

# WORKING IN & AROUND WATERWAYS

When should you seek advice from a Freshwater Ecologist?

1

Are you working in a location similar to this?



2

What does the work involve?

**HOLD POINT: Check consent conditions/associated rules**

Working in flowing water?	YES	NO
Diverting, dewatering or overpumping?	YES	NO
Installing, repairing or maintaining stormwater pipes?	YES	NO
Removing sediment, sludge, aquatic weeds, or gravel from a waterbody?	YES	NO
Cleaning or emptying out silt traps?	YES	NO
Filling in a waterway?	YES	NO
Installing, repairing or maintaining culverts?	YES	NO
Are there aquatic plants present?	YES	NO
Is your work area connected to, or near, a waterway?	YES	NO

**IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THE ABOVE, CONTACT THE COUNCIL PROJECT MANAGER AND PROJECT FRESHWATER ECOLOGIST.**

Indigenous fish must not be taken in a manner that results in injury or death, and the fish must be returned (alive) to the water as soon as practicable after taking them.

Permits and approvals for the salvage, relocation and translocation of fish and other fauna are required.

s26ZHB(2), s26ZHC and s 26ZM of Conservation Act 1987

3

What species could you encounter?



4

What should you do to help protect freshwater fauna on your site?

If you find fish when you hadn't expected to you need to get in touch with the Council Project Manager or the Project Freshwater Ecologist.



The Project Freshwater Ecologist will assist with any trapping or electric fishing work required for the project.



If fish are likely to be present, use a screen or mesh net around the pump intake. A maximum of 2-3 mm mesh size is required to exclude fish.



Fish should be salvaged from sediment and sludge, and aquatic plants, when it is cleared from watercourses.



Fish may be encountered when excavating in areas of high groundwater and / or on sites close to streams.

## Accidental discovery of fish

When handling fish you must:

- Call your Manager, Council Project Manager or Project Freshwater Ecologist.
- Use the Emergency Fish Salvage Kit.
- Ensure hands are free of sunscreen, oils, and other chemicals.
- Wet hands or gloves from the Emergency Fish Salvage Kit with clean stream water prior to picking up fish.
- Collect fish in nets, where possible. A child's butterfly net works well.
- Be gentle – do not squeeze fish, or hold too tightly. Don't pick fish up by gills, tails, or other appendages.
- Gently place in a bucket of clean stream water.
- Gently release fish into an appropriate stream or waterway nearby, as soon as possible.

Council Project Manager .....  
 Contact Number .....  
 Project Freshwater Ecologist .....  
 Contact Number .....