

**Table 20:** Proposed assessment criteria for level of impact and hydrological alteration

Level of impact	Degree of hydrological alteration
<p><b>Low impact activities:</b>                      Extraction of less than 10% of MALF; or                      Diversion – in catchment - of less than 10% of MALF; or                      Out of river but in catchment storage that involves harvesting of higher flows; or                      Activities that are completely reversible.</p>	Low
<p><b>Medium impact activities</b>                      Extraction of less than 20% of MALF<sup>8</sup> but more than 10% of MALF; or                      Instream storage infrastructure on the tributary of the river system; or                      Diversion less than 20% of MALF<sup>9</sup> but more than 10% of MALF.                      Activities that are partly reversible</p>	Medium
<p><b>High impact activities</b>                      Extraction more than 20% of MALF; or                      Storage infrastructure on the mainstem of any river; or                      Diversion of more than 20% of MALF; or                      Intercatchment transfers; or                      Activities that are irreversible.</p>	High

<sup>8</sup> The figure of 20% was taken from the Ngati Kahungunu submission to the NES discussion document.  
<sup>9</sup> The figure of 20% was taken from the Ngati Kahungunu submission to the NES discussion document.