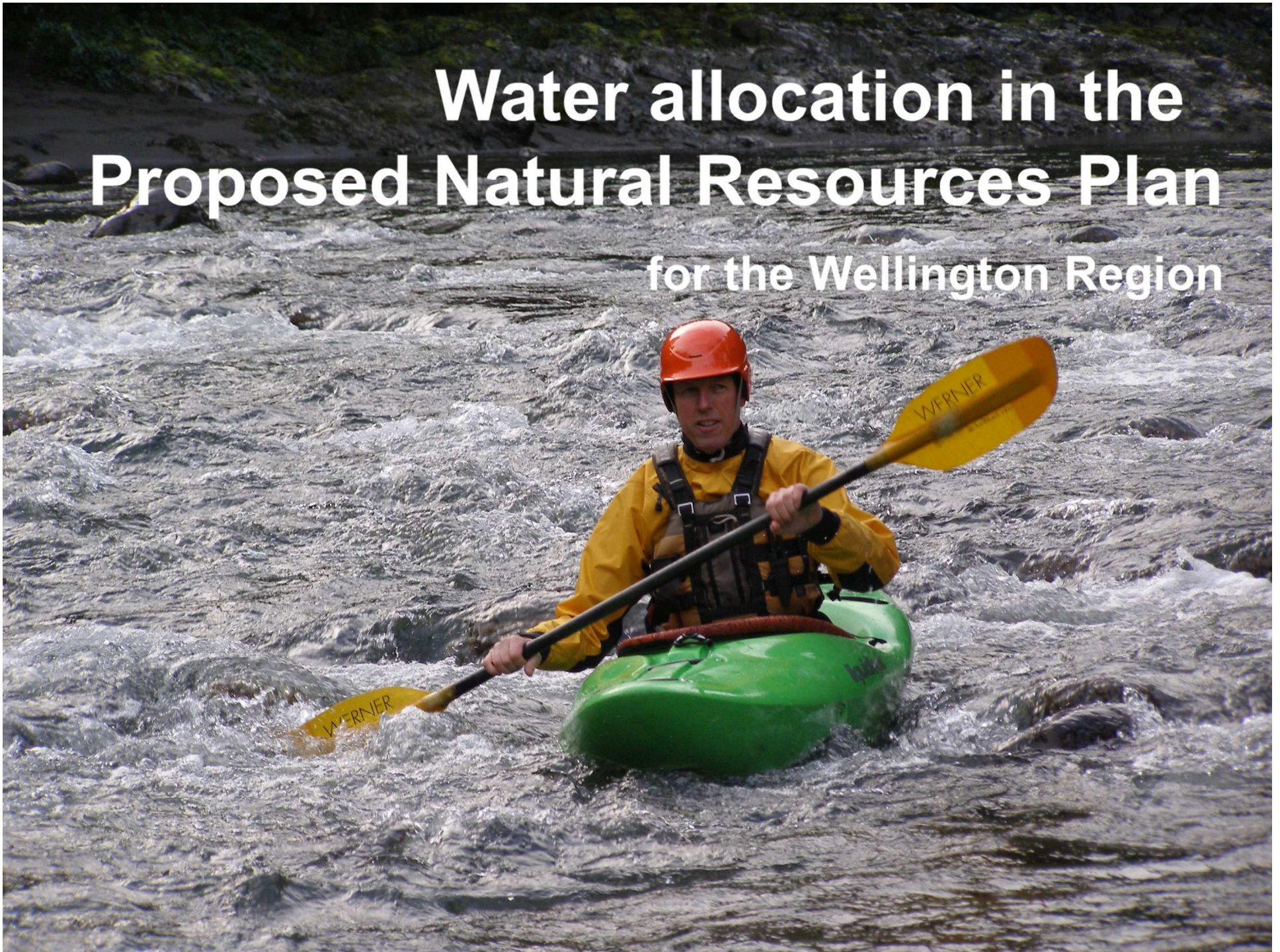


# Water allocation in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region





# Allocating water in the proposed Plan

Objectives and policy chapters include a region-wide framework for allocating water that goes some way to giving effect to the NPS-FM

The Whaitua Chapters include interim allocation limits that are subject to modification by the Whaitua Committee

**Minimum flows, minimum water levels** and **core allocation** referred to in the Plan are interim to the extent that they will be reviewed by **whaitua** committees and may be amended by plan changes or variations following recommendations of **whaitua** committees.



