

Applicants Kit: Additional information required for Development Applications within the Sensitive Waterways Overlay

Temora Shire has a “Water Overlay” (map) and associated clause in its Local Environmental Plan. This overlay identifies “Sensitive Waterways” that:

- have value for fish, waterbirds, frogs, turtles and other aquatic flora and fauna,
- have value for supply of water to downstream users, and/or
- are at risk of bank erosion.

The Sensitive Waterway area is considered to include the bed of the waterway and to extend 40 metres from the top of the bank or 40 m from the edge of the waterway (where there is no well defined bank).

The aim of the Sensitive Waterways Overlay is to reduce impacts upon waterways, maintain and improve water quality, maintain and improve the ecological integrity of the waterway and encourage the recovery of threatened species, communities, and their habitats.

If any part of your Development Application falls within the Sensitive Waterways Overlay, you will need to complete this form to provide additional information to Council about the site, and about your development proposal. This will enable your DA to be assessed more quickly, and will also assist in reducing potential environmental impacts.

1. Site Plan and Site Information

You should attach a site plan to your application. Preferably, you should use an aerial photograph or satellite image as a base, although a section of topographic map or well drawn sketch may suffice. The plan should identify:

- The boundary of the property and location of the waterway and all associated waterway features including high flow channels and any areas that might be seasonally inundated (wetlands).
- The location of the development site (i.e. development footprint), within the property.
- The boundaries of all allotments if the proposal is for a subdivision.
- The exact location of where works and buildings are to be located showing minimum distances to the waterway.

You should include colour photographs of areas within the waterway (within 40 m) that will be affected by the proposal. Pay particular attention to valuable habitat features (e.g. snags, stands of reed, native trees and shrubs), obvious problems (e.g. bank erosion, willow infestations) and existing developments (e.g. pump sheds, road crossings, weirs).

2. Describe the development proposal.

In preparing your proposal, you should be mindful that developments can have a range of impacts, and it is important to consider how these might arise. Some have most impact during the construction phase, whilst others have most impact during the operational phase. An in-stream weir or road crossing may not affect vegetation or water quality but could affect fish passage. A boat ramp may not affect fish passage but could affect bank stability. A subdivision may not affect the waterway initially, but as the lots are developed, will in time lead to increased water extraction and loss of riparian vegetation.

You should fully describe the development proposal and construction method including:

- plans or sketches of the development (cross section, long section, plan views) in relation to waterway features.
- construction method including site establishment and temporary structures.
- proposals for water quality protection generally and erosion and sediment control in particular.
- rehabilitation of disturbed areas at the completion of construction.

3. Evaluate the potential impacts of the development proposal upon waterway values

Answer **yes** or **no** to each of the following questions

Could the development proposal have an impact upon.....?	During the construction phase	During the operational phase
1. Water quality within the waterway (eg by disposal of effluent, by disturbing soil on the banks and exposing it to erosion by streamflow, wave action or rainfall, by doing works "in the wet").		
2. Aquatic and riparian habitats and ecosystems (eg by removing bank vegetation, by removing snags, gravel, sand etc, by filling the waterway, by removing aquatic vegetation).		
3. Stability of the bed, shore or banks of the waterway (eg by removing bank vegetation, by reshaping the bank, by placing a structure in the water or on the bank, by increasing the number of boats).		
4. The free passage of fish and other aquatic organisms within or along the waterway (eg by constructing a weir, installing a culvert, constructing a road crossing other than a bridge).		
5. The habitat of any threatened animal or plant. (You may need to seek advice regarding what species are likely to occur along the waterway in question.)		
6. Water extraction from the waterway (eg by increasing the number of allotments with frontage to the waterway).		

4. Minimising impacts.

a. For each of the boxes above where you answered "yes", describe how you propose to minimise the impacts of your development proposal. (attach additional pages if necessary)

b. For any long term impacts identified in part 3 above that cannot be avoided or minimised to negligible levels, describe how you propose to 'mitigate' those impacts. (attach additional pages if necessary)

NOTE: If the information provided in this form indicates that there may be impacts on threatened species, populations or communities (or their habitats), Council may require additional information to be provided.