

Boffa Miskell



Operational Spray Plan

Lake Benmore Aquatic Weed Management
Prepared for Land Information New Zealand

17 February 2026

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1.0 Permitted Activity and Resource Consents

Treatment of lakeweed at Lake Benmore using the herbicide, diquat, is a permitted activity under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan under section 'Pest Control and Agrichemicals', Rule 5.2.2 - Discharge of an agrichemical. Please see a link to the Plan below:

<https://www.ecan.govt.nz/your-region/plans-strategies-and-bylaws/canterbury-land-and-water-regional-plan/>

Sailors Cutting is within a Community Drinking Water Drinking Protection Zone as designated by Environment Canterbury. A resource consent has been obtained to treat lakeweed with the herbicide diquat (consent number CRC213071). This consent stipulates additional requirements to ensure the safety of drinking water. This consent expires on 11 May 2026.

2.0 Pre-Spray Monitoring and Proposed Control Sites

A surface-based aquatic weed delimitation survey was carried out on **Monday 9 February 2026**. At the time of survey, the weed and water conditions were fit for diquat treatment.

Approximately **175ha** is proposed for control at Lake Benmore this season. The following sites are scheduled for treatment:

- Ahuriri Delta and Arm
- The Neck

3.0 Herbicide Application

Application by UAV and helicopter is scheduled to occur between **Tuesday 17 February 2026 and Thursday 2 April 2026**, as weather, weed and water conditions permit. Treatment will not take place during weekends or on public holidays.

As a precautionary measure only, the label advises users not to take water from Lake Benmore to consume or for irrigation purposes from the vicinity of the treatment area until **24 hours** after treatment has been completed.

Notices will be placed at www.linz.govt.nz 24 hours prior to the planned spray dates. Warning signs will be placed at authorised public boat ramps prior to and during treatment and will be removed 24 hours after treatment. Changeable weather conditions may result in delays to weed spraying.

Please scan the QR code below to access the most up-to-date information on control timings.



The Hazard classification for diquat is 6.1C, 6.3A, 6.9A, 8.1A, 9.1A and 9.3C.

For more information on the herbicide diquat, please visit:

<https://niwa.co.nz/freshwater/diquat-use-submerged-weeds>

Reglone Diquat Herbicide Label:

<https://syngenta.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/#24000000Yk1o/a/1o0000005A43/yCjCCVLYKhxx9ee7wmLCZxrNhS2Xtb7IJ9QtHsZtUDQ>

4.0 Notifications

4.1 Newspaper advertisements

Advertisements were placed in **The Press** on the following dates:

- Friday 13 February 2026
- Monday 23 February 2026

Advertisements were placed in the **Timaru Herald** on the following dates:

- Friday 13 February 2026
- Monday 23 February 2026

4.2 Radio adverts

Two 30-second radio adverts were run on **Monday 16 February 2026** and **Monday 23 February 2026** on the following channels:

- Canterbury The Hits
- Canterbury Newstalk ZB
- Canterbury ZM

4.3 Stakeholder emails

Emails are sent to the comprehensive stakeholder list in advance of proposed spray dates, the day before spraying, on the day(s) of spraying and at the conclusion of spraying. Please email biosecurity@boffamiskell.co.nz if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

4.4 Signage

Warning signage is erected at key lake access points prior to application and is removed once the 24-hour stand down period for swimming, fishing and taking water has elapsed (Figure 1). Signage will be erected at the locations in the map below (Figure 2).



Figure 1. An example warning sign that will be erected key lake access points.