# Integrating ground and surface water

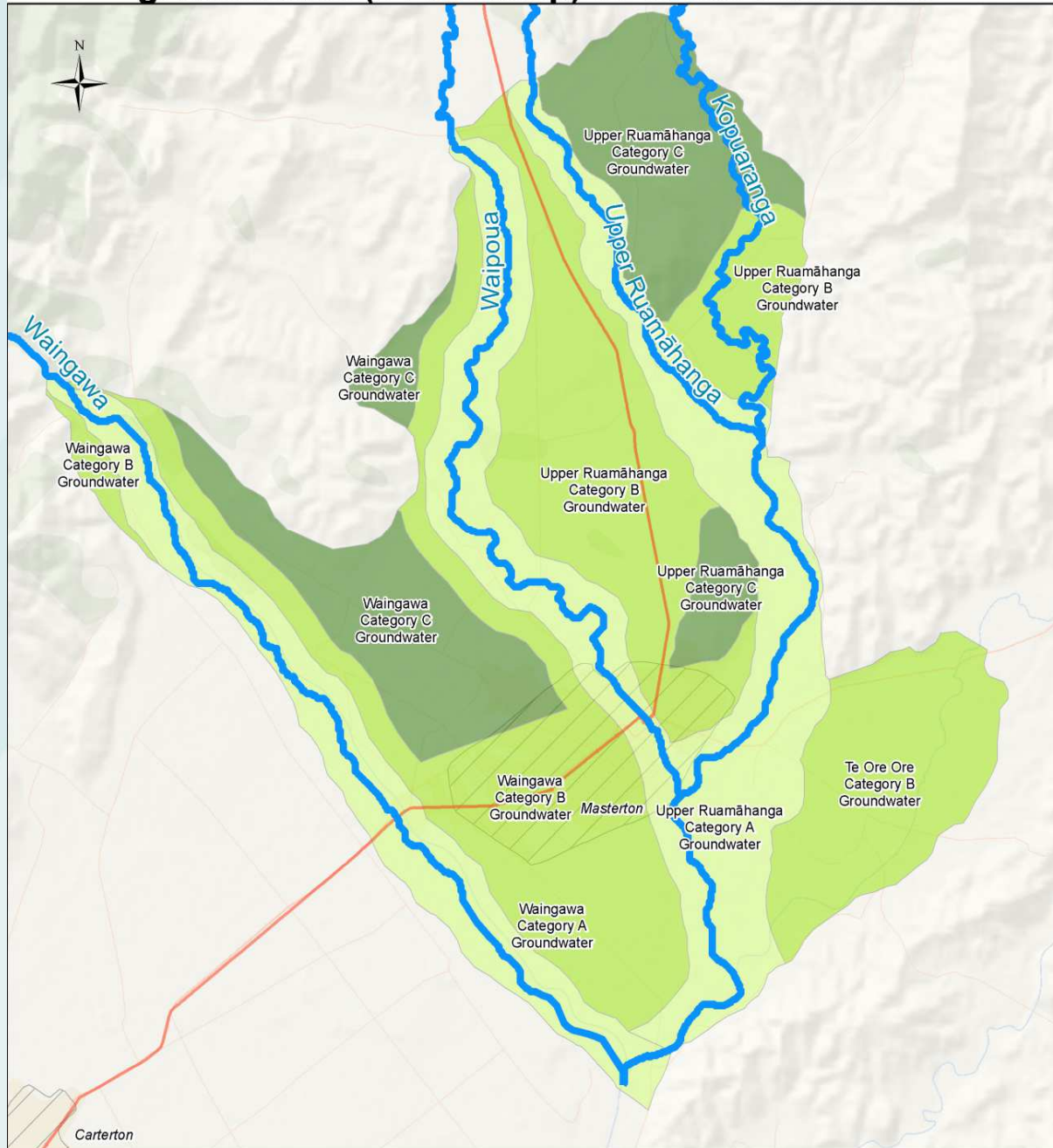
## Surface water bodies

- Rivers
- Lakes
- Wetlands

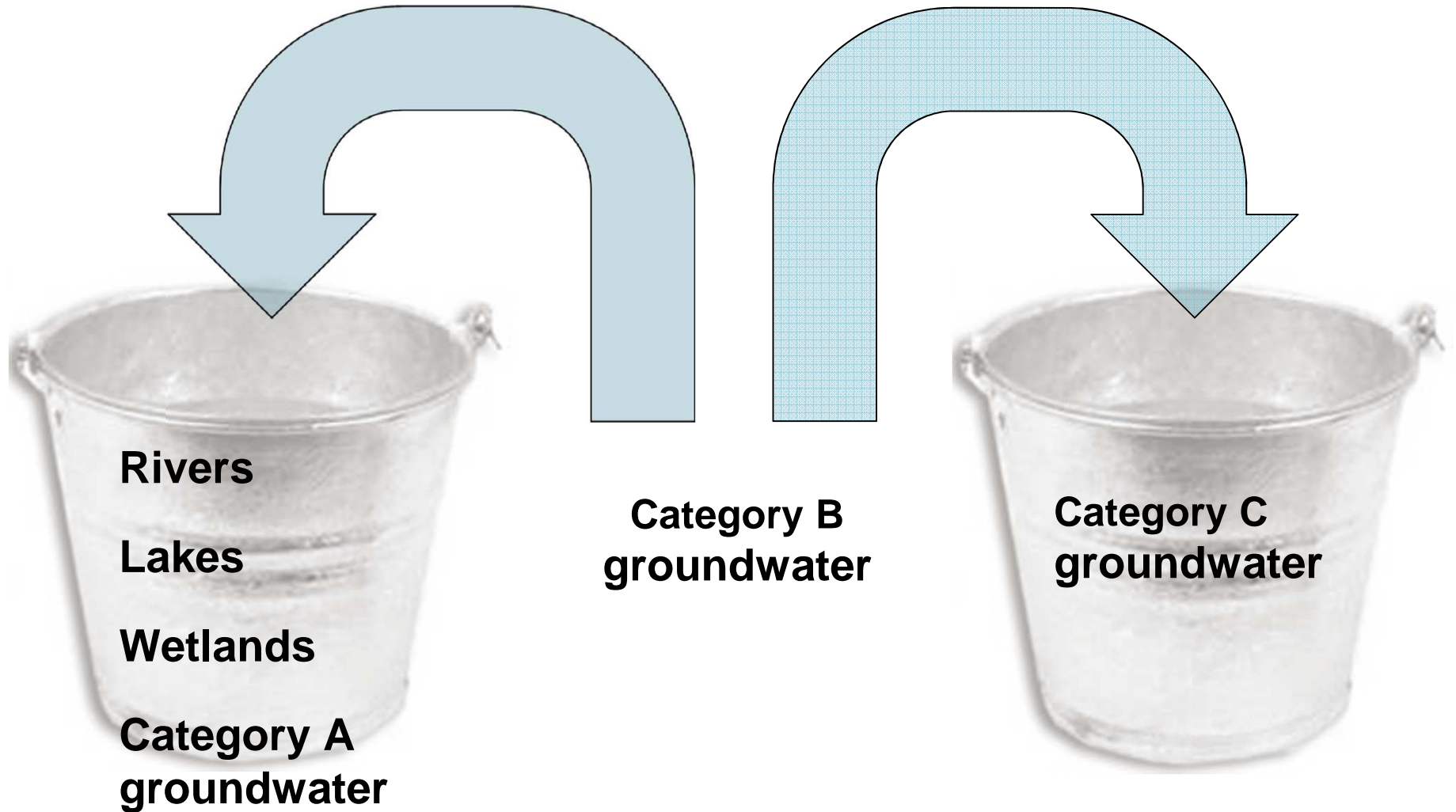
## Groundwater

- Category A groundwater
- Category B groundwater
- Category C groundwater

**Figure 7.2: Upper Ruamāhanga catchment - rivers and groundwater (0-20m deep) in Tables 7.3 and 7.5**



# Allocation buckets



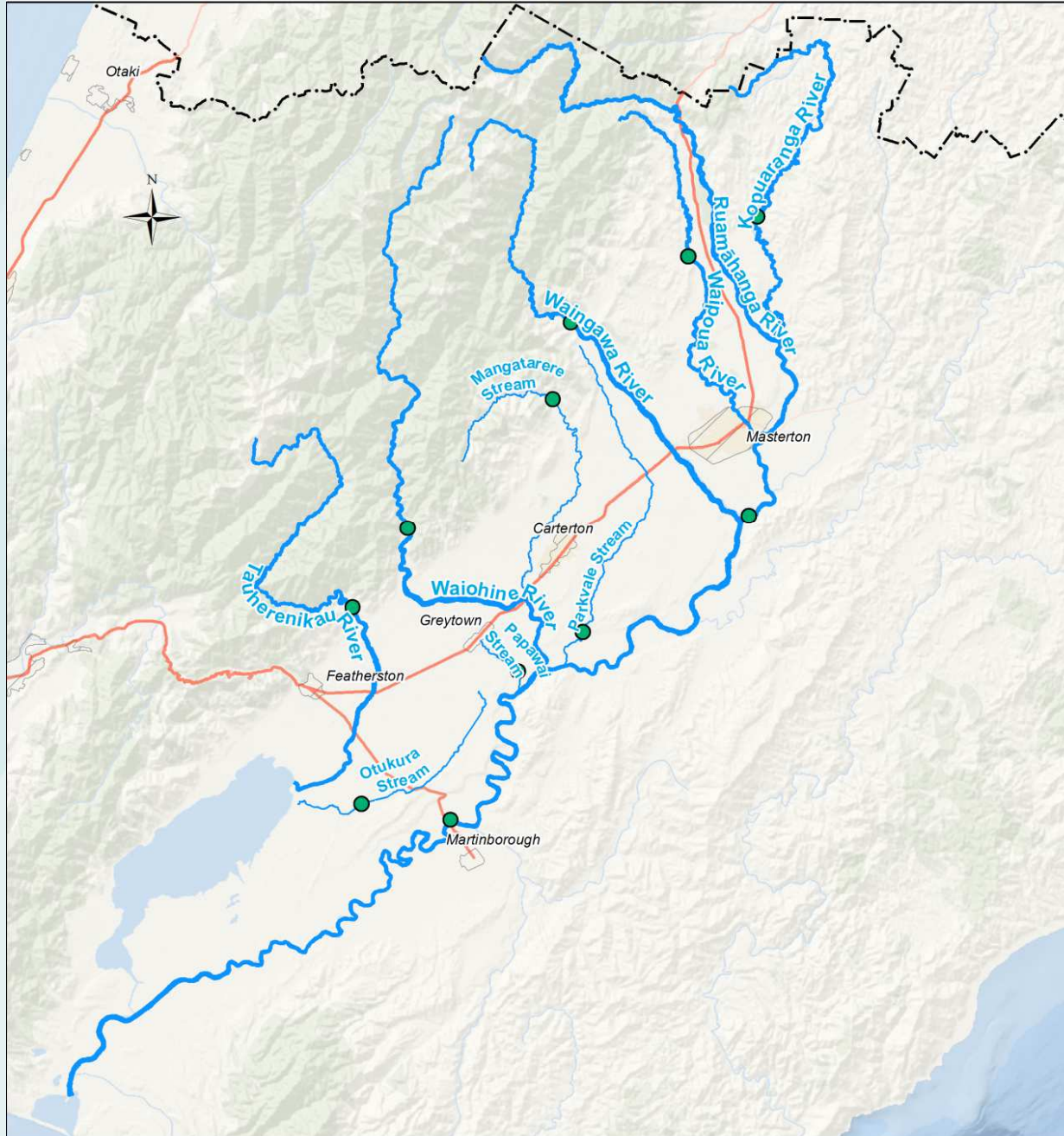
