

Hurunui District Council

Section 69 Assessment of Communities' Access to Drinking Water

Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 – Section 69

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Executive summary

This report is Hurunui District Council's assessment of communities' access to drinking water services, prepared under section 69 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025. The assessment identifies communities within the Hurunui district supplied by Hurunui District Council (these drinking water supplies will transfer to Kaikōura Hurunui Water Services (KHWS) on 1st July 2026) and Non-Council/ Non-KHWS services providers. Where information is available this report describes the nature of those supplies, evaluates current and future quantity adequacy, summarises safety and quality information and identifies other public health risks.

This report is prepared for submission to Taumata Arowai in electronic form and will be made publicly available in accordance with section 70 of the Act once adopted by Council.

Following the transfer of water services to KHWS the section 69 obligation remains with Hurunui District Council as the territorial authority.

Key findings

- Whilst the majority of people in the Hurunui district are supplied drinking water by Council / KHWS drinking water supplies, other arrangements for drinking water exist,

both within these communities and outside of Council / KHWS drinking water supply reticulation boundaries.

- Council/KHWS managed drinking water services are delivered through 16 urban and rural schemes, supported by 26 sources, 18 treatment plants, 68 pump stations and approximately 2,216 km of pipeline, serving a combined district population of approximately 9,300 persons.
- Drinking water treatment plant upgrades completed in the last five years have led to significant improvements in drinking water safety and reduction in public health risk for Council supplies.
- The Balmoral scheme is identified as an exception regarding protozoa protection requirements. Council is engaging with Taumata Arowai on an acceptable solutions pathway.
- Demand growth, source constraints, and natural hazard resilience are material risks to future access across the district. Population growth in Amberley and Hanmer Springs has put pressure on water quantity for these two drinking water supplies. Some Council / KHWS drinking water supplies have low resilience to risks affecting quantity of water at abstraction, due to supplies with a single water source. Over-allocation of groundwater and the limited availability of high yield, high quality groundwater within the district is also influential.
- Within a rural district, population growth is not the only key driver of water demand. Stocking levels and rural land use are important factors.
- Limited information is available on non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies. These supplies fit into four main categories; Networked community supply, self-supply (non-domestic), domestic self-supply and shared domestic self-supply. Inadequate data is currently available for the majority of non-Council / non-KHWS supplies to enable an assessment of water quality, adequacy of quantity or public health risks specific to each supply.
- Taumata Arowai has registered 3 non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies in the Hurunui district. This assessment has identified a further 18 drinking water supplies that may require registration. Taumata Arowai has deferred the Water Services Act registration requirement for these supplies until 15 November 2028.
- The assessment has identified over 1800 properties with buildings that are not being charged a water rate, providing an indication that these may have self-supplied water or form part of an unidentified network drinking water supply.
- The assessment identified two issues that met the Section 70, Local Government (Water Services) Act requirement to notify Taumata Arowai. These are matters of concern arising from the assessment, including potential risks to communities, failing to meet the supplier's obligations under the Water Services Act 2021 or any matters relating to absence of or deficiency in a drinking water service. The two matters identified were; Balmoral water supply (lack of protozoa barrier) and a camping ground in Hanmer Springs (waterborne disease outbreak and repeat E. coli exceedances due to insufficient treatment barriers). Both of these issues have previously been notified to Taumata Arowai. The camping ground in Hanmer Springs is now connected to the Hanmer Springs community drinking water supply.

1. Purpose and scope

Section 69 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 requires a territorial authority to inform itself about the access that each community in its district has to drinking water services. The assessment must:

- (a) Identify each community that receives a drinking water service;
- (b) Describe the nature of existing drinking water services;
- (c) Describe the characteristics of the community;
- (d) Assess current and future adequacy of drinking water quantity, including foreseeable risks and demand;
- (e) Describe safety and quality using information collected and made available by Taumata Arowai and other relevant organisations;
- (f) Identify and assess other public health risks; and
- (g) Assess consequences of loss/deficiency and outline a plan for ongoing access.

Section 69(5) extends the scope to all communities in the district including those served by non-Council providers, those not served by any provider, and non-reticulated supply arrangements. Section 69(4) requires Council to provide ongoing opportunities for the public to raise concerns about a community's access. The first assessment must be completed by 1 July 2026; subsequent assessments at least every three years.

Excluded from assessment – Section 69 does not require the assessment to include drinking water services that are owned or operated by a central government department e.g Department of Conservation, Ministry of Defence (refer Schedule 2 of the Public Service Act 2020 for a full list).

1.1 Definitions

Council / KHWS supply – reticulated community supply owned and managed by Hurunui District Council. Transferred to Kaikoura Hurunui Water Services on 1 July 2026.

Community (Non-Council) supply – reticulated or self-supply providing water to >25 people OR a supply that does not meet the Water Services Act definition of 'domestic self-supply' or 'shared domestic self-supply' regardless of population supplied. These supplies require registration by 15 November 2028. These include self-supplied buildings that are not domestic dwellings e.g. camping grounds, cafes, lodges, event venues.

Domestic self-supply – means a stand-alone domestic dwelling that has its own supply of drinking water. A domestic dwelling means a building that is used as a single household unit, whether it is: (a) tenanted on a long or short-term basis or (b) occupied permanently or temporarily (for example, a holiday home)

Shared domestic self-supply – means a supply providing water to no more than 25 consumers who reside in domestic dwellings located on the land from which a person supplies the drinking water OR any other land.

2. Evidence base and data sources

This assessment is based on the following council and partner documentation as available at time of drafting.

Table 2-1 Data sources

Source organisation	Data / Information	Use in this assessment
Hurunui District Council (HDC)	HDC Water Activity Management Plan (AMP) 2024–2034 (Water Supply)	Scheme inventory, assets, reticulation metrics, key risks, population growth
	Drinking Water Safety Plans and Source Water Risk Management Plans	Water safety, quality and quantity risks, treatment approaches
	GIS data	Areas services by HDC reticulated network
	Joint Kaikōura–Hurunui Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP)	Future structure
	DIA WSDP Assessment Report (Hurunui)	Third-party assessment comments; drinking water supply compliance context.
	Rating database	GIS identification of property with building and not charged a water rate, self-supplied identification
	Licencing database	Identification of self-supplied licenced properties
Statistics New Zealand	Statistical Area 2 (SA2) boundaries	Community characteristics, growth projections
Taumata Arowai	Taumata Arowai Section 69 LGA data release communication	Dataset provided but limited use in this assessment, few supplies included in dataset
	Public register of drinking water supplies	Identify registered non-Council drinking water supplies

3. Methodology

This assessment has been prepared by: (a) identifying communities served by Council schemes using the Water Supply AMP; (b) summarising service nature from AMP tables; (c) summarising safety/quality from operational reporting, source water risk management plans, drinking water safety plans and compliance reports; (d) identifying quantity/demand risks from AMP key issues; and (e) identifying and non-Council supplies, via staff knowledge, licencing data, GIS analysis of properties with buildings and not rated for water and Taumata Arowai data release (registered supplies and other supplies linked to laboratory or notification data).

Defining ‘communities’ – Statistics NZ, Statistical Area 2 (2026) data was utilised as the base delineation of population groupings. This provided a locality by locality basis to structure the assessment of communities access to drinking water across the entire district.

An overview of drinking water provision by community is provided in Table 3-1, with more detail on Council / KHWS drinking water supplies in Sections 4 to 8 and non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies in Section 10.

