



The Department recommends that you contact the Department of Conservation Office closest to where the activity is proposed to discuss the application prior to completing the application forms. Please provide all information requested in as much detail as possible. Applicants will be advised if further information is required before this application can be processed by the Department.

This form is to be used when the proposed activity involves any access across public conservation land, and is to be completed in conjunction with either Applicant Information Form 1a (longer term concession) or Applicant Information Form 1b (one-off concession) as appropriate. Examples of this type of activity are:

- a right to convey water:
- a right to drain water:
- a right to drain sewage:
- a right of way (access):
- a right to convey electricity:
- a right to convey telecommunications and computer media:
- a right to convey gas.

Please complete this application form, attach Form 1a or Form 1b, and any other applicable forms and information and send to [permissions@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissions@doc.govt.nz). The Department will process the application and issue a concession if it is satisfied that the application meets all the requirements for granting a concession under the Conservation Act 1987.

If you require extra space for answering please attach and label according to the relevant section.

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## A. Description of Activity

Please describe in detail the proposed activity, eg an accessway, cable or pipeline. Please include any details of construction eg location, building dimensions, materials, purpose, number of people and vehicles involved etc

Please include the name and status of the public conservation land, the size of the area you are applying for and why this area has been chosen.

Provide information about when and how the easement area will be used.

Please attach a map of the site, a detailed site plan and drawings of proposal (as necessary). If possible include photographs of the site. Any attachments should be labelled Attachment 3c:A.

The application is for a right to convey up to 3.5m<sup>3</sup>/s of water via a water race along the true left bank of the Inangahua River downstream of Blacks Point, Reefton. The activity forms part of a project to re-instate the historic Reefton power scheme to generate electricity. Approximately 180 metres of the water race traverses through Victoria Conservation Park (Part Section 247, Block XIV, Reefton Survey District). A plan of the entire project footprint is attached to this application as 3cA – Site Plans and depicts the section of water race on conservation land. Full details on the entire project are provided in the Resource Consent Application and associated Appendices.

The portion of water race on conservation land totals approximately 180 metres, comprising a section through an existing tunnel of approximately 100 metres and a further 80 metres along a side cutting above the Inangahua River. The tunnel is mostly open and in good order, however, a slip has breached the tunnel approximately 25 metres in from the eastern tunnel portal and the timber fluming within the tunnel has disintegrated. The timber

flume which conveyed water along the side cutting downstream of the tunnel has also disappeared and will need to be re-instated. Photos of the tunnel portals and side cutting, which supported the section of timber flume, are attached as 3cA - Photos. A further attachment includes design plans for the timber flume and an indicative photomontage of the timber fluming downstream of the tunnel, refer Attachment 3cA - Design Plans.

The proposal entails re-instating timber fluming within the tunnel and on the side cutting downstream of the tunnel. The breached section of tunnel covers a stretch of approximately 12 metres and will require bridging. The Applicant intends excavating the slip debris to create a building platform upon which a discrete section of timber flume bridge will be installed. The timber bridge will connect to fluming within the tunnel at both ends. The bridging flume will be constructed off-site and then placed on top of the excavated platform. Rock riprap will be placed at the toe of the slip to buttress and stabilise the slip material. The Applicant sought advice from a geotechnical engineer on bridging of the slip and this work will be undertaken in accordance with their recommendations, refer the Geotech Assessment provided as Attachment 3cA - Geotech Assessment.

Approximately 60 tonne of rock riprap will be placed at the toe of the slip (approximately 2 truckloads). Excavated soil and debris will be backfilled behind the riprap and contoured around the timber flume bridge. Access to the tunnel for installation of the timber bridging and placement of rock riprap will be via the Syphon Ford and across the Inangahua River. A large tree located immediately above the upstream portal will also be removed due to concerns that the roots will eventually affect the integrity of the tunnel.

