

## **Guidance for Intensive Winter Grazing Consenting**

Use the flow chart in Appendix 1 to determine whether you require resource consent for your Intensive Winter Grazing activity

### **What is Intensive Winter Grazing (IWG)?**

IWG is defined as a farming practice in which livestock (cattle, sheep, deer) are confined over winter to outdoor feeding areas planted with annual forage crops (eg, swedes, kale and fodder beet).

### **If you do need a consent;**

For your consent application you will need to supply:

- Consent application Form A (administration) and Form B (activity form for IWG)
- An IWG Management Plan for the period of consent requested (usually 5 years)
- An Annual Intensive Winter Grazing module for the area of your farm you intend to intensively graze in the coming season
- The deposit payment of \$1,150.00 (contact our consents advisor for payment instructions).

The IWG Management Plan is to show any area you may intensively winter graze over the next 5 year period, so it can be included in the consent. On an annual basis we then need to know what paddocks are being used for intensive winter grazing, including the year you apply for consent.

After a consent is granted, you will be required to supply to council each year:

- An annual intensive winter grazing module, for just the area you are planning to crop that season. It may contain details from your original 5 year management plan, including the good management practices.

HBRC have templates for the 5 year management plan and annual module. There is also an official MPI/MfE template, as well as various industry ones. HBRC will accept any of these versions.

### **If I need a consent, when do I need to apply by?**

If you have previously undertaken intensive winter grazing, section 20A of the Resource Management Act (RMA) applies if you lodge your consent application within 6 months of date of the new rule becoming operative. The rule became operative on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2022 making an application due by **1 May 2023**. This means your intensive winter grazing activity can carry on temporarily at the same scale, even if consent is not granted by the time you come to graze the crop.

We encourage those that need them, to apply for their consent well before the date required (1 May 2023)

### **Helpful links**

HBRC Winter Grazing Guidance: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/environment/farmers-hub/good-farming-practice/intensive-winter-grazing/>

MPI information: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/agriculture/farm-management-the-environment->

and-land-use/protecting-freshwater-health/intensive-winter-grazing/

## Appendix 1 – Do I need a Consent