Table 3-1 Overview of drinking water provision by community (continued on next page)

Locality (SA2 block)	Communities identified within block	Overview of how drinking water is supplied
Hanmer Range	Lewis Pass (before TLA boundary)	Self-supplies and community supply (non-Council)
	Hanmer Springs Rural	Partly supplied by Council supply (Hanmer Springs), self-supplies (concentrated around western Woodbank Rd and Chattertons Rd area)
	Boyle River	Self-supplies
	Lake Sumner / Lake Taylor	Self-supplies
Hanmer Springs	Hanmer Springs Town	Council supply (Hanmer Springs)
Amuri	Mt Lyford	Community supply (non-Council)
	Stag & Spey / Inland Rd	Self-supplies
	Waiau Rural / Leslie Hills	Council supply (Waiau Rural) and self-supplies
	Emu Plains	Council supply (Waiau Rural) and self-supplies
	Waiau town	Council supply (Waiau Town)
	Balmoral	Council supply (Balmoral) and self-supplies
	Culverden town	Council supply (Culverden)
	Rotherham town	Council supply (Amuri)
	Rotherham rural	Council supply (Amuri) and self-supplies
	Mouse Point	Council supply (Amuri) and self-supplies
Parnassus	Hunderlee	Self-supplies
	Claverley	Community supply (non-Council) and self-supplies
	Conway Flat	Self-supplies
	Ferniehurst	Council supply (Parnassus) and self-supplies
	Hawkswood	Council supply (Parnassus) and self-supplies
	Parnassus	Council supply (Parnassus) and self-supplies
	Kaiwara	Council supply (Kaiwara) and self-supplies
	Cheviot town	Council supply (Cheviot)
	Gore Bay	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Port Robinson	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Manuka Bay	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Hurunui Mouth	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Mina	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Phoebe	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Spotswood	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Caverhill	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Domett	Council supply (Cheviot) and self-supplies
	Blythe	Council supply (Blythe)

Table 3-1 Overview of drinking water provision by community (continued from previous page)

Locality (SA2 block)	Communities identified within block	Overview of how drinking water is supplied
Upper Hurunui	Hurunui / Hurunui Bluff	Council supplies (Waikari Basin & Lower Waitohi) and community supply (non-Council)
	Medbury	Council supply (Waikari Basin) and self-supplies
	Waikari Valley	Council supply (Lower Waitohi)
	Waikari town	Council supply (Waikari Basin)
	Hawarden town	Council supply (Waikari Basin)
	Horsley Downs	Council supply (Lower Waitohi) and self-supplies
	Masons Flat	Council supply (Waikari Basin) and self-supplies
	The Peaks	Council supply (Waikari Basin) and self-supplies
	Pyramid Valley	Council supply (Waikari Basin) and self-supplies
	Virginia	Self-supplies
Omihi	Omihi	Council supply (Lower Waitohi) and self-supplies
	Waipara town	Council supply (Waipara)
	Karaka	Council supply (Lower Waitohi) and self-supplies
	Greta Valley	Council supply (Hurunui #1) and self-supplies
	Scargill	Council supply (Hurunui #1) and self-supplies
	Spye	Council supply (Hurunui #1) and self-supplies
	Motunau Beach	Council supply (Hurunui #1) and self-supplies
	Napenape	Council supply (Hurunui #1) and self-supplies
Balcairn	Amberley rural	Council supply (Amberley), Community supply (non-Council) and self-supplies

4. Communities receiving a drinking water service from Council / KHWS

The Hurunui district is serviced by 16 drinking water supplies that provide reticulated water to communities and surrounding rural areas. These communities are concentrated in the eastern and central areas of the district. The district boundary is shown in Figure 4-2. The areas supplied by Council/KHWS drinking water supplies are shown in Figure 4-3 and 4-4. Some non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water services, domestic self-suppliers and shared domestic suppliers are located within the identified reticulation areas.

The total population supplied by Council/KHWS managed schemes in the Hurunui District is approximately 9,360 persons (sum of AMP figures, excluding Ashley Rural water supply).

Table 4-1 Communities receiving water from Council / KHWS drinking water supply

Community	Drinking Water Supply	Reticulation length (km)	Population supplied (AMP)
Amberley, Amberley Beach, Leithfield, Leithfield Beach, Broomfield, Balcairn, Glasnevin	Amberley	41.5	2,486
Balcairn (a small number of properties north of Ashworths Bush Rd and communities in Waimakariri District)	Ashley	680.8	10*
Rotherham, Amuri, Mouse Point	Amuri Plains	77.7	699
Balmoral	Balmoral	51.8	273
Blythe	Blythe	27.0	42
Cheviot, Gore Bay, Port Robinson, Manuka Bay, Hurunui Mouth, Domett, Mina, Phoebe, Caverhill, Spotswood	Cheviot	198.9	888
Culverden	Culverden	10.5	366
Hanmer Springs	Hanmer Springs	56.7	948
Hawarden, Waikari, The Peaks, Medbury, Masons Flat, Virginia, Horsley Downs, Pyramid Valley, Weka Pass	Hawarden–Waikari	73.9	753
Scargill, Greta Valley, Motunau Beach, Spye, Napenape	Hurunui #1	318.0	681
Kaiwara, Leamington	Kaiwara	95.7	129
Omihi, Karaka, Waikari Valley	Lower Waitohi	127.0	315
Parnassus, Hawkswoord, Ferniehurst	Parnassus	70.3	210
Waiau Rural, Leslie Hills, Emu Plains	Waiau Rural	112.2	435
Waiau town	Waiau Town	9.2	255
Waipara	Waipara	7.7	285

*Registered population for Ashley Water Supply is 5,832, however the vast majority of the scheme supplies properties in Waimakariri District

