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To: Tom Dyer <Tom.Dyer@orc.govt.nz>; Joanna Gilroy <Joanna.Gilroy@orc.govt.nz>

Cc: Richard Saunders <Richard.Saunders@orc.govt.nz>; Cr Hilary Calvert (ORC) <Hilary.Calvert@orc.govt.nz>

Subject: Manuherikia flows

Hi Tom/Jo

I have an information request please. Happy for it to be considered under the LGOIMA process. I was asked in a meeting yesterday what is the total amount of water abstracted from the Manuherikia Valley vs the total amount of water that runs past the flow recorders. Embarrassingly I couldn't really even arrive at a best guess.

So if possible for each of the main stem flow recorders from Campground right up to the forks recorder above the Falls dam, could I get the annual volumes that passed the recorders, and then for each of those recorder locations, the recorded abstraction volumes that is upstream of each. If you could also include the Dunstan Creek recorder and abstraction above that too please.

Obviously the forks recorder will have no abstraction above it but would be interesting to see the total volume that passes it. For at least the last five years but further back if available.

Hopefully this is not too onerous. Please come back to me if any clarification needed.

Thanks very much

Regards

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Councillor

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Released via email on 28 July 2026

Kia ora Cr **7(2)(a)**,

Your official information request received by us 01 July 2026 for "the total amount of water abstracted from the Manuherikia Valley vs the total amount of water that runs past the flow recorders" has been granted.

The information you have requested is attached, and Council's Environmental Data Team has provided the below context.

River Flow Data

The mainstem (apart from Ophir) and Dunstan flow records are certified through to June 2026. The Ophir record is currently certified to 4 May 2026. Certified data has completed the full quality assurance process, including verification through site visits, processing, and quality grading in accordance with the National Environmental Monitoring Standards (NEMS) by a field technician, and subsequent peer review by a data analyst. As a result, parts of the river flow datasets used to calculate volumes for the 2025-26 period that have not yet been certified and remain subject to change as the data certification process is completed.

There are some gaps in the flow records. Where gaps exist, an average flow rate, based on the available data for the relevant year, has been used to estimate water year and irrigation season river volumes.

Our Environmental Data Team has also included river flow volumes for the same periods for all monitoring sites within the wider catchment. These records are not certified as recently as the mainstem sites and therefore may be subject to further revision.

Water Abstraction Data

Take volumes represent the cumulative abstraction upstream of the river monitoring site to which they relate. For example, the abstraction volume reported above Campground reflects the cumulative take from the entire upstream catchment. The abstraction totals include a degree of double-counting where re-takes occur, and the same water is measured more than once.

Water abstraction datasets are complete through to June 2025. The 2025-26 year is not yet complete, as manually recorded water-use data is not required to be submitted to ORC until 31 July 2026. Telemetry records received to date may also be subject to change following the annual data review process.

The abstraction figures are based solely on the data currently held by ORC. No gap filling, estimation, or data editing has been undertaken to generate these outputs.

Proactive Release

Council has published this LGOIMA.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact us by return email.

Kā mihi,
7(2)(a)



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