

Resource Consent Application Form 48

Harvest of sphagnum moss



This application is made under Section 88 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Phone: 0800 474 082

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IMPORTANT NOTES TO THE APPLICANT

Consent for harvesting sphagnum moss is required under Clause 49 of the [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards for Freshwater\) Regulations 2020](#).

This form is to be used for the harvest of sphagnum moss from a natural wetland that requires consent.

Ensure that you complete this Application Form 48 and Resource Consent Application Form 1 in full.

Harvest operation: In relation to a harvest of sphagnum moss, means the person who is responsible for the organisation and operation of the harvest

Natural wetland: means a wetland (as defined in the Act) that is not:

- a. a wetland constructed by artificial means (unless it was constructed to offset impacts on, or restore, an existing or former natural wetland); or
- b. a geothermal wetland; or
- c. any area of improved pasture that, at the commencement date, is dominated by (that is more than 50% of) exotic pasture species and is subject to temporary rain-derived water pooling

Please refer to the [Wetlands Factsheet](#) for additional information about the harvesting of sphagnum moss.

For the consent application to be processed efficiently in the minimum time and at minimum cost, it is critical that as much relevant information as possible is included with the application. If all the necessary information is not entered on the form or supplied with the application then Otago Regional Council may return your application, request further information, or publicly notify your application. This will lead to delays in the processing of your application and may increase processing costs. This application form, when properly completed, should provide an adequate "Assessment of Effects on the Environment" (AEE) where the adverse effects of a proposal are not significant. However, this can only be determined on application.

You may wish to provide a separate AEE using this form as template.

PART A: GENERAL

A.1

Is this application (tick which applies):

- For a NEW consent to harvest sphagnum moss?
- To REPLACE a current consent to harvest sphagnum moss?

Current consent number: _____

Expiry date: _____

A.2

What is the reason you require consent?

If you don't meet the criteria below, your sphagnum moss harvesting activity may be permitted under Clause 48 of the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater.

- The harvesting activity was occurring in the area between 1 January 2010 and 2 September 2020, but:
- works will not occur in accordance with a sphagnum moss harvesting plan; or
 - the harvest operator will not assess the natural wetland at the end of the harvest in accordance with Schedule 4 of the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater; or
 - the natural wetland assessment form set out in [Schedule 4](#) is not provided to the consent authority within 20 working days of the harvest ending
- The harvesting activity was not occurring in the area between 1 January 2010 and 2 September 2020

PART B: LOCATION OF THE ACTIVITY

B.1

Location of natural wetland where sphagnum moss will be harvested

Name of landowner(s):

Address/Location:

How big is the property where the wetland is located?

_____ hectares

	<p>Legal description(s) of the property (as shown on Certificate of Title) <i>Please attach a current (less than 3 months old) Certificate of Title to the application.</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>B.2</p>	<p>Sphagnum moss to be harvested</p> <p>How big is the wetland where moss will be harvested?</p> <p>_____ square metres</p> <p>How much of the wetland will be used for moss harvesting?</p> <p><i>Where multiple areas within the wetland will be used, please provide the size of each area, as well as the total area.</i></p> <p>_____ square metres</p>
<p>B.3</p>	<p>Map or aerial image</p> <p>Please provide a map or aerial image showing:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The extent of the wetland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All areas of the wetland where moss will be harvested, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Accessways <input type="checkbox"/> Location of any associated activities, such as planting <p><input type="checkbox"/> Within and near the wetland that will be used for moss harvesting, identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Any critical source areas <input type="checkbox"/> Any water bodies (including rivers, lakes, ponds, and streams) that flow to or from the wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Any surrounding wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Any subsurface drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Any bores or soak holes <input type="checkbox"/> Any sites of historic heritage <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nature of the terrain surrounding the wetland, including slope (flat, rolling, steep) and direction of slope</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A north symbol (oriented to the top of the page if possible) and scale bar</p>

<p>B.4</p>	<p>Additional information regarding the wetland</p> <p>In addition to the map or aerial image required in B.3, you may also provide some photos of the areas of the wetland in its current state. You may also provide some photos of previous moss harvesting activities within wetland areas and the works involved, if these reflect how the proposed activity will be managed.</p> <p>Description of any photos included:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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PART C: NATURE OF THE HARVESTING ACTIVITY

<p>C.1</p>	<p>Nature of the wetland</p> <p>Describe the nature of the wetland in its current state: <i>This may include the values, extent, functions, vegetation types present, soils underlying the wetland, habitat for fish and birds, flow of water into, through and out of the wetland, any field observations related to the wetland, existing artificial features</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Describe any management practices related to the wetland in its current state: <i>This may include existing fencing, nature of the surrounding land use, management of stock near the wetland area, water management near the wetland</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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C.2

Nature of the harvest activity

Describe the works involved in the harvesting of moss:

In addition to the plan provided in Section B.3, please provide plans showing specific details of the works associated with the moss harvesting, if relevant.