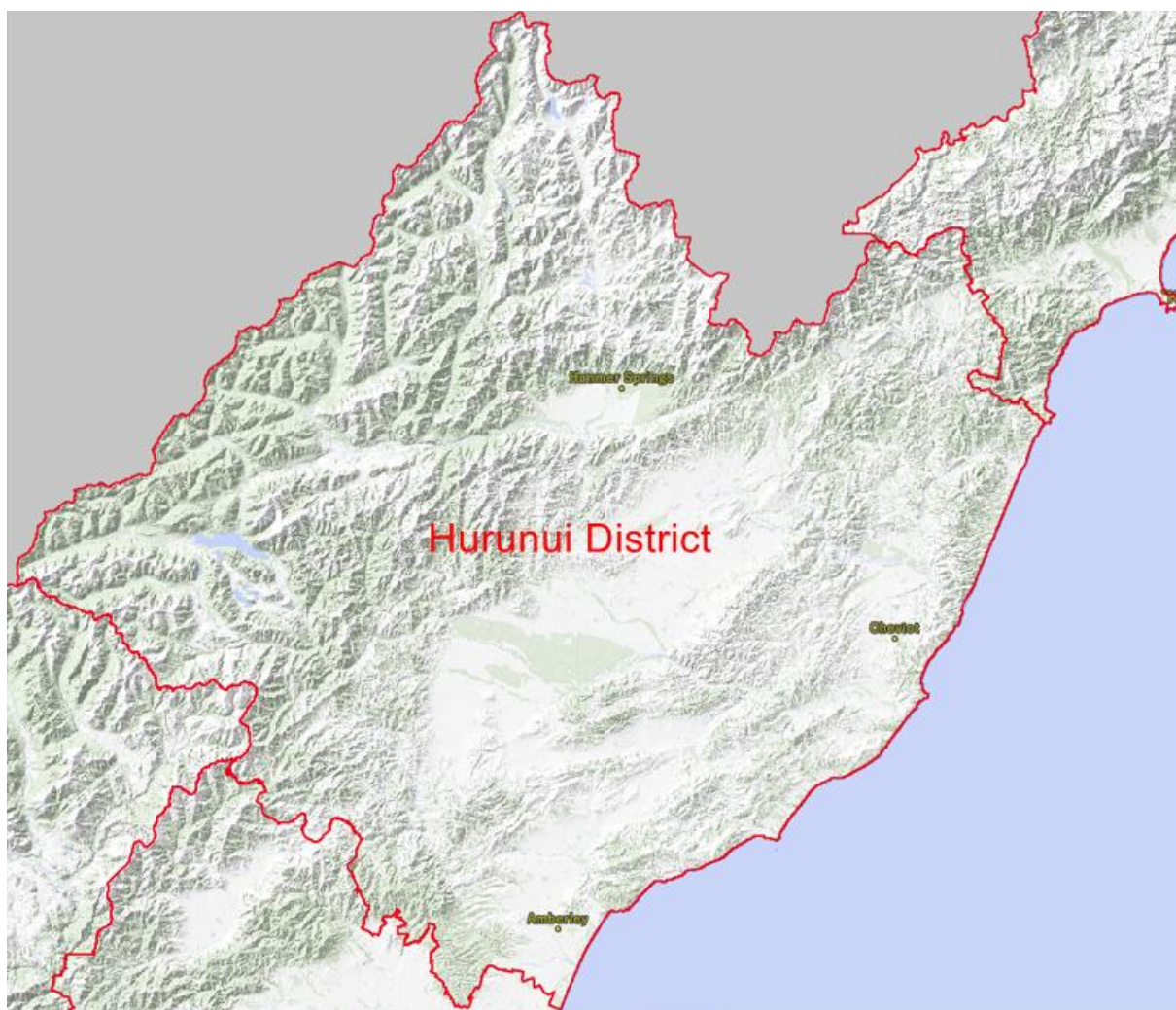


Figure 4-2 Hurunui District Council boundary

5. Council / KHWS drinking water services – nature of service and community characteristics

Council/KHWS managed drinking water services are delivered through urban (on-demand, unrestricted) and rural (restricted flow) schemes. There are 16 schemes; 26 sources (bore, infiltration gallery, and river weir); 18 treatment plants; 68 pump stations (excluding treatment plants); and approximately 2,216 km of pipeline (this includes 680km of pipe in the Ashley water reticulation network that supplies communities in Waimakariri district). Treatment methods include coagulation, filtration, UV disinfection and chlorination.

Treatment system and approach is varied by source risk profile and different approaches to drinking water compliance are applied dependant upon population supplied, which may also impact the treatment systems installed. Figure 5-3 summarises key characteristics of each supply. Figure 5-4 summarises key characteristics of the communities served by each supply.

Township schemes are metered. Rural properties are typically supplied via a restricted connection which provides a trickle feed of water into the property tank, with the flow rate determined by the volume of water (number of units) purchased by the property owner.