# Minimum flows and water levels

The same as for rivers and lakes identified in the RFP

90% of mean annual low flow for rivers not identified in the RFP



**Figure 7.1: Rivers with minimum flows in the Ruamāhanga catchment in Table 7.1**



# Key policies on minimums

The take and use of water shall not occur below minimums with exceptions of:

- fire fighting
- individuals' reasonable domestic needs
- the needs of stock
- permitted activities
- circumstances authorised by resource consents



# Key policies on minimums (ctd.)

Water takes that may be authorised by resource consents below minimum flows:

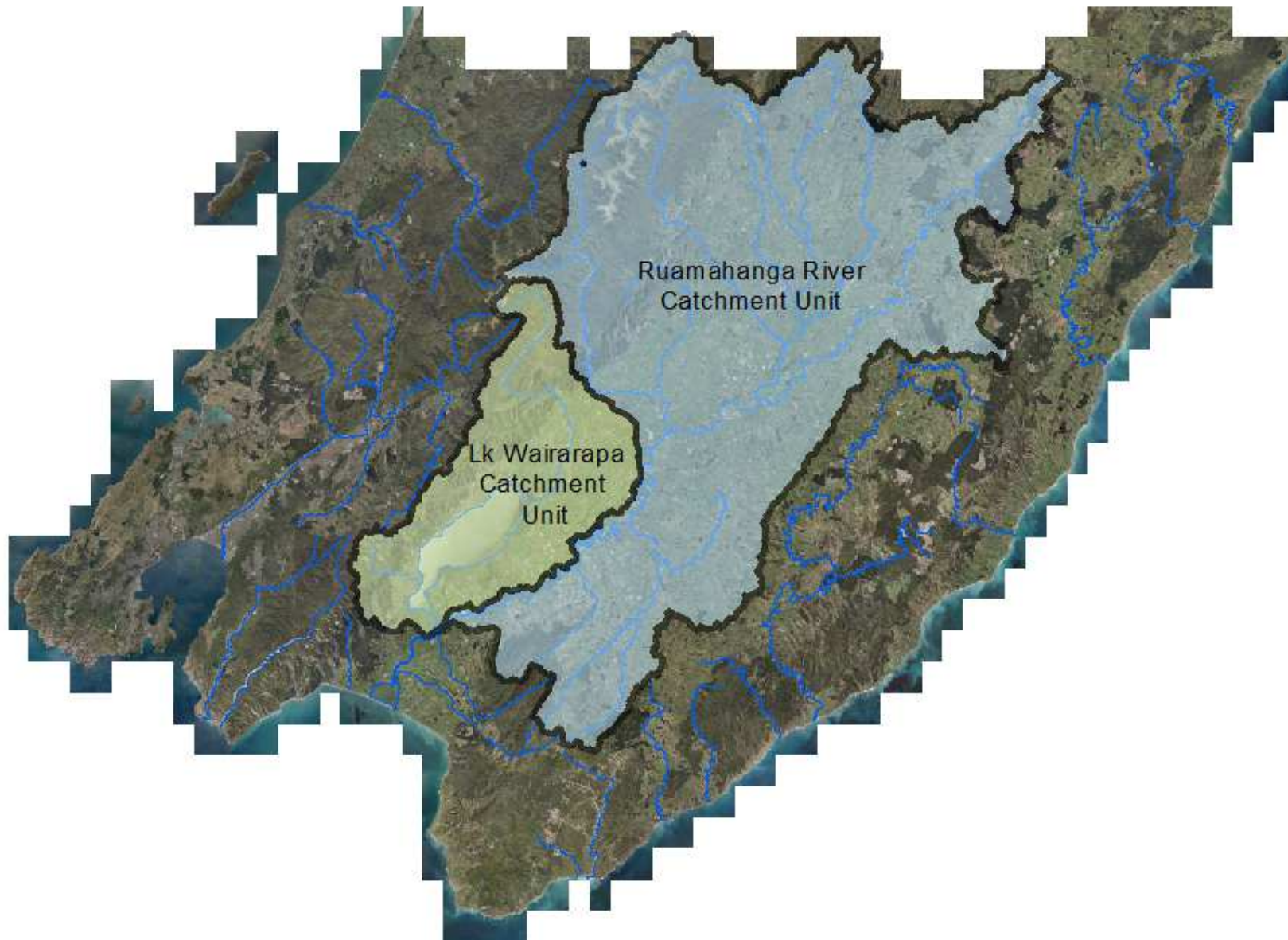
- health needs of people as part of community water supply
- industry as part of community water supply (for seven years)
- permanent horticulture or viticultural root crops
- groundwater (category A groundwater must reduce by 50%)

