reference NZTopo50 BK34:177-461.
2. The consent holder must undertake the activity in general accordance with the consent application including all accompanying plans and documents first lodged with the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council on **8 January 2015** and;
 - a. further information received on **7 September 2016** via email being confirmation of the weir design; and
 - b. further information received on **21 October 2016**, via email being confirmation of stormwater flows.

Where there may be inconsistencies between information provided by the applicant and conditions of the resource consent, the conditions of the resource consent will apply.

ADVICE NOTE: Any variance from the location, design concepts and parameters, implementation and / or operation may require a new resource consent or a change of consent conditions pursuant to section 127 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

3. The existing intake structure into the pond from the culverted stream shall not be altered in any way that results in the maximum daily take of 700m³/day from the stream being exceeded.

Pre-Development Assurance

4. **Prior to 1 August 2017**, the consent holder shall have a flow meter installed by an accredited installer. The flow meter must:
 - a. have a pulse counter output traceably calibrated to +/- 5% or better; and
 - b. be capable of providing the daily volume of water taken from the water storage dam as well as a pulse counter output; and
 - c. positioned to measure the entire volume abstracted under authorisation of this consent; and
 - d. installed in accordance with the Resource Management (Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes) Regulation 2010; and
 - e. installed in accordance with the IrrigationNZ "Guidelines for the Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes" November 2010.

ADVICE NOTE: An accredited installer is currently accredited by Irrigation New Zealand (also referred to as IrrigationNZ) represented by the 'Blue Tick' logo. A list of accredited providers can be located at www.irrigationnz.co.nz

ADVICE NOTE: Due to the infrastructure set up from the unnamed tributary to the pond, a flow meter is unable to be attached at the point of abstraction. To enable measurement of the volume of water authorised by this Permit, the flow meter will be required to be installed on the infrastructure which takes water from the storage dam.

5. **Prior to 1 August 2017**, the consent holder shall install and maintain, in fully operational condition, a GPS data logger / telemetry unit compatible with the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council's Telemetry System. The data logger / telemetry unit must be:
 - a. Installed on the exit pipe from the water storage dam; and
 - b. Have traceably calibrated to +/- 5% or better; and
 - c. Set to New Zealand Standard Time.
6. The consent holder shall ensure that the monitoring equipment referred to in conditions **4** and **5** in respect to the flow meters and telemetry equipment is located in a position where it can be read and safely accessed at all times.

Environmental Standards

7. The maximum daily abstraction of water shall not exceed **700 cubic metres per day** (700 m³/day) from the unnamed tributary of the Mangawhero Stream at a maximum instantaneous rate of 11 litres per second (l/s).
8. The maximum seasonal abstraction of water shall not exceed **320,786 cubic metres¹**.

ADVICE NOTE: Seasonal abstraction is measured from 1 May to 30 November.

9. The Consent Holder shall ensure that the weir is no more than 80mm above the invert of the 300 mm outlet pipe as shown on **ATH-2000008548.01 A**.

Operational Restrictions

10. In the event that the equipment detailed in conditions **4** and **5** in respect to the flow meters, telemetry equipment and /or back flow preventer fails, replacement or repair will be at the consent holder's expense and replacement or repair will be required within seven (7) days.

¹ Comprised of an max seasonal volume of 150,000m³ and a stormwater volume of 170,786m³

Post-Development Assurance

11. Prior to **1 August 2017**, the consent holder shall have the flow meter (required by Condition **4**) verified by an Irrigation New Zealand “Blue Tick” accredited verifier.
12. The flow meter shall be verified by an Irrigation New Zealand “Blue Tick” accredited verifier every five (5) years thereafter to ensure compliance with condition **4**. The consent holder shall provide evidence of verification in writing to the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council’s Regulatory Manager within one month of the verification being completed.

ADVICE NOTE: Written verification can be sent to the Regulatory Manager via email compliance.shared@horizons.govt.nz –OR- via mail addressed to: C/- The Regulatory Manager, Horizons Regional Council, Private Bag 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442.

Monitoring Provision

13. The consent holder shall allow any Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council staff member and its agents to attach monitoring or telemetry equipment to monitor water use to ensure compliance with consent conditions and / or as part of a programme to enable monitoring of total water use.
14. In the event that the equipment details in conditions 4, 5, 6 and 7 in respect to the flow meter, telemetry equipment and back flow preventer is removed for servicing or replacement, the consent holder shall notify the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council’s Regulatory Manager within one (1) working day.

ADVICE NOTE: Notification can be submitted to the Regulatory Manager by phone on 0508 800 800–OR–via email compliance.shared@horizons.govt.nz

Review

15. The Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council, under s128 of the Resource Management Act, may in July 2019 and July 2024, serve notice of its intention to review the conditions of this resource consent for the purpose of reviewing the effectiveness of these conditions in avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects on the environment. The review of conditions shall allow for:
- a. an assessment of the water abstraction volumes and rates detailed in the conditions of this consent against any future allocation policy, and if necessary a change to the monitoring outlined in the conditions of the consent; and /-OR-
 - b. deletion or amendments to any conditions of this resource consent to ensure adverse effects are appropriately mitigated; and / -OR-
 - c. addition of new conditions as necessary, to avoid, remedy or mitigate any unforeseen adverse effects on the environment; and / -OR-
 - d. if necessary and appropriate, the adoption of the best practicable options to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment.

ADVICE NOTE: Any review exercised under this condition may result in the abstraction volume and / or rate being reduced and / or restricted, or further restrictions being placed on the abstraction volume and / or rate during low flow conditions. Efficiency of the take and application method will be factors that will be taken into account in this review.

Duration

16. The resource consent will expire on **1 July 2029**.