Describe the timing of harvest, including approximate start and stop dates, and how often moss will be harvested from the location:

Has a harvesting plan been prepared and attached to form part of the consent application?

[Schedule 3](#) of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 sets out the information that is required in a sphagnum moss harvesting plan. Please ensure your harvesting plan includes all of the relevant details set out in Schedule 3.

Yes

No

If no, why not?

PART D: MANAGEMENT OF THE HARVESTING ACTIVITY

D.1

How will you manage the harvesting activity?

Please provide details of how you will manage the harvesting activity. Schedule 4 of the [National Environmental Standards for Freshwater](#) provides a useful guide to managing harvesting activities, and includes good practice conditions such as:

- cleaning and modifying machinery and vehicles to prevent wetland damage
- only the living portion of the moss is removed
- fuel containers of 20L or less used to refuel
- no fertiliser spreading in the wetland
- no indigenous, rare, or threatened bird species are disturbed
- the site is left free from litter after harvesting is finished

Management strategies may change across the wetland, and through different aspects of the harvesting, so please be as specific as possible.

PART E: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

E.1

Effects on the wetland

Describe the actual and potential effects your harvesting activity may have on the values of the natural wetland, its catchment, and the coastal environment

The harvesting activity may impact the values associated with the wetland. Values associated with wetlands include the ability of the wetland to provide for ecosystem health, Maori freshwater values, hydrological functioning, indigenous biodiversity, and amenity. In this section, describe how your management practices will ensure values associated with the wetland are maintained or improved.

	<p>Describe the actual and potential effects your harvesting activity may have on the extent of the wetland. <i>The harvesting activity may result in an increase or decrease in the extent of the wetland. In this section, describe how your management practices will affect the extent of the wetland.</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>E.2</p>	<p>Describe the actual and potential effects your harvesting activity may have on flooding risk up and downstream of the wetland. <i>The harvesting activity has the potential to change flooding risk to the surrounding areas. In this section, describe how your management practices will ensure adverse effects on flooding risk are avoided or minimised as best possible.</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>E.3</p>	<p>Describe the cumulative effects of your harvesting activity. <i>Cumulative effects are effects which arise over time, in combination with other effects. While the effects of your activity on its own may be environmentally acceptable, cumulative effects recognise that similar effects over time from many activities may not be acceptable.</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

<p>E.4</p>	<p>Describe the actual and potential effects your harvesting activity may have on Kai Tahu cultural and spiritual beliefs, values and uses.</p> <p><i>The harvesting activity has the potential to impact Kai Tahu values. In this section, describe any nearby Rūnanga sensitive receptors (Statutory Acknowledgements, wāhi tapu etc), and how your harvesting activity might affect these features and the associated cultural values.</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>E.5</p>	<p>Describe the actual and potential positive effects of your harvesting activity.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

PART F: ALTERNATIVES

<p>F.1</p>	<p>Have any alternatives to the harvesting activity, either as a whole or specific aspects, been considered? If so, why is the proposed harvesting activity being utilised over those alternatives?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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PART G: CONSULTATION

G.1

Please describe any consultation undertaken with persons/parties potentially affected by your proposed activity.

Potentially affected parties may include Public Health South, landowners (if farm is leased), neighbours, Aukaha, Te Ao Marama, Fish and Game Otago and Department of Conservation.

G.2

Written approvals

Were any written approvals obtained as part of this application?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe who written approval was obtained from, and why.

Please attach any written approvals received to the application.

Please note that the Council only accepts unconditional written approvals and any conditions proposed by affected parties need to be agreed to and incorporated into the application.

PART H: DEPOSIT

A deposit is required upon lodgement of your application. Refer to the fees on Form 1. This deposit is not the final or maximum cost of your application. Further charges are incurred in accordance with Councils scale of fees and charges.

PART I: CHECKLIST

I.1

Use the checklist below to ensure you've provided all of the relevant information to complete your application.

To keep consent processing costs to a minimum it is strongly recommended that the checklist is complete, and all items required are attached before you lodge your application to the Otago Regional Council.

- Fully completed this application form and Form 1?
- Attached Certificate of Title(s) less than 3 months old? Refer to B.1
- Attached a detailed site map? Refer to B.3
- Attached any relevant photos? Refer to B.4
- Attached any written approvals? Refer to G.2
- Paid your deposit or attached a cheque? Refer to Part H
- Attached a completed planning assessment sheet, or an assessment of the activity against the relevant parts of the RMA, National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020, Regional Policy Statement (Operative and Partially Operative) and Regional Plan: Water for Otago

CONTACT US

If you have any queries relating to the information requirements, please contact one of our Otago Regional Council Offices:

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