

APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENT AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION AND LAND USE CHANGE



NOTES

Land use change and agricultural intensification activities that fall within the requirements of Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 (PC1) rule 3.11.4.9 (Waikato and Waipa catchments only), and/or regulations 17, 19, 21, 23 and 30 of the NES-FW, require resource consent.

This form will help you apply for resource consent.

- You must fully complete this activity form and supply all the required information. Provide as much detail as you can where the questions are relevant to your activity. We request that, where possible, you provide electronic copies of any supporting information. Doing so may reduce administrative costs charged to you. Failure to provide the required information and payment will delay the processing of your application. If you do not provide adequate information, then we will not be able to process your application and will return it to you. If you do not pay the required fees, we may stop processing your application until payment is received.
- You must also supply completed forms A and C.
- **Please refer to the guidance document for agricultural intensification and land use change** for additional information about the application process for conversion of land use or expansion of specified agricultural activities. This guide is available upon request.
- Unless we advise otherwise, you should also consult with any person or party who may be interested in or affected by your proposal. You should provide the details of consultation, including written approval from these parties if possible.
- **You must pay the required deposit when you submit this consent application.**
- **You are expected to provide a separate Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) report with reference in this form to the relevant sections of your document.**
- We encourage you to engage a suitably qualified person to assist in the preparation of your application and associated technical assessments.

ACTIVITY

Select one or more relevant activities – NES-FW regulations apply region-wide

- PC1 Rule 3.11.4.9 - Conversion of woody vegetation to farming activity of more than 4.1ha from that occurring on 22 October 2016 (Waikato and Waipa river catchment only) – s9 use of land.
- PC1 Rule 3.11.4.9 - Conversion of any land use to dairy farming of more than 4.1ha from that occurring on 22 October 2016 (Waikato and Waipa river catchment only) – s9 use of land.
- NES-FW Regulation 17 - Conversion of plantation forest to pastoral land use of more than 10ha from that occurring 2 September 2020 – s9 use of land and s15 discharge of contaminants.
- NES-FW Regulation 19 - Conversion of land on farm to dairy farming of more than 10ha from that occurring 2 September 2020 – s9 use of land and s15 discharge of contaminants.
- NES-FW Regulation 21 - Expansion of irrigation of dairy farmland of more than 10ha from that occurring in the 12 months prior to 2 September 2020 – s14 use of water and s15 discharge of contaminants.
- NES-FW Regulation 23 - Expansion of dairy support land from the maximum area used in the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019 – s9 use of land and s15 discharge of contaminants.
- NES-FW Regulation 30 - Expansion of intensive winter grazing the maximum area used in the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019 – s9 use of land and s15 discharge of contaminants.

DESCRIPTION

1. Provide a description of the proposal (land use change and/or expansion of activity).

2. Provide a description of the activity (or activities) undertaken on farm during the relevant reference dates/period for which the rule(s) apply.

LOCATION - GENERAL

3. What is the total area (ha) of the farm? (inclusive of those land uses in question 5)

4. Provide a breakdown of the land uses occurring in the relevant reference year(s), and their area.

- Land use types may include:
 - Plantation forestry
 - Non-forestry vegetation (e.g., native, riparian)
- Dairy farming (dairy cows on a milking platform)

- Commercial Vegetable Production
- Arable farming
- Horticulture (fruit/nut crops)
- Dry stock/pastoral farming
- Dairy - other (e.g., goat/sheep)

The dates below may be applied more broadly (e.g. land uses occurring across the preceding year/season)

22 Oct 2016 (Waikato and Waipa river catchment farms only)		2 September 2020 (all farms in the region)		Proposal	
Land use type	Area (ha)	Land use type	Area (ha)	Land use type	Area (ha)

5. For applications proposing to expand the irrigated area of dairy farmland (not including effluent irrigation), please provide the following information:

Area irrigated in the 12 months before close of 2 September 2020	Proposed area (ha)

6. For applications proposing to expand the area of intensive winter grazing please provide the following information:

Note: existing intensive winter grazing is subject to compliance with regulation 26 of the NES-FW otherwise consent is required

Maximum annual area (ha) - 1 July 2014 - 30 June 2019	Proposed area (ha)

7. For applications proposing to expand the area of dairy (cattle) support (cows and heifers, not on part of a milking platform) please provide the following information:

Maximum annual area (ha) - 1 July 2014 - 30 June 2019	Proposed area (ha)

8. If known, please supply map coordinates of the activity or activities (see 4 – 7 above) being undertaken, preferably as New Zealand Transverse Mercator 2000 (NZTM2000 references).

Activity	Easting	Northing

LOCATION - MAP (IN ADDITION TO FORM A):

9. In addition to the location map provided with Form A, please provide the following map or aerial image showing:

- The farm boundary
- OVERSEERFM map (farm blocks)
- The location and area of the relevant land use activities identified in Questions 4 – 7 above (baseline(s) and proposal), including:
 - Land to be retired from farming as part of this proposal.
 - Land not associated with farming e.g. houses, driveways etc.
- Within and near the land that may be converted or expanded please include:
 - Any surface water bodies (including rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, drains).
 - Any wetlands.
 - Any geothermal features.
 - Any sub-surface drainage.
 - Any bores used for drinking water.

- Any relevant farm infrastructure (races)
 - Location of existing and proposed stock exclusion and stock crossings.
 - Identification of actual and potential risks, including critical source areas.
 - The location of any mitigations proposed.
- The nature of the terrain to be converted, including slope (flat, rolling, steep), and direction of slope.
- A legend, north symbol and scale bar.