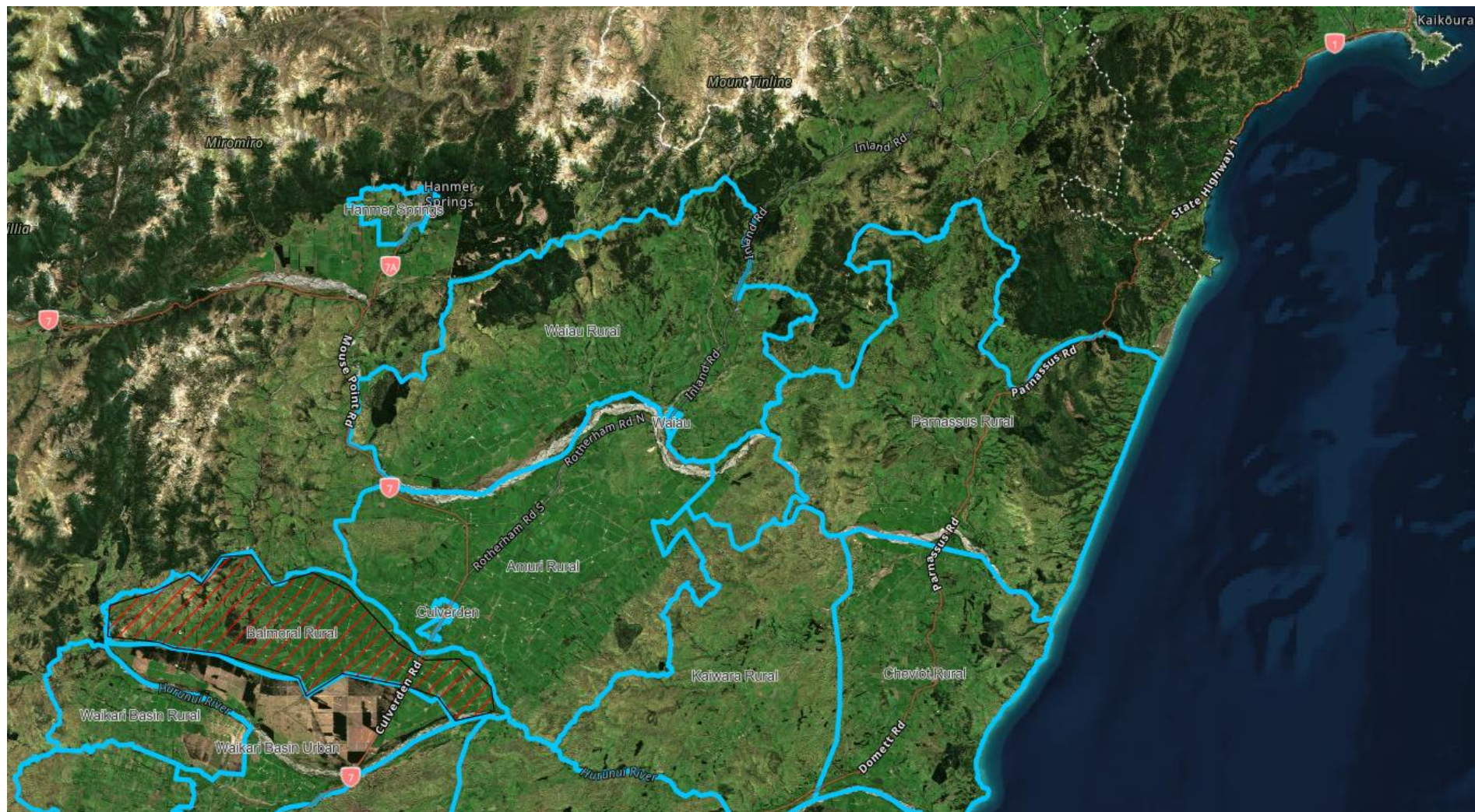


Figure 5-1 Drinking Water Scheme Boundaries – Northern area

Assessment of Communities Access to Drinking Water_v1.0_July 2026

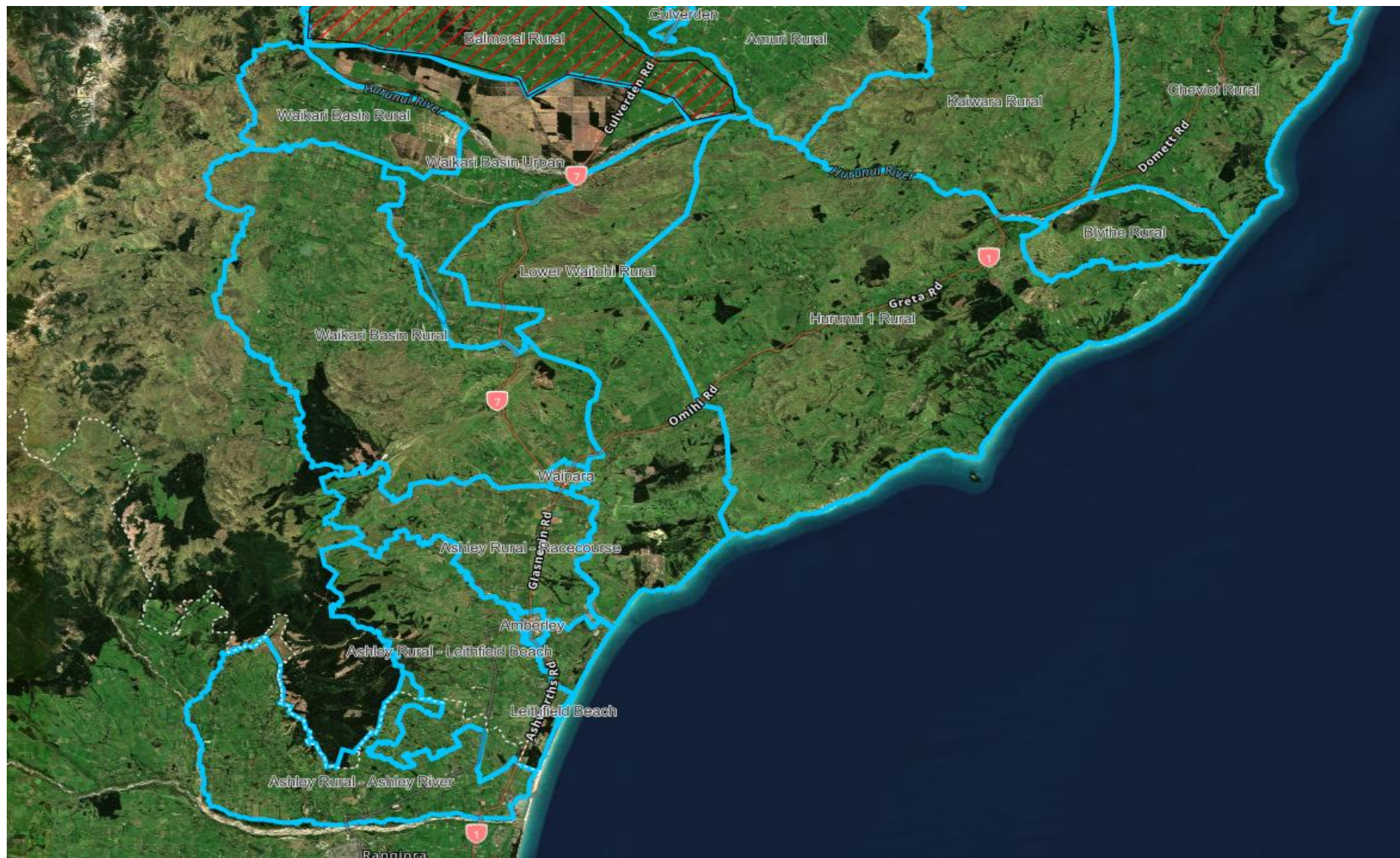


Figure 5-2 Drinking Water Scheme Boundaries – Southern area

Table 5-3 Council / KHWS drinking water supply characteristics

Supply	Network size classification	Sources	Treatment	Distribution characteristics
Amberley	Large	Deep bore(s)	UV / Chlorination	On-demand (townships) and restricted connections. Residential, rural, commercial and light industrial connections.
Amuri	Large	Shallow bore(s)	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Rotherham township and surrounding rural area. Residential, rural and commercial connections. Significant % stock water use.
Ashley	Large	Shallow bore(s)	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Almost exclusively supplies properties in Waimakariri district. Residential, rural and commercial connections.
Balmoral	Medium	Shallow bore + river weir	Chlorination	All restricted connections. Supply currently under boil water notice due to not having a protozoa barrier. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Blythe	Small	Shallow bore	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Cheviot	Large	Shallow bore(s)	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Cheviot township and surrounding rural area. Residential, rural and commercial connections. Rural area has significant stock water use.
Culverden	Medium	Deep bore	Filter / UV / Chlorination	On-demand, Culverden township. Residential and commercial connections.
Hanmer Springs	Large	River weir + infiltration gallery	Coagulation / Filter / UV / Chlorination	On-demand and restricted connections. High tourism area causing significant variability in population and water demand. Residential, rural and commercial connections.
Hurunui #1	Large	Infiltration gallery	Coagulation / Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Kaiwara	Medium	Infiltration gallery	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Lower Waitohi	Medium	Shallow bore	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Parnassus	Medium	Shallow bore	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Waiau Town	Medium	Shallow bore	Filter / UV / Chlorination	On-demand, Waiau township. Residential and commercial connections.
Waiau Rural	Medium	Shallow bore	Filter / UV / Chlorination	All restricted connections. Residential and rural connections. Significant % stock water use.
Waikari Basin	Large	Med. Depth bore	UV / Chlorination	On demand (townships) and restricted connections. Residential, rural and commercial connections
Waipara	Medium	Med. Depth bore	UV / Chlorination	On-demand, Waipara township. Residential and commercial connections.

Figure 5-4 Community characteristics including vulnerable populations

Supply	Community characteristics
Amberley	Amberley is predominantly a rural service town. Main service hub for Hurunui District, surrounded by farms and lifestyle blocks. Connections supplying vulnerable people: school, preschool, medical centre and aged-care facilities. Growing community, within commuting distance to Christchurch.
Amuri	Rotherham township and surrounding farms in the Amuri Basin. Predominantly agricultural, focused on sheep, beef and dairy farming. Connections supplying vulnerable people: school.
Ashley	The small number of connections on the Ashley water supply that are within Hurunui district are lifestyle blocks.
Balmoral	Small, dispersed rural community in the Amuri Basin. Agricultural, focused on sheep, beef and increasingly dairy farming.
Blythe	Small, dispersed rural community. Agricultural, focused on sheep and beef farming with some forestry and large-scale hill country operations.
Cheviot	Cheviot is a rural service town, supporting sheep, beef and dairy farming. Connections supplying vulnerable people: school, preschool, medical centre. Surrounding farming communities. Coastal communities of Gore Bay / Port Robinson / Manuka Bay characterised by holiday homes / camping ground.
Culverden	Culverden is an inland rural service town. The main service hub for the Amuri Basin. The Culverden supply is for the township only. Connections supplying vulnerable people: school, preschools.
Hanmer Springs	Hanmer Springs is a tourism-driven alpine resort town with a relatively small permanent population and a significant transient population driven by large visitor influx at weekends and holiday periods. Holiday homes, motels, lodges and camping grounds are a feature of the community. Growing community. Connections supplying vulnerable people: school, preschool, medical centre
Hurunui #1	Greta Valley and Scargill valley are small dispersed rural communities, predominantly sheep and beef farming with some lifestyle blocks. Motunau Beach is a small coastal settlement, strongly tied to the sea/fishing and holiday use. Motunau Beach has large population fluctuations during holidays, with a large proportion of properties being holiday homes.
Kaiwara	Small, dispersed, inland rural community. Agricultural, focused on sheep and beef farming. There is no central township or built-up area in this locality.
Lower Waitohi	Small, dispersed, inland rural community. Agricultural, focused on sheep and beef farming and wine growing in the rural area close to Waipara. There is no central township or built-up area in this locality.
Parnassus	Parnassus is a small village located on SH1, providing a stop-over point between Cheviot and Kaikoura with limited roadside services (fuel station / café). The surrounding rural areas of Spotwood, Hawkswood and Ferniehurst are agricultural, focused on sheep and beef farming.
Waiau Town	Waiau is a small service town. The Waiau township supply is for the town only. Connections supplying vulnerable people include: school, preschool.
Waiau Rural	Small, dispersed rural community. Agricultural, focused on sheep and beef farming with some dairy and mixed farming, and large-scale hill country operations.
Waikari Basin	Hawarden and Waikari (supplied on demand) are small rural service towns, supporting sheep, beef, cropping and pig farming. Stable/slowly growing population. Connections supplying vulnerable people: Waikari Hospital (palliative and aged care), schools (Waikari School and Hurunui College in Hawarden), medical centre, preschool. Restricted component of supply to surrounding low density rural areas.
Waipara	Waipara is a small rural township with a slowly growing population. It is a rural lifestyle focused community rather than a rural service town. The water supply serves the township only. Connections supplying vulnerable people: school.

