

Here To Help

AUGUST 2016

TUKITUKI PLAN

is HBRC's first catchment-specific plan change, paving the way for land management in Hawke's Bay.

FEMP Provider Workshop Supports Uptake

Farm Environmental Management Plan (FEMP) providers packed the room at Waipawa Theatre on 12 August for an update from Council staff on the implementation of the Tukituki Plan.

Three FEMP providers were awarded 'Approved' status. There is much work ahead to complete. In the Tukituki alone, around 1,100 FEMPs will be required by May 2018.

Although landowner involvement is critical, FEMPs must be signed off by a qualified rural professional. That's why HBRC is leading the development of an 'Approved' provider framework, to build confidence in what may appear a difficult task at the outset, or outside the core focus of a farmer's day-to-day business.



Currently, approved FEMP providers are: The Catalyst Group, Soter Rural Compliance and Opus Consulting.

Forty-five farm advisors and support staff came to hear and discuss the progress on FEMP development, stock exclusion rules, fencing, planting buffers beside waterways and the Overseer nutrient management tool.

There was good interest in crop and stock management, stock wintering, plus the work carried out so far in priority waterways. The day ended with a session on erosion control, as traditional soil conservation plays a vital role alongside nutrient budgets and FEMPs.

Quite a few attendees are close to being approved, so the list of these providers is anticipated to grow quickly. They will become a strong in-region resource for landowners, extending over time into other regional catchments.

STOCK EXCLUSION

If you're planning any development, sub-division or R&M consider where you will site new fences, bearing in mind stock exclusion rules. They affect the Tukituki now, and potentially other regions in future.

Livestock (especially cattle and deer) reduce water quality by 'treading' damage. This leads to stream bed and bank erosion, direct deposits of dung and urine into waterways, and the grazing of riparian plants which filter runoff and stabilise stream banks.

Fencing to exclude stock not only helps to improve water quality, it can also reduce stock loss, improve productivity if better-quality reticulated water is available, and improve the look and value of your property.

HBRC, industry groups such as Beef + Lamb New Zealand and DairyNZ have resources available. FEMP providers will also be able to assist, as planning and prioritising work plans in line with each individual landowner's requirements are a key part of the FEMP process.

FARM ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKSHOPS



WORKSHOPS BY FARMERS FOR FARMERS

Waipawa CHB Municipal Theatre, 25 August 2016

You'll need: A farm map, a recent nutrient budget and any other info that may help to develop a property-based FEMP.

Register at www.beeflambnz.com or email Penny Munro, penny.munro@beeflambnz.com (or to register for future workshops).

There is another workshop coming up in September. Please see beeflambnz.com for more information.

HAWKE'S BAY
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