10. Please provide any other information regarding the farm, including any photos relevant to the locations of risk areas and mitigation actions identified in the 'location map' above.

Report reference

NATURE OF THE ACTIVITY

**11. Describe how the proposal may change or impact the nature of the farm system.
This may include (but is not limited to):**

- Effluent management
- Stock management
- Cropping activities

Report reference

**12. Describe how you will manage the conversion and/or expansion activity.
This may include (but is not limited to):**

- How the conversion and/or expansion process will occur
- If cultivation and sowing of pasture is required, how and when this will occur.

Report reference

13. Describe how the conversion and/or expansion activity will satisfy any relevant permitted activity rule requirements.

The earthworks and land disturbance activities associated with mechanical removal of stumps and land contouring, irrigation of dairy effluent, use of water for dairy shed wash-down, tracking and vegetation clearance, and new culverts etc may be subject to permitted activity rule requirements. Please identify all the permitted activity rules relevant to the proposal and how you will ensure compliance with the conditions. For more information, please see [Farmers-Guide-to-environmental-rules-in-Waikato.pdf](#) (waikatoregion.govt.nz).

Report reference

ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS (AEE)

You must include an assessment of the actual and potential effects of your proposal on the environment and must include the following matters specified in 14 – 21 below.

Note: the focus of your AEE should be to demonstrate that the proposal will not result in an increase in the overall loss of contaminants compared with the losses occurring in the relevant reference period(s).

14. Provide an assessment of the sensitivity of the receiving environment.

Report reference

Modelled Assessment (nitrogen):

Council accepts the use of OVERSEERFM as a decision support tool to estimate nitrogen loss for pastoral systems. However, given the inherent limitations of this model, we strongly urge you to also provide supplementary evidence and information.

15. Provide an assessment of the baseline(s) and proposed scenario and publish in OVERSEERFM to Waikato Regional Council.

Report reference

The modelled baselines are 2015/2016 year (PC1), and 2019/2020 year (NES-FW). Both may be necessary where the activity is subject to PC1 and the NES-FW.

As nitrogen losses associated with change and/or expansion activities is typically mitigated through changes elsewhere on farm, it is generally expected that the modelled scenarios will encompass the entirety of the farm.

Please specify who prepared the calculation and any other supporting information (certification, qualifications etc)

16. Provide a summary of the modelled outputs for the relevant scenarios.

Scenario	Date modelled	Area (ha)	Average N loss rate - (kg/ha/yr)	Total Annual Nitrogen Discharge (TAND) - (kg)
2015/16 (PC1)				
2019/20 (NES-FW)				
Proposed change/expansion				

17. Provide a description of the types of input information relied upon for the modelled estimation of nitrogen loss.

Report reference

18. Provide copies of the relevant input information relied upon for the modelled estimation of nitrogen loss.

Report reference

Qualitative Assessment (nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment, microbial pathogens):

The application must include the identification of risks, an assessment of how these risks may change or new risks may arise due to the proposal, and the identification of appropriate mitigation actions. This may be best presented in a table, supported by references to maps and any relevant technical information.

It is generally not practicable to retrospectively determine historical baseline losses of contaminants. Council considers it sufficient and appropriate to establish baseline losses based on the status of the subject land at the time of the assessment, providing it reasonably reflects the land use practices occurring at the relevant reference dates (baselines), and a conservative approach is taken regarding risk, for example seasonal considerations (environmental and farm system).

19. For the land in question, identify and assess contaminant loss risks associated with both the baseline and proposed land use.

Report reference

Please identify risks in the map provided for question 9. The assessment may include the use of a matrix and/or description of the risk.

20. For the land in question, undertake a comparison of risks (including identification of new risks), and where necessary, the identification and description of appropriate mitigations sufficient to ensure net risk of contaminant loss (for each contaminant) does not increase.

Report reference

Mitigations must include sufficient detail to determine the extent and timing of the mitigation proposed. Please also include a description of the outcome sought, and relevant technical documents/literature in support their efficacy and achieving consistency with the direction provided.

Please identify mitigations in the map provided for question 9.

OFFSETTING & COMPENSATION

21. If applicable, include conditions for offsetting or compensation (actions occurring off-farm)

Report reference

CONSULTATION FORM

PHOTOCOPY THIS FORM FOR EACH PERSON OR GROUP TO BE CONSULTED

Applicant	
Description of proposal	

Person/group consulted in regard to this proposal

Name of contact person		
Name of group		
Street address		
Email address		
Contact number/s	phone:	fax:

Consulted party's views on the proposal (to be completed by person/group consulted)

If you would like the Waikato Regional Council to know your views on the applicant's proposal, and/or if you consider you may be adversely affected, please indicate your views below (attach additional pages if necessary). Consider the following: How do you consider you will be affected? How would you like the applicant's proposal to be modified to take account of your views? What other comments do you have on the proposal that you would like the Waikato Regional Council to consider in making a decision on these resource consent applications?

Applicant's response to views of consulted parties (to be completed by applicant)

Please indicate how your proposal can be modified to take account of the views of the party you have consulted with (or why the proposal may not be able to be modified to take account of those views).

Consulted party's response to the proposal (to be completed by person/group consulted) *Please tick one only*

- I/We give my/our approval for the proposal I/We do not give my/our approval for the proposal
 I/We are not affected by this proposal

Signed _____ **Date** _____