# Key allocation policy (R.P2)

The maximum amount of water available for allocation (core allocation) shall not exceed whichever is the greater of:

- The total amount allocated by resource consents
- The following allocation amounts

Catchment management unit	Allocation amount (L/s)
Ruamāhanga River and tributaries, category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	7,535
Lake Wairarapa and tributaries category A groundwater and category B groundwater (directly connected)	1,800

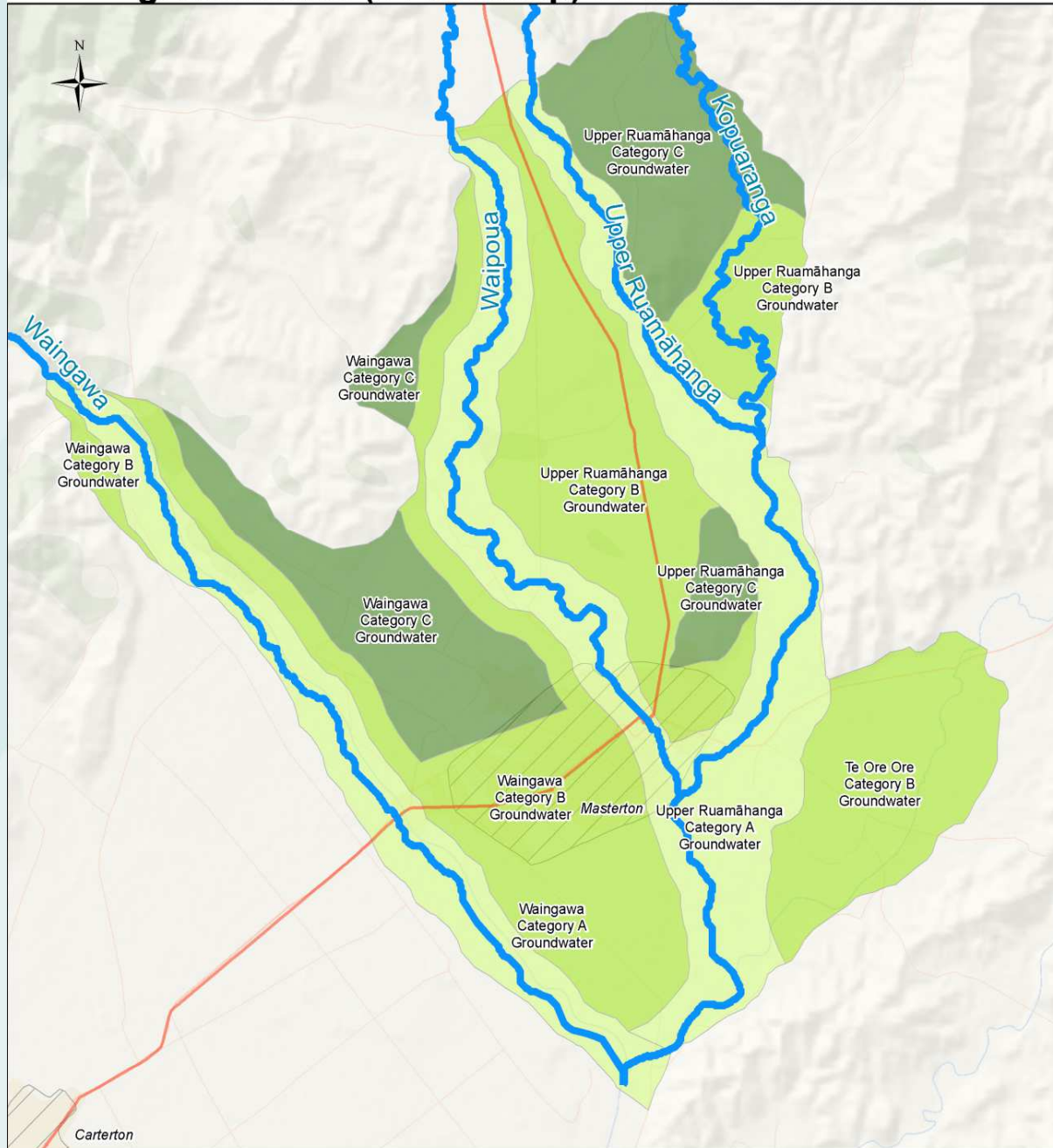




# Core allocation (surface water) for catchment units

Catchment unit	Existing allocation amount (L/s)	Default allocation amount (L/s)	Percentage existing/default amount
Ruamāhanga River and tributaries, (not including Lake Wairarapa), directly connected groundwater	7953	7,535	105%
Lake Wairarapa and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	1826	7535	103%