6. Council / KHWS Drinking Water Services - Assessment of adequacy of drinking water quantity (current and future)

The Water Supply AMP identifies growth and increasing demand as key issues, noting constraints on availability of new high-quality sources in some areas. Natural hazard resilience risks (earthquake, drought, significant rainfall events) and climate change impacts (increased peak demand, source reliability) are also identified as material.

The AMP improvement programme includes demand management (smart metering, pricing, restrictions, leak reduction, hydraulic modelling) and supply-side investigations for new sources in growth areas. Based on available operational data, the adequacy of current supply is considered generally satisfactory across Council/KHWS managed schemes, with specific capacity constraints identified for individual schemes to be addressed through the AMP capital programme. Single source water is a risk for a number of supplies. Due to the rural nature of the district, water demand in non-township schemes is heavily influenced by stocking rates and rural land use patterns.

Figure 6-1 Current and future quantity assessment and risks

Supply	Quantity assessment and risks
Amberley	Additional quantity required for future due to high population growth. Risk(s): Access to high yield sources with water quality that is economic to treat. Groundwater in over-allocated zone.
Amuri	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): Source water has low resiliency to natural hazards due to location in floodplain.
Ashley	Adequate quantity, resource consent requires water conservation measures linked to river flow, typically required each summer. Risk(s): single source water
Balmoral	Adequate quantity.
Blythe	Additional quantity required; under pressure due to consent volume limitation. Risk(s): single source water risk.
Cheviot	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): limited storage.
Culverden	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): single source water
Hanmer Springs	Adequate quantity from source but treatment plant at capacity during peak holiday demand and storage under pressure. High population growth. Additional capacity required to meet future demand.
Hurunui #1	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): single source water
Kaiwara	Additional quantity required; under pressure due to consent volume limitation. Risk(s): single source water
Lower Waitohi	Additional quantity required; under pressure due to consent volume limitation. Risk(s): single source water
Parnassus	Additional quantity required; under pressure due to consent volume limitation. Risk(s): single source water
Waiau Town	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): single source water
Waiau Rural	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): single source water
Waikari Basin	Adequate quantity.
Waipara	Adequate quantity. Risk(s): single source water

7. Council / KHWS Drinking Water Services - Safety and quality of drinking water

7.1 Bacteria and Protozoa

Council's Annual Report measures drinking water safety against criteria set by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). This determines performance against microbiological and protozoa rules set by the Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai. Table 7-1 summarises the performance that was achieved by Council managed drinking water supplies in 2024/25. Water treatment plant upgrades were underway at several plants during 2024/25. This is a significant factor affecting compliance, with compliance rates expected to increase in future years.

7.2 Chemicals

All Council / KHWS drinking water supplies are tested for specified chemicals in accordance with the requirements (type and testing frequency) of the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules. Testing determines the concentration of the chemical against Maximum Acceptable Values (MAV) set by the Water Services (Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand) Regulations 2022.

Source waters: No chemicals $\geq 100\%$ of the Maximum Acceptable Value (MAV)

Treatment plants: No chemicals $\geq 100\%$ of the Maximum Acceptable Value (MAV)

Distribution zones: No chemicals $\geq 100\%$ of the Maximum Acceptable Value (MAV)

Results of chemical testing are available on the Hurunui District Council website.

7.2.1 Nitrate

Nitrate from human activities (e.g. onsite wastewater management systems), agriculture and horticulture can leach into groundwater, where elevated concentrations can make the water unsafe for drinking, particularly for high-risk groups. The risk of nitrate in Canterbury groundwater is a well-studied issue because groundwater is extensively utilised for drinking water supply and because the region has permeable soils and shallow aquifers, nitrate can move quickly into bores utilised for drinking water supply.

Results of nitrate testing are available on the Hurunui District Council website. The MAV is not exceeded at any Council managed supply.

7.3 Cyanobacteria / Cyanotoxins

Cyanobacteria (often called toxic algae or blue-green algae) are a water safety risk in Canterbury and other parts of New Zealand where surface water is utilised for drinking water supply. Cyanobacteria are naturally occurring microscopic organisms. Under the right conditions they can multiply quickly into blooms and release cyanotoxins into the water. Sources at risk of cyanobacteria bloom are monitored during the high-risk period. To date, no elevated cyanotoxins have been detected in Council / KHWS drinking water.

7.4 Drinking water safety plans and source water risk management plans

Council / KHWS drinking water supplies have Drinking Water Safety and Source Water Risk Management Plans lodged with the Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai and implemented, as required under Sections 30 to 31 of the Water Services Act 2021. These plans provide further risk management controls to mitigate water safety risks.

Table 7-1 Council managed drinking water supplies – Compliance against Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules (DIA Drinking Water Safety Performance Measure) - 1 July 2024- 30 June 2025

Supply	Treatment Plant		Distribution	Comments
	Bacterial	Protozoa	Bacterial	
Amberley	92.8 – 100% partially met	92.8 – 100% partially met	100% all met	Multiple treatment plants. Plant upgraded during 2024/25. Measure not met prior to upgrade.
Amuri	100% all met	100% all met	97.3% almost met	
Ashley	100% all met	100% all met	100% all met	
Balmoral	95.9% almost met	54.5% partially met	100% all met	Protozoa barrier required for this supply. Under Boil Water Notice until barrier in place
Blythe	58% partially met	58.0% partially met	100% all met	Plant upgraded during 2024/25. Measure not met prior to upgrade.
Cheviot	74.5% partially met	74.5% partially met	100% all met	Plant upgraded during 2024/25. Measure not met prior to upgrade.
Culverden	100% all met	100% all met	100% all met	
Hanmer Springs	99.9% almost met	99.9% almost met	100% all met	
Hurunui #1	33.4% partially met	33.4% partially met	100% all met	Plant upgraded during 2024/25. Measure not met prior to upgrade.
Kaiwara	8.2% partially met	8.2% partially met	100% all met	Plant upgraded during 2024/25. Measure not met prior to upgrade.
Lower Waitohi	95.4% partially met	100% all met	100% all met	
Parnassus	99.9% almost met	99.9% almost met	100% all met	
Waiau Town	97.9% almost met	100% all met	100% all met	
Waiau Rural	49.6% partially met	49.6% partially met	100% all met	Plant upgraded during 2024/25. Measure not met prior to upgrade
Waikari Basin	100% all met	100% all met	100% all met	
Waipara	100% all met	100% all met	100% all met	

8. Other public health risks

Other public health risks relevant to drinking water safety or access in the Hurunui District include:

- **Natural hazard continuity risks:** Earthquake (including Kaikōura fault proximity), drought, and significant rainfall/flooding events may disrupt supply, contaminate sources, or damage infrastructure. Material risk for multiple drinking water supplies, including non-Council / non-KHWS private network supplies and self-supplies. Windstorm events in the past 5 years have had significant impacts on supply continuity due to widespread power outages and damage to infrastructure.
- **High rainfall/turbidity events:** Operational water quality risks during rainfall events are well-documented for surface water and infiltration gallery intake sources. Challenging raw water quality has the potential to exceed the performance capabilities of the treatment plant.
- **Firefighting supply adequacy:** Reticulation pressure or storage constraints in some smaller schemes may limit firefighting capability.
- **Emerging hazards:** Emerging contaminants or hazards may create risks to drinking water treatment systems that were not factored into the treatment system design

9. Consequences of loss of access / deficient service and plan for ongoing access

Loss of access to safe drinking water has immediate public health consequences: inability to maintain personal and food hygiene, increased risk of waterborne illness, and in extreme cases, risk to life. Consequences are heightened for remote communities with no alternative supply, for critical facilities (medical centres, schools, aged care), and for vulnerable populations. Reticulated supply loss also reduces firefighting capability, a significant public safety risk in this rural district.

9.1 Ongoing access plan — Council / KHWS drinking water services

Ongoing access to safe drinking water from Council / KHWS supplies will be supported through:

- (h) Continuation of planned capital and operational programmes in the Water Supply AMP 2024–2034 / Water Services Strategy
- (i) Demand management: smart metering rollout, water restrictions, pricing signals, and active leak reduction;
- (j) Ongoing compliance monitoring and incident response aligned to Drinking Water Safety Plans;
- (k) Transfer of operational delivery to KHWS CCO on 1 July 2026 under the Joint WSDP, with HDC retaining the s69 territorial authority obligation; and
- (l) Integration of water supply resilience planning with the Canterbury Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group Plan.

9.2 Balmoral Drinking Water Supply — Protozoa barrier pathway

Balmoral is identified as an exception in relation to protozoa protection requirements under the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules and Water Services Act 2021.

Upgrading to full protozoa compliance under conventional centralised treatment approaches may be disproportionate to the supply's small customer base. Council has been engaging with the Balmoral community and has produced options for treatment solutions, including adoption of the Mixed use Rural Agricultural Acceptable Solution.

A final decision on the compliance pathway will be made by the KHWS board. The supply is under a boil water notice advisory until a compliant solution has been implemented.

9.3 Contingency and alternative supply planning

Council (and from 1 July 2026, KHWS) maintains operational response capability for supply interruptions, including: tanker supply protocols for emergency potable water delivery; alternative source access where available; scheme interconnection where technically feasible; and linkages to the Canterbury CDEM Group Plan for emergency water supply points and response coordination.

10. Private supplies and non-reticulated communities (self-supplies)

The Water Services Authority Taumata Arowai released information it held on publicly registered drinking water supplies and from laboratory notifications associated with other community supplies that are not currently registered (current to May 2026). This data was very limited for the Hurunui district, as at the latest release (2026) only two non-Council / non-KHWS supplies were registered with a further one in the process of registration. Taumata Arowai have extended the deadline for pre-existing supplies to register to November 2028.

Domestic self-suppliers and shared domestic self-suppliers providing drinking water to less than 25 people are not required to be registered under the Water Services Act, however the scope of this assessment includes communities that do not receive drinking water services i.e. are self-supplied regardless of population served by the self-supply.

The Council rating database, licensing database and staff knowledge of non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies was utilised to provide further identification of drinking water provision and access district-wide. The Council rating database was queried to identify properties that had a building that were not being charged a water rate and therefore likely to have alternative arrangements for drinking water provision or may not have drinking water provided at the property.

Knowledge of non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water providers and self-suppliers is generally poor and therefore a very limited summary can currently be provided for the unregistered supplies, with no assessment of the source, safety/quality, quantity or public health risks. In most cases insufficient data is available to determine supply type. Further data is expected to become available following the requirement for non-Council water service providers to register by 15 November 2028. In addition to the 3 registered non-Council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies the assessment identified a further 18 drinking water providers and self-supplies, these are listed in Table 10-1. At this time, the supplies not currently registered have been identified by code until information in relation to the supply can be verified.

Figure 10-3 displays the geographical location of non-council / non-KHWS drinking water providers (either community suppliers or self-suppliers where information supports potential non-domestic use).

Figure 10-4 displays the location of buildings that may be self-suppliers due to there being no Council water rate charged.

Table 10-1 Summary of registered community (non-council / non-KHWS) supplies by SA2 block locality and community

Locality (SA2 block)	Area / Community	Supply	Supply Type / or description	Comments on supply adequacy and quality ¹
Amuri	Mt Lyford	Mt Lyford Ski Village Registration code: MTL001	Networked supply	Registered population: 49 Community Type: Village Quantity Adequacy: Not covered by registration details Water Quality/Safety: Registration states that protozoa and bacteria barriers are not applicable. This may be due to the supply adopting an Acceptable Solution (therefore Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules do not apply). Treatment plant details indicate no filtration, UV or chlorination. Acceptable Solution Status: Yes (Spring or Bore Supply <500 people) Drinking Water Safety Plan Status: Not lodged Other: No notifications of MAV exceedances or drinking water advisories
Hanmer Range	Lewis Pass	Amuri Ski Field (a.k.a. Hanmer Springs Ski Area) Registration code: AMU002 (registration in progress)	Self-supplied building	Registered population: 30 Community Type: Ski field Quantity Adequacy: Not covered by registration details Water Quality/Safety: Lacks bacterial treatment and no information on protozoa barrier Acceptable Solution Status: None Drinking Water Safety Plan Status: Not lodged Other: No notifications of MAV exceedances or drinking water advisories
Upper Hurunui	Hurunui Bluff	Hurunui Bluff Road Residents Co-operative Registration code: HUR007	Community Drinking Water Station ²	Registered population: No population figure in registration Community Type: Other Quantity Adequacy: Not covered by registration details Water Quality/Safety: Registration states supply has bacterial and protozoa barrier. Treatment details indicate cartridge filtration, and UV disinfection. Acceptable Solution Status: Not applicable Drinking Water Safety Plan Status: Not lodged Other: No notifications of MAV exceedances or drinking water advisories

¹ Data source: Taumata Arowai data release ('Release 2'). Data has not been independently verified by Hurunui District Council

² The registered supply type category appears to be incorrect. Likely to be a networked supply.

