



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

BCH/AS1

**Acceptable Solution for
Backcountry Huts**



Using this Acceptable Solution

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment may amend parts of this Acceptable Solution at any time. People using this Acceptable Solution should check on a regular basis whether new versions have been published. The current version can be downloaded from www.dbh.govt.nz/compliance-documents

Users should make themselves familiar with the preface to the New Zealand Building Code Handbook, which describes the status of Acceptable Solutions and explains other ways of achieving compliance.

Defined words (italicised in the text) are explained in the Building Code Clause A2 and in the Definitions section of this Acceptable Solution. Classified uses of buildings are explained in the Building Code Clause A1.

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**Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods are available
from www.dbh.govt.nz/compliance-documents**

New Zealand Government

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Status of BCH/AS1

This Acceptable Solution for Backcountry Huts provides a means of compliance with the New Zealand Building Code. It is issued under section 22 of the Building Act 2004 as an Acceptable Solution.

This Acceptable Solution is one way that can be used to show compliance with the New Zealand Building Code. Other ways of complying with the Building Code are described, in general terms, in the preface of the New Zealand Building Code Handbook.

When can you use BCH/AS1

This Acceptable Solution is effective from 1 July. It can be used to show compliance with the Building Code. It does not apply to building consent applications submitted before 1 July 2014.

The previous version of this Acceptable Solution can be used to show compliance with the Building Code until 18 June 2014. It can be used for building consent applications submitted before 19 June 2014.

Backcountry huts: Document History		
	Date	Alterations
First published	Effective from July 2009 until 18 June 2014	
Amendment 1	Effective from 1 July 2014	p. 07 2.0.1, 2.0.9





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References

For the purposes of New Zealand Building Code compliance, the acceptable New Zealand and other Standards, and other documents referred to in this Compliance Document (primary reference documents) shall be the editions, along with their specific amendments, listed below. Where the primary reference documents refer to other Standards or other documents (secondary reference documents), which in turn may also refer to other Standards or other documents, and so on (lower order reference documents), then the applicable version of these secondary and lower order reference documents shall be the version in effect at the date this Compliance Document was published.

Department of Conservation

Hut Procurement Manual for Backcountry Huts
(QD code VC 1414, March 2009, Version 4.0)

Comment:

The Hut Procurement Manual for Backcountry Huts is available from www.doc.govt.nz

Where quoted

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Definitions

This is an abbreviated list of definitions for words or terms particularly relevant to this Compliance Document. The definitions for any other words may be found in the New Zealand Building Code Handbook.

backcountry hut means a *building* that—

- (a) is located on land that is administered by the *Department of Conservation* for conservation, recreational, scientific, or other related purposes, including any land administered under any of the following:
 - (i) the Conservation Act 1987;
 - (ii) the National Parks Act 1980;
 - (iii) the Reserves Act 1977; and
- (b) is intended to provide overnight shelter to any person who may visit and who carries his or her own food, bedding, clothing, and outdoor equipment; and
- (c) contains only basic facilities, which may include (but are not limited to) any or all of the following:
 - (i) sleeping platforms or bunks;
 - (ii) mattresses;
 - (iii) food preparation surfaces;
 - (iv) appliances for heating;
 - (v) appliances for cooking;
 - (vi) toilets; and
- (d) has been certified by the *Director-General* as being in a location that wheelchair users are unlikely to be able to visit; and
- (e) is intended to be able to sleep—
 - (i) no more than 20 people in its *backcountry hut sleeping area*; and
 - (ii) no more than 40 people in total; and
- (f) does not contain any connection, except by *radiocommunications*, to a *network utility operator*.

backcountry hut sleeping area means the area of a *backcountry hut* that contains sleeping platforms, bunks, or beds that are—

- (a) within the same room as a food preparation or eating area; or

- (b) in a fully-enclosed room that is separate from any food preparation or eating area and has—

- (i) internal walls that limit the spread of fire; and
- (ii) the means of direct egress to outside the hut.

Department of Conservation means the department of State established by section 5 of the Conservation Act 1987.

Director-General has the same meaning as in section 2(1) of the Conservation Act 1987.

network utility operator means a person who—

- (a) undertakes or proposes to undertake the distribution or transmission by pipeline of natural or manufactured gas, petroleum, or geothermal energy; or
- (b) operates or proposes to operate a network for the purpose of—
 - (i) telecommunication as defined in section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 2001; or
 - (ii) radiocommunications as defined in section 2(1) of the Radiocommunications Act 1989; or
- (c) is an electricity operator or electricity distributor as defined in section 2 of the Electricity Act 1992 for the purpose of line function services as defined in that section; or
- (d) undertakes or proposes to undertake the distribution of water for supply (including irrigation); or
- (e) undertakes or proposes to undertake a drainage or sewerage system.

radiocommunications has the same meaning as in section 2(1) of the Radiocommunications Act 1989.



Acceptable Solution BCH/AS1

1.0 Scope

This Acceptable Solution applies to *backcountry huts*. Using this Acceptable Solution establishes compliance with all the relevant Building Code clauses for the design and construction of *backcountry huts*.

2.0 Backcountry Huts

Amend 1
Jul 2014

2.0.1 The Hut Procurement Manual for Backcountry Huts as amended by Paragraph 2.0.9 is an Acceptable Solution for the design and construction of *backcountry huts*.

2.0.2 The Hut Procurement Manual for Backcountry Huts is divided into seven parts:

- Part A: 2 Bunk Huts
- Part B: 4-12 Bunk Huts
- Part C: Larger Huts
- Part D: Fire Safety
- Part E: Construction Details
- Part F: Toilets and Grey Water
- Part G: Specifications

2.0.3 Dependent on the size of the hut, detailed information is included in parts A, B and C on the process to be followed and the compilation of the necessary information for the design, documentation and procurement of the hut.

2.0.4 For 2 bunk huts, in addition to Part A, the following parts are to be used –

- Part F for toilets and grey water

2.0.5 For 4 -12 bunk huts, in addition to Part B, the following parts are to be used –

- Part E for construction details
- Part F for toilets and grey water
- Part G for specifications

2.0.6 For larger huts with a sleeping capacity of more than 12, in addition to Part C, the following parts are to be used –

- Part D for fire safety
- Part E for construction details
- Part F for toilets and grey water
- Part G for specifications

2.0.7 The process that is followed for larger huts, in particular the application of Part D, will also be applicable for:

- huts with a sleeping capacity of 12 or less that are not derived from the base drawings included in the manual
- huts that include staff quarters.

2.0.8 A certificate from the Director-General of the Department of Conservation, or their delegated representative, must be provided with the building consent application stating that the proposed hut is in a location that wheelchair users are unlikely to be able to visit.

2.0.9 Replace the Hut Procurement Manual paragraph D2.3.3i) with:

2.3.3 Interior Surface Finishes

- i) The interior surface finishes for walls and ceilings of huts shall be plywood or other wood-based products either left natural or finished with a water-based coating. If other materials are used their surface finish shall have a Group Number of no greater than 3.

Comment:

Users of this Acceptable Solution and the Hut Procurement Manual should note that the requirements specified are deemed to comply with the requirements of the Building Code, particularly in the case of Code Clauses C1 to C6.

Amend 1
Jul 2014



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