



CONCEPT SHEET 8

Forestry

Commercial-scale log harvesting (covering 5ha or more) is the focus of a number of measures in the Draft Freshwater and Land Plan. They are designed to minimise the risks of soil erosion and impacts on freshwater quality.

The Council proposes rules that are closely aligned with industry best-practice, while keeping requirements as simple and streamlined as possible.

When a resource consent would not be required

Provided a number of conditions are met, a resource consent would not be required for activities associated with forestry harvesting. The conditions include:

- Minimising the discharge of sediment and debris into waterways.
- Minimising damage to watercourses and their margins.
- Avoiding damage to regionally significant wetlands and indigenous biodiversity habitats (fish spawning areas for example).
- Discouraging work in waterways during the winter fish breeding and migration periods, and in tidal areas during whitebait spawning in autumn.
- Preparation of an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for land where the dominant slope is 28 degrees or more.
- Ensuring temporary waterway crossings are not in place for more than six months and don't cause flooding or damage ecosystems.

When a resource consent would be required

A resource consent would be required if the conditions set out above cannot be met. It would also be required for earthworks or new planting within five metres of:

- A permanent river wider than a metre.
- A lake.
- A wetland with significant indigenous biodiversity values.

Other activities such as the installation of permanent structures, such as culverts and bridges, would still require resource consents to ensure they don't cause flooding or damage ecosystems.

Feedback and more information

Go to www.trc.govt.nz/draft-plan to find:

- The Draft Freshwater and Land Plan in full.
- A summary and background document.
- Info sheets and background papers.
- An online form for giving us feedback.

You can also send us your feedback by emailing info@trc.govt.nz or writing to the Council at Private Bag 713, Stratford 4352. Or contact the Council's freshwater planning team directly by calling 0800 736 222. We can give you more information, take your feedback or arrange a meeting.

Our deadline for feedback is Friday 26 June.