

# Water measuring FAQ's

## **Why do I need to install a water measuring device?**

If you have a water take consent (for 5 litres/second or more) you need to install a water measuring device this season.

This is a requirement under the Resource Management (Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes) Regulation which came into effect on November 10, 2010.

Your water measuring device needs to be continuously operating and recording your water usage each day.

## **What are the benefits of installing a water measuring device?**

You can't manage what you don't measure. You wouldn't drive your vehicle without knowing how fast you are going or how much petrol you are using.

A water measuring system can help save you time and money and the data is critical to understanding the region's water resource and ensuring it is being used efficiently.

## **What do I need to do?**

If you haven't got a water measuring system you need to have one installed by an approved supplier.

You can find a list of suppliers at [www.irrigationaccreditation.co.nz](http://www.irrigationaccreditation.co.nz)

You also need to tell Environment Canterbury the timeline and progress of the installation. You can do this by emailing [water.metering@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:water.metering@ecan.govt.nz) or phoning 0800 324 636.

Once an installation has occurred, installation and verification certificates must be submitted to Environment Canterbury as soon as possible. You can do this also by emailing [watermetering@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:watermetering@ecan.govt.nz).

Your service provider can provide the above notifications and certificates on your behalf, however it is still your responsibility to ensure they have been submitted.

## **What will happen to people who don't comply?**

Good progress has been made with the majority of water takes over 10 litres/second now being measured. These consent holders are now also benefiting from water efficiency improvements that come from being able to manage their water use.

Environment Canterbury will be contacting consent holders who do not have a measuring system in place.

If consent holders fail to install a water measurement device and/or don't supply the required information within the time frame compliance action will be taken. This will include a site visit at the cost of the consent holder, followed by enforcement action.

## ***What if I am a member of an irrigation scheme?***

You are responsible for measuring all water takes you hold consents for, even if your primary source of water is from an irrigation scheme.

A temporary waiver can be applied for in circumstances where it is not possible to take water from a bore, i.e. it has been decommissioned or the power disconnected.

## ***Why am I being called when I have already installed a water measuring system or submitted installation or verification certificates?***

If you have installed a meter but not sent in the installation and verification certificate, please do so now to ensure Environment Canterbury can update its records. Please also let us know who will be sending through your water use data (external data provider) and let us know when your meter was installed and when you started measuring and recording your water take.

## ***When do I have to send my records in?***

According to the National Regulations water consent holders in Canterbury must provide their water use information for the current year (1 July to 30 June) to Environment Canterbury prior to 31 July each year. However, Environment Canterbury is requesting that water use data that is telemetered is submitted on a daily basis to Environment Canterbury via a service provider. Receiving data daily will ensure incoming data quality is further checked and Environment Canterbury will raise notifications with service providers if there are any issues.

Your service provider can provide this service for you but it is still your responsibility to check that this is occurring.

## ***What if I want to reduce my take or remove a bore from my consent?***

If you want to reduce the rate of take or are not using a bore or surface water abstraction point on your consent, it is possible to have this alteration or take removed from the consent.

Contact Environment Canterbury on 0800 324 636.

## ***How will I know if my water measuring device is accurate?***

You must get your water measuring device verified by a qualified person once it is installed and every 2-5 years thereafter. The frequency of verification required is determined by the type of measuring system installed.

## ***Who can provide help and support?***

Get in touch with your service provider, Irrigation NZ, or Environment Canterbury for support and advice. Web and phone details are below.

**Visit:**     [www.ecan.govt.nz/watermetering](http://www.ecan.govt.nz/watermetering)  
              [www.irrigationnz.co.nz/water-measurement](http://www.irrigationnz.co.nz/water-measurement)

**Phone:**    **0800 324 636 (ECAN)**  
              **(03) 341 2225 (INZ)**

**Email:**     [water.metering@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:water.metering@ecan.govt.nz)