**Figure 7.2: Upper Ruamāhanga catchment - rivers and groundwater (0-20m deep) in Tables 7.3 and 7.5**

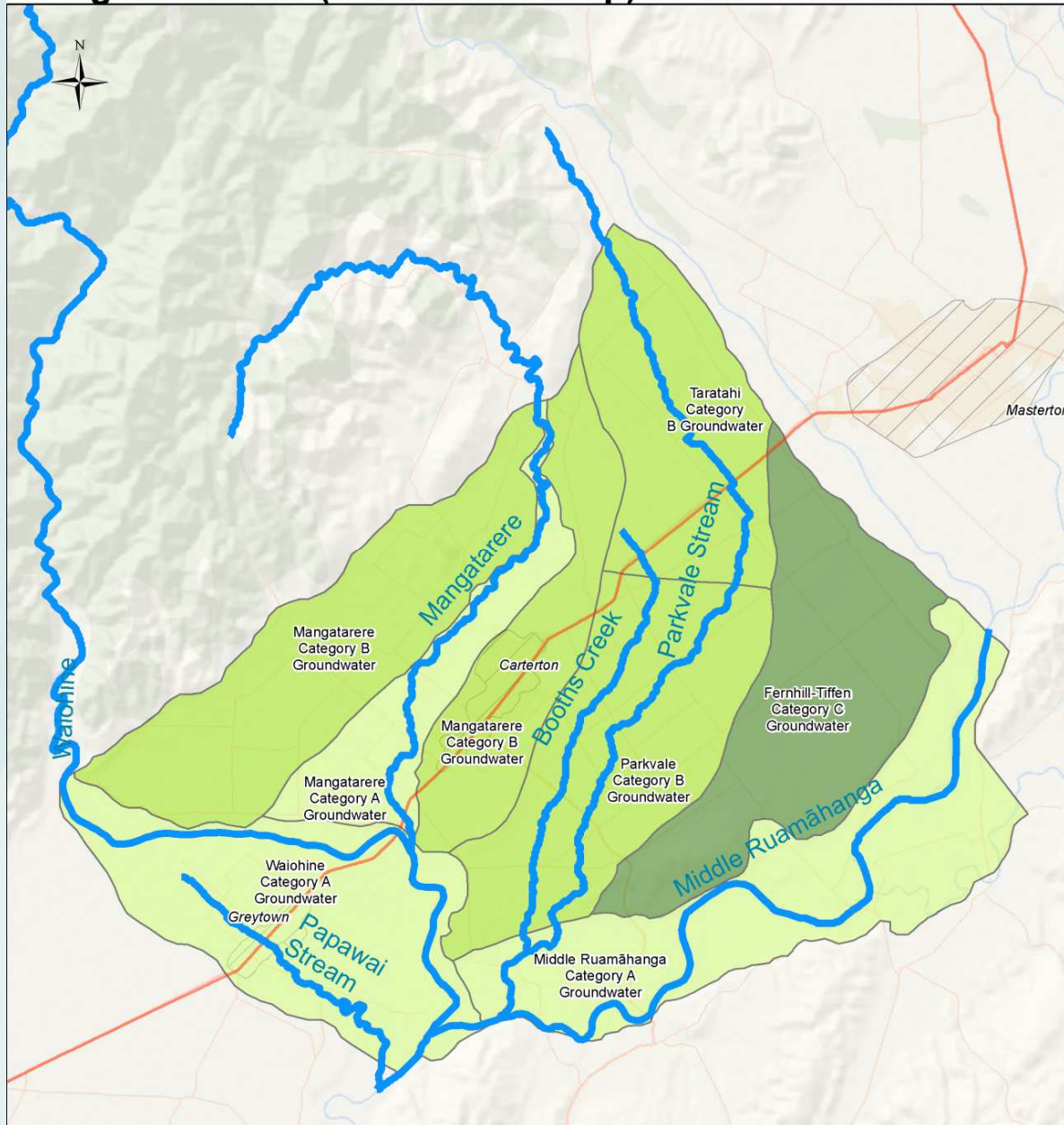


# Core allocation (surface water) upper Ruamāhanga catchment sub-units

Catchment management sub-unit	Existing allocation amount (L/s)	Default allocation amount (L/s)	Percentage existing/ Default amount	Average days/year without water
Kopuaranga River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	150	180	83%	n/a
Waipoua River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	129	145	89%	18
Waingawa River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	1197	920	130%	27
Upper Ruamāhanga River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	958	1,200	80%	8



