All land used for commercial vegetable production in the plan change 1 catchments will need to be authorised by a resource consent.

What type of consent will I need?

The type of resource consent required will depend on whether the commercial vegetable farming operation has expanded, or is intended to expand in area in the 2006-2016 reference period. As part of the consent process, applicants will need to submit the following information to us.

- The total maximum area of land used for commercial vegetable production (CVP) for any full year between 1 July 2006 and 1 July 2016.
- The maximum area per subcatchment used for CVP as it relates to the year chosen above.

If the area used for CVP identified above is not intended to be increased in any subcatchment compared with the 2006-2016 period, a controlled activity consent will need to be applied for.

If there is an increase in CVP in any subcatchment, a discretionary activity consent will need to be applied for if certain conditions are met, otherwise the proposal will be a non-complying activity under rule 3.11.4.9.

If your property falls within Whangamarino Wetland subcatchment/s, you will need to apply for a restricted discretionary consent.

Will I need a nitrogen leaching loss rate?

Yes, a nitrogen leaching loss rate (NLLR) must accompany all applications for resource consent for commercial vegetable production operations. It is not necessary to use Overseer® to calculate the NLLR, so long as an alternative model satisfies the requirements of Schedule B of plan change 1.

Will I need a farm environment plan?

Yes, all applications for resource consent for commercial vegetable production need to be accompanied by a farm environment plan. This must be certified by a certified farm environment planner.

Please see fact sheet Farm environment plans for consented activities for more information.

Have more questions?

You can find the decisions version of the proposed rules on our website. We also have a team of trained staff who can answer your questions.

Call us on



Or send an email to



healthyrivers@waikatoregion.govt.nz

This information has been provided based on Waikato Regional Council's interpretation of the decisions version of the proposed plan change to be notified in April 2020. Please take the time to read the decisions version and seek your own advice, too. Also note that the proposed plan is subject to possible change by the Environment Court through the appeals process.