Table 10-2 Summary of other non-council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies identified (continued on next page)

These may be community, commercial, domestic self-supply or shared domestic self-supply

Locality (SA2 block)	Area / Community	Supply (assigned code by HDC / KHWS)	Supply Type / or description	Quantity Adequacy	Water Quality / Safety	Public Health Risks		
Hanmer Range	Hanmer Springs Rural	001	Camping ground / cabins	Inadequate data to assess	In September 2025 a shiga-toxin producing E.coli outbreak of waterborne illness was linked to the camping ground. E.coli detected in drinking water. Insufficient treatment barriers and challenging source water following rain. Boil water advisory in place until the camping ground connects to Council supply.			
		002	Commercial accommodation	Inadequate data to assess				
		003	Farming buildings	Inadequate data to assess				
		004	Commercial accommodation	Inadequate data to assess				
	Boyle Village	005	Camping ground / cabins	Inadequate data to assess				
	Lewis Pass	006	Community or Shared Domestic	Inadequate data to assess				
Amuri	Balmoral	007	Camping ground	Inadequate data to assess				
Parnassus	Claverley	008	Community or Shared Domestic	Inadequate data to assess				
	Conway Flat	009	Commercial accommodation / event venue	Inadequate data to assess				

Table 10-2 Summary of other non-council drinking water supplies identified (continued from previous page)

Locality (SA2 block)	Area / Community	Supply	Supply Type / or description	Quantity Adequacy	Water Quality / Safety	Public Health Risks
Upper Hurunui	Medbury	010	Farming workplace	Inadequate data to assess	Taumata Arowai data shows 2 x E.coli present from testing in 2022, however unclear if this was raw water or drinking water	
Omihi	Omihi	011	Commercial food / wine	Inadequate data to assess		
		012	Commercial food/wine	Inadequate data to assess	Taumata Arowai data shows elevated Lead result in 2024.	
Balcairn	Amberley Rural	013	Community or Shared Domestic	Inadequate data to assess		
	Broomfield	014	Food processing / workplace	Inadequate data to assess		
	Glasnevin / Waipara Rural	015	Camping ground / cabins	Inadequate data to assess		
		016	Community or Shared Domestic	Inadequate data to assess		
		017	Commercial food / wine	Inadequate data to assess		
		018	Food processing / workplace	Inadequate data to assess		
Amberley	Amberley Town	No community (non-Council) supplies or non-domestic self-suppliers identified. Urban area is covered by Council supply 'Amberley'.				
Ashley Forest	Ashley Forest	No community (non-Council) supplies or non-domestic self-suppliers identified. Buildings not rated for water are present providing indication of potential self-supply.				

Table 10-2 Summary of other non-council drinking water supplies identified (continued from previous page)

Locality (SA2 block)	Area / Community	Supply	Supply Type / or description	Quantity Adequacy	Water Quality / Safety	Public Health Risks
Hanmer Springs	Hanmer Springs Town	No community (non-Council) supplies identified. Urban area is covered by Council supply 'Hanmer Springs'				
District wide		Buildings not rated for water are located throughout the district, concentrated along SH1 and SH7 and in populated areas with no Council / KHWS reticulated network (Conway Flat, Claverley, Inland Road, Stag and Spey and western remote parts of the district). These buildings could be domestic self-supply / shared domestic self-supply or a cluster supplied by an unidentified community/commercial supply. Inadequate data to assess supply type or risks. Taumata Arowai's data release included an E. coli detection at a property on Mt Paul Rd, Emu Plains. This is a self-supplied farming property. It is expected that the likelihood of bacterial contamination at self-supplied properties is higher, due to risks associated with private management of drinking water treatment systems. Experience across New Zealand indicates that self-suppliers are also less likely to have effective treatment barriers installed.				

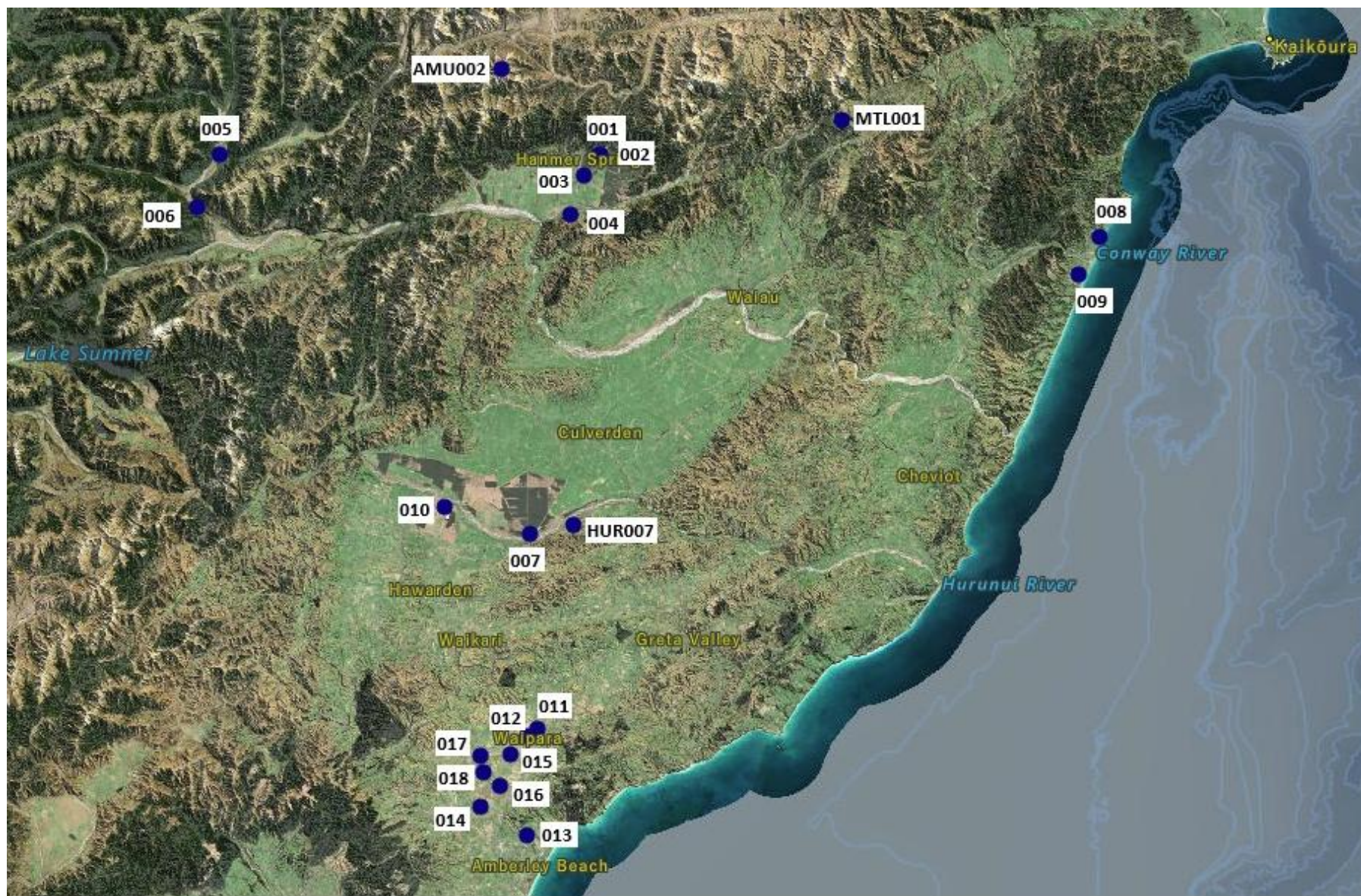
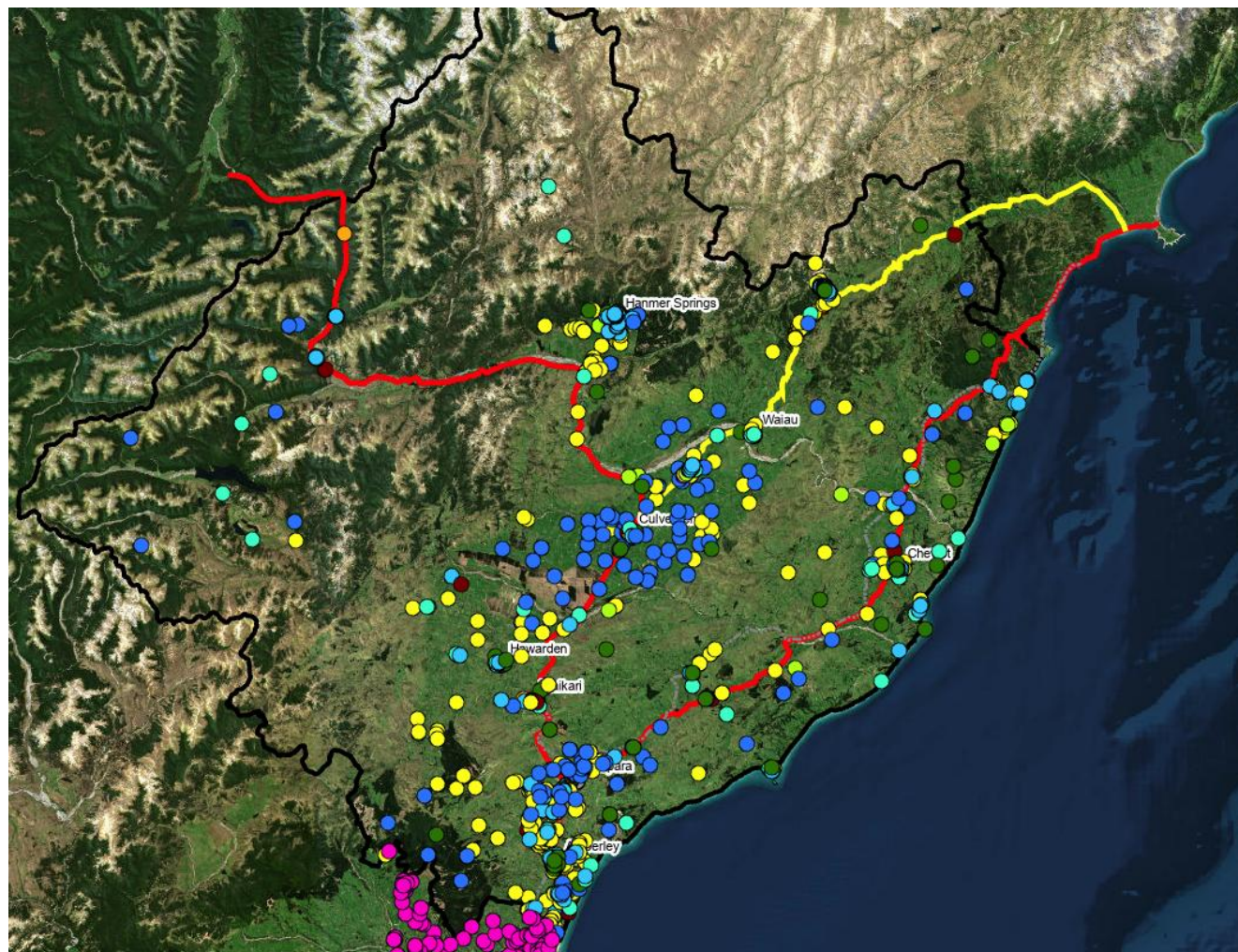