**Figure 7.5: Middle Ruamāhanga catchment - rivers and groundwater (0-20 metres deep) in Tables 7.3 and 7.5**

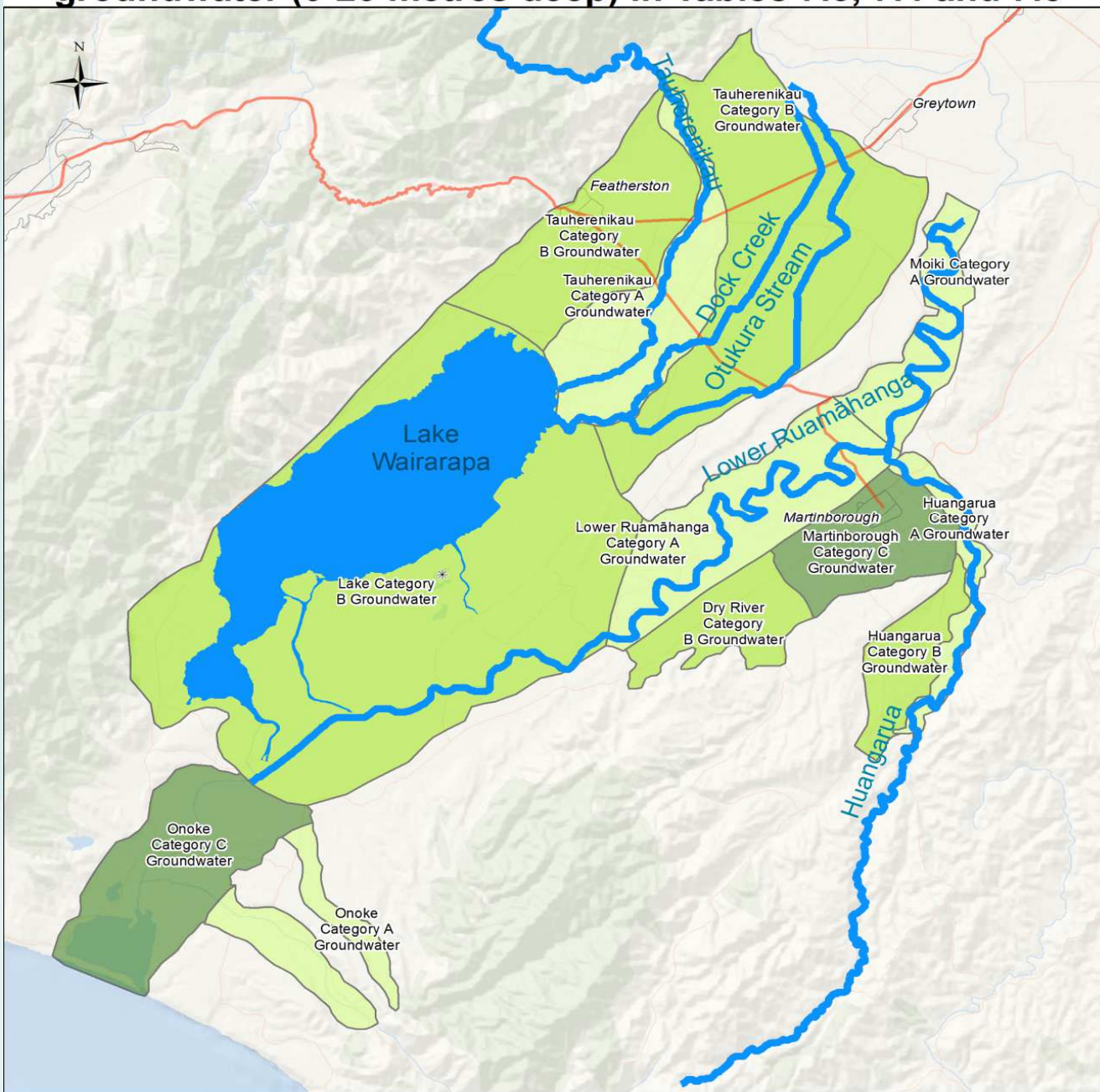


This version of the map is not complete. The version of this map available online through the online web map viewer shows the complete, detailed information on a GIS overlay that is not shown on this hard copy. The online version is available on the Council's

# Core allocation (surface water) middle Ruamāhanga catchment sub-units

Catchment management sub-unit	Existing allocation amount (L/s)	Default allocation amount (L/s)	Percentage existing/default amount	Average days/year without allocation
Parkvale Stream and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	151	40	302%	42
Booths Creek and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	109	25	436%	42
Mangatarere Stream and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	479	110	479%	37 (upper) 22 (lower)
Waiohine River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	1003	1590	63%	4
Papawai Stream and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	65	341	18%	51
Middle Ruamāhanga River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	964	1,200	80%	10

**Figure 7.8: Lower Ruamahānga - rivers and groundwater (0-20 metres deep) in Tables 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5**





# Core allocation (surface water) lower Ruamāhanga catchment sub-units

Catchment management sub-unit	Existing allocation amount (L/s)	Default allocation amount (L/s)	Percentage existing/ default amount	Average days/year without allocation
Huangarua River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	91	110	82%	n/a
Lower Ruamāhanga River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	2381	1,475	161%	10
Otukura Stream and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	165	30	550%	41
Tauherenikau River and tributaries, directly connected groundwater	235	410	57%	12

# Core allocation (groundwater)

Ruamāhanga catchment groundwater sub-units	Existing allocation (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	Allocation amount (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	Percentage existing amount/ allocation amount
Te Ore Ore	813,000	480,000	169%
Waingawa	725,000	1,900,000	38%
Upper Ruamāhanga	572,000	3,550,000	16%
Fernhill-Tiffen	1,361,000	1,200,000	113%