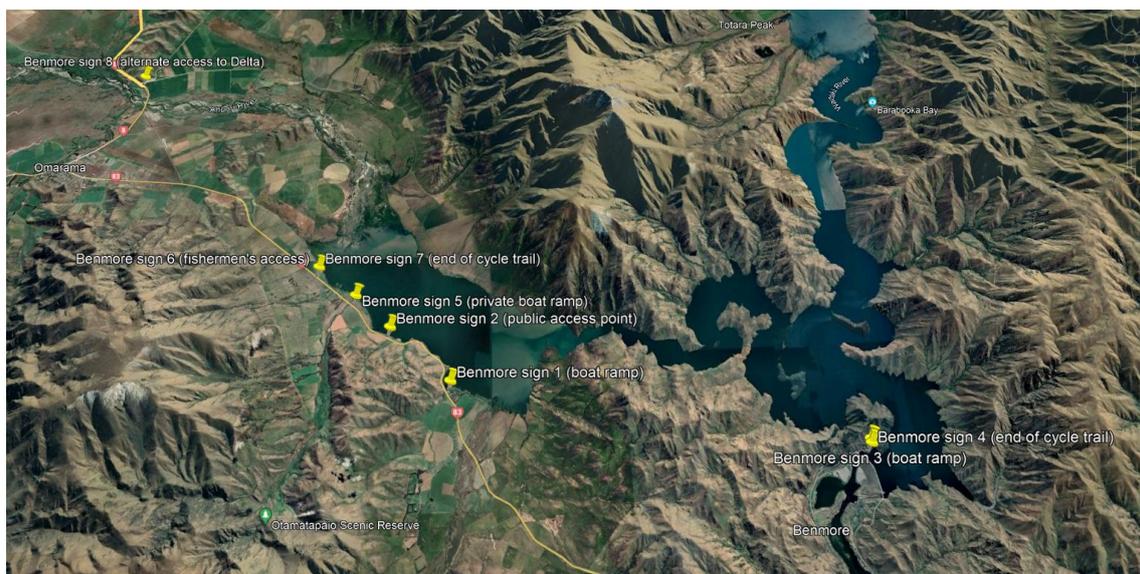


Figure 2. Warning signage locations.

5.0 Water Takes

Identification of consented water takes is undertaken using the Regional Council's surface water take information (Figure 3). All water takes affected by this operation have been contacted.

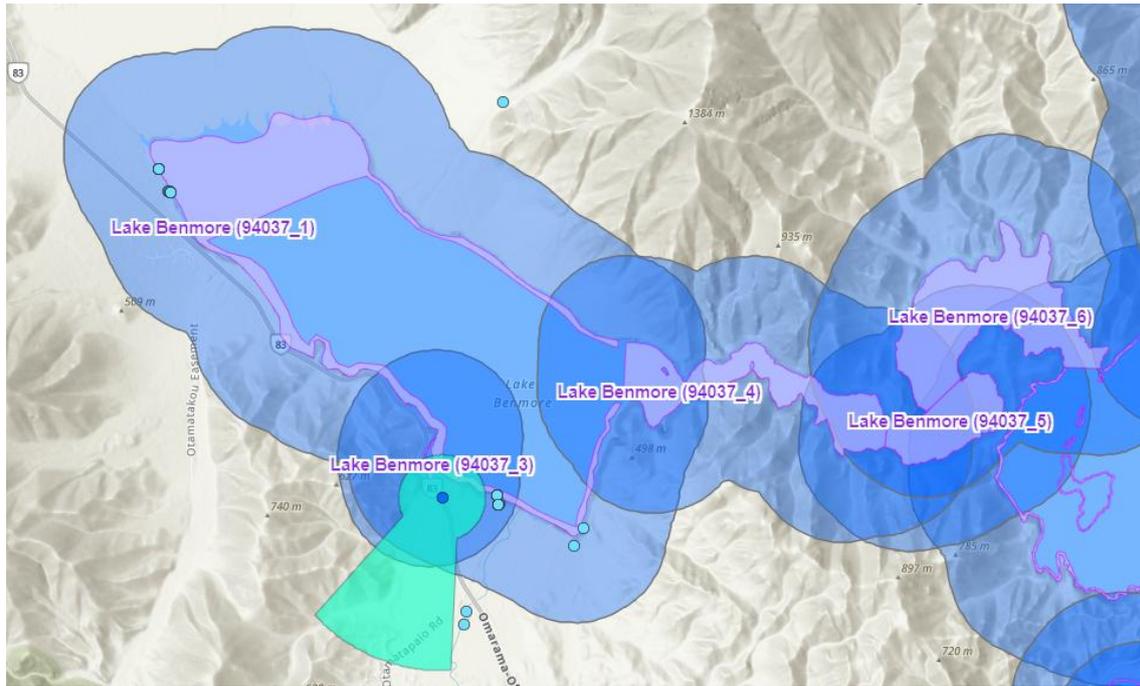


Figure 3. Consented water takes (point data) within the Sailors Cutting and Neck. The green area denotes the Community Drinking Water Protection Zone at Sailors Cutting.

6.0 Map of Proposed Spray Areas

A map of the proposed herbicide treatment areas is shown below.