Figure 10-3 Location of Non-council / non-KHWS drinking water supplies identified by assessment



Rating Use

- Commercial
- Community Services
- Industrial
- Lifestyle
- Multi-use at the primary level
- Recreational
- Residential
- Rural Industry
- Undefined
- Utility Services

Note: The 'undefined' category indicates buildings not charged a water rate within the Ashley Rural water supply area (supplying properties in Waimakariri District)

Figure 10-4 Buildings not rated for water

11. Opportunities for the public to raise concerns

Section 69(4) requires Council to provide opportunities for any person to alert the territorial authority to concerns about a community's access to drinking water at any time. Any person may raise concerns by contacting Hurunui District Council through:

Channel	Contact details
Phone	03 314 8816 (Cheviot Freephone: 03 319 8812) (Amuri & Hanmer Springs Freephone: 03 315 8400)
Email	info@hurunui.govt.nz
Online service request	https://www.hurunui.govt.nz/council/contact
In person	Hurunui District Council, 66 Carters Road, Amberley 7410

Where a concern identifies a potential access deficiency or unassessed risk, it will be escalated for reassessment of the relevant community under s69(3).

12. Assessment cycle and review

Council must conduct its first assessment by 1 July 2026 and subsequent assessments at least every three years, or earlier if it becomes aware of concerns about a community's access to drinking water services.

Milestone	Date	Responsible party
First assessment conducted by Council	By 1 July 2026	HDC Council / CE
Assessment submitted to Taumata Arowai	As soon as practicable after 1 July 2026	HDC COO
Assessment made publicly available (s70)	As soon as practicable after 1 July 2026	HDC Communications / IT
Transfer of operational water services to KHWS CCO	1 July 2026	HDC / KHWS
Second assessment completed	By 1 July 2029 (latest)	HDC (TA obligation retained post-transfer)
Earlier reassessment trigger	As required (s69(3))	HDC (with KHWS operational input)

While operational responsibility transfers to KHWS on 1 July 2026, the section 69 assessment obligation remains with HDC as the territorial authority. HDC will rely on KHWS for operational data and compliance reporting to support future assessment cycles. This data-sharing

dependency should be formalised in the KHWS service agreement or shareholder arrangements.

13. Submission and publication

On adoption, Council must: (a) make this assessment publicly available; (b) provide Taumata Arowai with a copy in electronic form; and (c) notify Taumata Arowai of any suppliers failing or at risk of failing Water Services Act 2021 obligations, and any other matters of concern arising from the assessment. Refer Section 70 of the Act.

13.1 Matters requiring notification to Taumata Arowai

On the basis of this assessment, matters that may require notification to Taumata Arowai include:

- Balmoral scheme: exception in relation to protozoa protection requirements. – This has already been notified and HDC / KHWS are actively engaged with Taumata Arowai on a solution pathway.
- Commercial camping ground in Hanmer Springs : Drinking water outbreak and repeat E. coli exceedances demonstrate a significant risk to public health exists. Taumata Arowai have been actively involved with this supply, with the suppliers issued a direction. This matter is now resolved, with the camping ground connected to the KHWS Hanmer Springs community drinking water supply.
- Supply registration – whilst this assessment has identified 18 drinking water supplies that may required registration under the Water Services Act, Taumata Arowai have deferred the requirement for these supplies to register until 15 November 2028.
- Hurunui Bluff Road Residents Co-operative (HUR007) – registration details 'community drinking water station' may be incorrect and should be confirmed by Taumata Arowai.

Appendix A — Section 69 Content Checklist

Requirement	Section
s69(2)(a): Identify each community receiving a drinking water service	3
s69(2)(b): Describe nature of existing drinking water services	4 & 10
s69(2)(c): Describe community characteristics	5 & 10
s69(2)(d): Assess current/future adequacy of drinking water quantity	6 & 10
s69(2)(e): Safety and quality using Taumata Arowai information	7 & 10
s69(2)(f): Identify and assess other public health risks	8
s69(2)(g): Consequences + ongoing access plan	9
s69(4): Provide opportunities for public to raise concerns	11
s69(5): Scope includes non-served and non-reticulated	10

Appendix B — Document Control

Field	Detail
Document title	Section 69 Assessment of Communities' Access to Drinking Water — Hurunui District
Document owner	Chief Operations Officer
Approver	Chief Executive Officer
Version	V1.0_July 2026
Status	Final
Distribution	Council, KHWS, Taumata Arowai, Public
Review cycle	3 years (next due by 1 July 2029 at latest), or earlier under s69(3)
Storage location	Hurunui\3 Waters\Regulatory\Local Govt (Water Services) Act\Reports