Taratahi	318,000	1,400,000	22%
Parkvale (unconfined)	340,000	350,000	97%
Parkvale (confined)	2,162,000	1,550,000	139%
Mangatarere	2,548,000	2,300,000	110%
Tauherenikau	4,745,000	6,600,000	71%
Lake	5,901,000	6,750,000	87%
Huangerua	650,000	650,000	100%
Martinborough	942,000	800,000	117%
Dry River	427,000	650,000	65%
Onoke	1,058,000	2,100,000	50%



# Key rules

## Rule R.R1

The take and use of water from any river (including tributaries) Lake Wairarapa or groundwater is a **restricted discretionary activity** provided conditions are met for minimum flows or allocation amounts: ...

## Rule R.R3

The take and use of water from any river (including tributaries), Lake Wairarapa or groundwater that does not meet conditions for minimum flows or allocation amounts of Rule R.R1 is a **prohibited activity**



# Supplementary allocation

Water is available from rivers above median flows subject to flushing flows and a portion remaining in the river

Water is available without further examination of environmental effects provided

- the frequency of flushing flows exceeding three times the median river flows is not changed, and
- 50% of river flow remains in the river above the median flow

# Efficient use of water

Criteria are included that rely on good practice.

For irrigators the water take shall meet the following criteria:

- An irrigation application efficiency of 80%
- Demand conditions that occur in 9 out of 10 years

# Submissions

Policies may not provide for stored allocation released to a river so that it can be taken from the same river

Limits framework does not give effect to the NPS-FM

- There should be no takes below minimum flows
- Water dependant industry should have priority to take water below minimum flow
- Allowing existing takes to continue is inconsistent

Amend g/w take reductions at minimum flow to reflect delayed interference effects

Limits must consider reliability of supply



# What's not in the proposed Plan

- catchment specific freshwater objectives
- limits to achieve catchment objectives
- how water given up is re-allocated
- reliability of supply
- efficient water allocation
- transferable water permits
- use of water user groups to assist with water management



# Issue areas

- Limits
- Reliability of supply
- Allocation efficiency
- Use efficiency