

More New Regulations for Farmers

The following table sets out where and when resource consents are required under the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 between **now** and **2023**.

These Regulations affect all properties that have 20ha or more of pastoral or arable land use, 5ha or more of horticultural land use or 20ha or more of a combination of any two or more of the land uses. The only exception is where converting land for dairy farming land use, or plantation forestry to pastoral land use.

Activity	Resource Consent required from
Synthetic Nitrogen Fertiliser	
<p>No more than 190kg N/yr on any hectare of pastoral land (land grazed by livestock).</p> <p>You will need a resource consent to apply synthetic nitrogen fertiliser to pastoral land where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is an average of greater than 190kg N/ha/yr across all pastoral land; OR • more than 190kg N/yr was applied to any hectare of pastoral land that was not an annual forage crop. 	1 July 2021
Intensive Winter Grazing	
<p>You will need a resource consent if, prior to 1 January 2025, you are intensive winter grazing any stock on any crop on land that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • was not used for intensive winter grazing between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2019; OR • has increased the intensive winter grazing area from that used between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2019. 	1 May 2022
<p>You will need a resource consent if you are intensive winter grazing any stock on any crop and cannot <u>meet</u> all or any of the bullet points below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the total area used must be 50ha or less, or for properties over 500ha 10% or less; OR • the mean slope of a paddock must be 10 degrees or less; OR • pugging beyond a 10m area around the gateway or a fixed water trough must be no more than 20cm deep; OR • pugging greater than 5cm deep must not cover more than 50% of the paddock; OR • the grazing must be more than 5m from a waterbody or drain (regardless of whether there is any water present); OR • the grazed area will not be replanted before 1 October (or for Otago and Southland regions 1 November). 	1 May 2022*
Intensification of Land Use	
<p>You will need a resource consent if you are increasing dairy farming land above the area used for dairying on 2 September 2020 by converting more than 10ha of any land use to dairy farming.</p>	3 September 2020

You will need a resource consent if you are increasing pastoral land above the area in pastoral use on 2 September 2020 by converting more than 10ha of plantation forestry to pasture.	3 September 2020
You will need a resource consent if you are increasing irrigated pasture for dairy farming above that irrigated between 23 September 2019 and 2 September 2020, by more than 10ha.	3 September 2020
You will need a resource consent if you are increasing dairy support land area above the annual highest dairy support area used between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2019.	3 September 2020
Feedlots & Stockholding Areas	
Feedlots will need a resource consent where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> more than 10% of the cattle are more than 4 months old OR weigh more than 120kg; AND cattle are held for 80 or more days in any 6 month period; AND stock are hand or mechanically fed. 	3 September 2020
Stockholding areas will need a resource consent where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> more than 10% of the cattle are more than 4 months old OR weigh more than 120kg; AND the area is not sealed; OR all effluent is not collected, stored, and disposed of in accordance with the Regional Plan or a resource consent; OR they are less than 50m from any water body, bore, drain or coastal marine area. 	1 July 2021

NOTE:

*For 2022 some farmers will be able to carry out intensive winter grazing as an existing use. This means that you will have an additional 6 months to apply for your resource consent, so 30 October 2022 instead of 1 May 2022. For existing use rights to apply your intensive winter grazing activity needs to be a permitted activity in your region and the character, scale and intensity needs to be the same or similar for 2022 as it was in 2021.

So for example if in 2020 you set stock grazed sheep on 20ha of kale but in 2021 you are going to either increase your intensive winter grazing area or breakfeed bulls on your 20ha of kale then you cannot claim existing use rights.

This table does not cover all the activities set out in the Regulations. There are other activities that relate to wetlands, such as vegetation clearance or earthworks; culverts; weirs; flap gates; dams and fords. Where an activity occurs within or near a wetland or involves culverts, weirs, flap gates, dams or fords further advice can be sought from the planners in the Ravensdown Environmental team.

Also if a more stringent rule exists in a Regional Plan it will prevail over these Regulations