Figure 4 of the Geotech Assessment is a photograph of the section of the tunnel impacted by the slip. The yellow dashed line indicates the level where rock riprap will be placed, based on the scour level on the slip toe from high River flows. The red arrow indicates the tree that is proposed to be removed.

If you wish to build, extend or add to any **permanent or temporary structures** on public conservation land (eg pumpsheds, toilets, fences, storage facilities). Please provide the following details:

- Could this structure or facility be reasonably located outside public conservation land? Provide details of other sites/areas considered.
- Could any potential adverse effects be significantly less (and/or different) in another conservation area or another part of the conservation area to which the application relates? Give details/reasons

There is no option to avoid conservation land due to topography. The historic water race traversed through conservation land and the aim of the project is to re-instate the original hydro-electric power scheme.

## B. Term

Please detail the length of the term sought (i.e. number of years or months) and why.

*Note: An application for an easement will not be publicly notified unless the adverse effects of the activity are such that it is required, or if an exclusive interest in the land is required.*

The term sought for the easement is ~~36~~<sup>30</sup> years, being consistent with the take and discharge permits being sought from the West Coast Regional Council.

## C. Environmental Impact Assessment

This section is one of the most important factors that will determine the Department’s decision on the application. Please answer in detail.

In column 1 please list all the locations of your proposal. In column 2 list any special features of the environment or the recreation values of that area. Then in column 3 list any effects (positive or adverse) that your activity may have on the values or features in column 2. In column 4 list the ways you intend to mitigate, remedy or avoid any adverse effects noted in column 3. Please add extra information or supporting evidence as necessary and label Attachment 3a:C.

Refer to Steps 1 and 2 in your Guide to Environmental Impact Assessment to help you fill in this section.

Location on public conservation land	Special feature or value	Potential effects of your activity on the feature or value (positive or adverse)	Methods to remedy, mitigate or avoid any adverse effects identified
<i>EG: Tararua Forest Park</i>	<i>Northern rata - threatened species</i>	<i>Damage to the plants by construction</i>	<i>Brief construction and maintenance staff of the location and importance of the species; clearly tape off areas with the species to avoid damage</i>
Victoria Conservation Park	Tunnel and side cutting – forms part of the historic Reefton Electric Power Scheme which has high archaeological values and is regarded as a site of national significance (refer the Archaeological Assessment provided as Attachment 3aC). The Scheme remains are recorded as L30/5 on the NZ Archaeological Association recording site.	The tunnel is an important feature of the historic hydro-electric power scheme. Reinstatement to convey water will have the positive effect of preventing further loss to the historic fabric of the tunnel by stabilising and maintaining it.	Prior to any work commencing, all historic remains within the tunnel and beyond will be mapped and recorded using standard archaeological techniques. All activities will be undertaken in accordance with the Archaeological Management Plan which accompanied the Archaeological Assessment and in accordance with the recently granted Archaeological Authority provided as Attachments 3aC & 3cD respectively.
Victoria Conservation Park	Riparian margins of the Inangahua River – moderate to high riparian habitat values (refer the Freshwater Ecology Assessments provided as Appendices 4 & 5 of the Consent Application)	Potential disturbance to riparian vegetation associated with installation of timber fluming across the tunnel slip, placement of rock riprap at the base of the slip and re-instatement of timber fluming	Re-instatement of fluming within the tunnel will not impact on the values of the Inangahua River or its indigenous riparian margins. The tunnel slip is covered in weed species and with the exception of one beech tree (to be removed on the geotechnical engineer’s recommendation), no indigenous riparian vegetation is to be removed.  Re-instatement of timber fluming along the side cutting will

		along the side cutting.	necessitate the removal of some ferns, low stature shrubs and weed species eg broom and willows. However, riparian vegetation along this stretch of the Inangahua River has been modified over an extensive period and is considered low value.

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**D. Other**

Is there any further information you wish to supply in support of your application? Please attach if necessary and label Form 3c:D

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga have granted an Archaeological Authority for re-instatement of the historic hydro electric power scheme. A copy of this Authority is provided as Attachment 3cD.