
Commercial Activities on Rous Water Operational Land



General Information

Introduction

Rous Water's primary objective in our management of recreational and commercial access to operational land and Rous Water drinking water sources, is to protect the integrity and quality of the public drinking water supply.

Policy Position

Rous Water recognises that commercial operators may wish to use Rous Water lands for business activities. **Policy: *Private Recreation, Community Events and Commercial Uses on Operational Land*** outlines permissible commercial activities across locations.

You will require a ***Temporary Permit – For Use of Rous Water Operational Land (Commercial Activities Permit)*** from Rous Water to conduct your business on Rous Water operational land. Commercial activities are not permitted on Rous Water operational land without a permit.

The main purpose of regulating and managing commercial activities, is to ensure activities are carried out in a safe manner without impacting the quality of our drinking water supply and with minimal disruption to visitors or the day-to-day operations of Rous Water.

Permits may be issued for commercial activities including: seed collection; ecotourism; personal fitness training; and filming and photography.

Your ***Commercial Activities Permit*** gives you the legal right to carry out your proposed activity on Rous Water operational land and is a formal agreement where each party understands their responsibilities and obligations as it relates to your activity.

The ***Commercial Activities on Rous Water Operational Land – Commercial Operator Guidelines*** provide details on all the necessary requirements for commercial operators wishing to conduct activities on Rous Water land. You can download the guidelines from the Rous Water website.

Application Process

Any person / company wishing to seek a permit to conduct commercial activities on Rous Water operational land, must submit a written application on the approved form at least three (3) weeks prior to the required commencement date. Rous Water reserves the right to deny applications submitted less than three (3) weeks prior to the commencement date, regardless of the relative merits of the application.

You can download the ***Application for a Temporary Permit – for use of Rous Water Operational Land – (Commercial Activities)*** from the Rous Water website.

For your application to be successfully lodged you must submit the following:

- A completed **Application for a Temporary Permit – for use of Rous Water Operational Land**;
- Non-refundable processing fee;
- Other associated document requirements as listed in the application: (a map, qualifications, risk and safety management plan, insurance requirements, other permits or licenses).

It may take up to three (3) weeks for your application to be processed. Rous Water reserves the right to negotiate any conditions of use and / or fees or refuse an application where it considers the content of the proposed activity to be harmful to Rous Water's reputation.

You will be notified if you have been successful or unsuccessful in being granted a **Commercial Activities Permit**. Your permit fee is then payable. Once all fees have been received, Rous Water will issue your **Commercial Activities Permit** which authorises your activities and includes all conditions relating to your activity.

Lodging your application

You can lodge your application:

- In **person** at the Rous Water Centre, (Level 4), 218/232 Molesworth Street, Lismore. Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm; or
- **Mail** to Rous Water, PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480; or
- **Fax** on (02) 6622 1181; or
- **Email** to water@rouswater.nsw.gov.au

Fees and Charges

Fees and charges for commercial use of operational land establishes a small revenue stream that contributes to the management of Rous Water assets.

The fees and charges payable in relation to commercial activities on operational land are set out in Rous Water's Fees and Charges schedule and includes:

- a) Permit processing fee (for most commercial activities this is in addition to the temporary permit fee); and
- b) Temporary permit Fee.

Fees are determined taking into account but not limited to, the following:

- Nature of activity;
- Scale of the operation;
- Use and impact on the public access area;
- Impact on the community both beneficial and detrimental;
- Consistency with Rous Water management objectives;
- Level of administration required by Rous Water; and
- Level of impact of the activity on the environment.

Rous Waters Fees and Charges schedule can be downloaded from the Rous Water website.

Forms, Guidelines and Contacts

You can obtain copies of the following documents from the Rous Water website:

‘Commercial Activities on Rous Water Operational Land’:

- **General Information;**
- **Commercial Operator Guidelines;** and
- **Risk Assessment Guidelines.**

And the following application forms:

- *Application for a Temporary Permit – For use or Rous Water Operational Land – (Commercial Filming and Photography).*
- *Application for a Temporary Permit – For use or Rous Water Operational Land – (Commercial Activities)* (for all other commercial activities).

Other documents including a **Site Plan Template** may also be found on the website.

If you require more information or to speak to someone concerning your application, please call the Technical Services Customer Service Group on (02) 6621 8055 or email water@rouswater.nsw.gov.au.