Services Consent – Rural Water Supplies

Information Guide

For connections to Council owned/operated Rural Water Supply Networks

Version: 2
Date: October 2026

Overview

The Downlands, Te Moana, Seadown, Orari and Beautiful Valley Water Supplies are trickle-fed rural water schemes operated and maintained by the Timaru District Council.

This form contains guidance on how to submit a Services Consent application form to either apply for more water or request a new connection. It summarises the eligibility criteria, key terms and relevant fees.

Note: If you have previously filled out an expression of interest form, you still need to now complete a formal application.

Before you apply

Before you start your application, you will need your:

- Property Valuation Number
- Existing water allocation (if applicable)
- Existing or proposed tank size

Your valuation number and existing water allocation can be found on your rates invoice.

Please fill in every field on the application form to avoid delays in processing your application.

Hydraulic Assessment

Applications will be hydraulically assessed by Council as applicable to ensure water can be supplied. There are parts of each water supply that will require further upgrades before water can be supplied. If water cannot be hydraulically supplied at this time, the application will be declined, and no fees will be payable. Should this happen, your application will be recorded and may be taken into consideration for any future network upgrades.

Eligibility Criteria – Downlands / Te Moana / Seadown / Orari

The following property types may be eligible for a new connection or additional water where the water will be used for stock and/or domestic water use only, and where properties are within or directly on the boundary of the current scheme:

- Existing properties with no current connection to the scheme.
- New properties created from an approved subdivision.
- Additional dwellings (either existing or under construction).
- Properties that are currently under-supplied based on our updated design allocation.

At this time, we are not increasing the existing allocation allowances for Community Halls, Schools or Sports Clubs. Extraordinary water is not available (e.g. for irrigation).

The daily allocation for a property is based on 65 litres per hectare for stock, with an additional 1000 litres per dwelling.

Note: The daily allocation for a property in the Beautiful Valley Water Scheme is 70 litres per hectare for stock water only.

For example, a 15-hectare property with one dwelling would be eligible for:

15 hectares at 65 litres per hectare = 975 litres
One dwelling at 1,000 per dwelling = 1,000 litres
Total allocation eligible for = 1,975 litres*
**This would be rounded up to 2,000 litres per day (i.e. 2.0 units of water).*

Use this table to calculate the amount of water that your property is eligible for:

Area in ha		At 65L/ha	=	
No. of dwellings		At 1,000L/dwelling	=	
		Total litres		
A "unit" is the equivalent of 1,000L per day. *Minimum of 1.0 unit per day.* *½ units available up until 3.0 units per day.*				Total units

Alternatively, online calculators to calculate the correct allocation for your property can be found on Council's website: ***www.timaru.govt.nz/downlands-reopening***, ***www.timaru.govt.nz/temoana-reopening*** and ***www.timaru.govt.nz/SeadownWater*** respectively.

Fees

- Fees are subject to change. For current charges refer to Council's website: ***www.timaru.govt.nz/fees***
- An application fee is payable once your application is approved.
- Application fees are not payable for reductions of existing water allocations and replacement of supply tanks in their existing locations.
- Subdivisions will require a separate application (and application fee) for each Lot.
- Please carefully review the fees table below as we are unable to refund the application fee if your application is approved and you choose not to proceed.
- All connections or increased allocations must meet our storage requirements as outlined in the applicable Water Supply Policy. This may mean that you need to purchase a tank or upgrade the size of your existing tank.

Summary of Fees *(including GST for the 2026/27 financial year)*

Charges associated with Approval	**New Connection**	**Additional Water** *(into existing tank)*
Services Consent Application Fee	$750.00	$750.00
Orari Connection Fee	$866.04 per connection	N/A
Seadown Connection Fee	$2,219.23 per connection	N/A
Downlands / Te Moana Connection Fee	$8,119.13 per connection	N/A
Downlands Unit Fee	$9,949.80 per unit	$9,949.80 per unit
Te Moana Unit Fee	$9,959.46 per unit	$9,959.46 per unit
Rejet Fee	N/A	$152.62 per rejet
Installation of pipework	Varies – please obtain a quote from an Infrastructure Approved Contractor	N/A

Infrastructure Approved Contractors

All costs of new services (including disconnections and/or relocations, if applicable) are the responsibility of the landowner or their agent. Council does not carry out any physical works or arrange contractors to carry out work, except rejet works associated with additional water / reduction of an existing allocation.

Once the Services Consent is granted, the applicant is required to arrange their own contractor from the list of Infrastructure Approved Contractors for that work type. **All** work on Council infrastructure (including excavation/reinstatement of the roading network) must be carried out by an Infrastructure Approved Contractor: ***www.timaru.govt.nz/approvedcontractor***

Timeframes

Our target is for applications to take less than 20 working days to process after lodgement. However, we cannot guarantee this. Some complex applications may take longer.

Terms and Conditions

- A Services Consent provides authorisations that are different to Resource Consent or Building Consent matters. **Approval of a Resource Consent or Building Consent does not imply approval of a Services Consent and vice versa**.
- Services Consents are valid for a period of 24 months once approved.
- Conditions of the Services Consent will specify requirements.
- Further information can be found in the water supply policies which are available on our website.

Illegal Connections / Prosecution

Connections made to the Council water networks without a Services Consent is a Bylaw Offence. Any connections made to Council infrastructure without a Services Consent will be assessed for enforcement action.

Works Requiring Additional Approvals

Additional approvals may be required in the following circumstances:

- A Land Entry Agreement is required when connecting to a rural water pipeline which is situated on land not owned by yourself.
- When work requires disturbance of a natural waterway or creek bed, this work will require approval from the Regional Council (ECAN) and may require Resource Consents in addition to Council's Services Consent. It is the landowner's responsibility to obtain any Resource Consent prior to commencing work.
- A Corridor Access Request (CAR) is required for **all** work undertaken within the road corridor. This is required to be obtained through the MyWorksites website (***www.myworksites.co.nz***) by the appropriate Council Infrastructure Approved Contractor (or the landowner/agent), with an approved Work Access Permit (WAP) granted by the appropriate Road Controlling Authority prior to commencing works. Further information relating to working in the road corridor can be found at ***www.timaru.govt.nz/work-in-road***.