Water allocation Te Awarua-o-Porirua whaitua

Murray McLea August 2017







Defining some terms

- Allocation limit amount that can be taken
- Minimum flow the flow at which taking water should stop
- Default limit
- Permitted activity
- Mean annual low flow (MALF)



Water allocation in the Whaitua

- Rivers not over-allocated or under as much stress as some other whaitua
- Consented take numbers are low
- NB: Does not include using water from public water supply network!



Limits

- Default limits based on protecting ecological health – they provide a good level of habitat protection
 - based on proposed NES for ecological flows and water levels
 - Min flow gives approx. 97% protection for tuna, 90% for trout
- Reliability of supply is comparable or better than elsewhere in region



- **BK1** Do you want to clarify if permitted takes are captured by this at the moment or not? Brent King, 23/08/2017
- **BK3** Do you want to refer to the info from the report that this provides for high levels of habitat protection (~97% for tuna, ~90% for trout) Brent King, 23/08/2017
- **BK4** Again, could refer to the report here about reliability of supply (10-14% restrictions and 6-9% cease take) Brent King, 23/08/2017

Examples

River	Minimum	Allocation	Average
	flow	limit	flow
	(L/sec)	(L/sec)	(L/sec)
Pauatahunui	139	73	695
Stream			
Horokiwi Stream	128	74	554



Recommendation on limits

 Adopt the existing minimum flows and allocation limits in the proposed Natural Resources Plan



Permitted activities

- RMA permitted rule for stock and domestic use
- Current pNRP permitted rule is for 20m³ (>20ha) or 10m³ (<20ha) per day per property
- No cease take at min flow in current rule
- Domestic water and stock drinking use is small
- Not much other permitted water use (anecdotal)



Recommendation on permitted activity

 Replace the proposed Natural Resources Plan permitted activity with a rule allowing 5 cubic metres of water to be taken and used on a property with a condition that takes must cease at minimum flow

