

Certified Farm Environment Plan - Guidance Material

Please refer to [Schedule Z](#) for a full breakdown of C-FEP requirements

Farm Overview

Farm Description

- Full name, postal and physical address and contact details (including email addresses and telephone numbers) of the person responsible for farming on the land.
- Legal description of the land being farmed which is the subject of the farm environment plan.
- The legal description and ownership of each parcel of land if different from the person responsible for farming on the land.
- Any relevant farm identifiers such as dairy supply number, Agribase identification number, and valuation reference.
- Identification of any irrigation scheme from which water is, or will be, taken or any existing water permit authorising water take and use for irrigation.
 - Details of any consents issued by the Wellington Regional Council that authorise any of the farm's activities (including water take permits, discharge permits)

Farm Maps

Farm Location

Map(s) or aerial photos at a scale that clearly shows:

- The property boundaries of the land being farmed
- The catchment and sub-catchment that the farm is within and a map showing the location of the farm within the sub-catchment

Farm Soils and Topography

- Soil types and topography at 1:50,000 scale

Geology + Soils

- Key soil type characteristics for erosion, sediment, and nutrient loss

Soil Nutrient Risk Table

Soil types have been included in Natural Resource Plan requirements as a map, but further detail (i.e., accompanied table) will give map more context for risk assessment and possible mitigations (i.e., table 3 – nutrient transport risk)

Management Practices

General farm management

- Information to be obtained from farmer consultation

Stocking numbers/rates

- Standard stock reconciliation + any significant changes in policy in the coming years (this will be a working document so can be treated as such)

Farm Infrastructure

- Farm infrastructure (including, where applicable, irrigation, feed pads and animal housing, stock yards, silage pits, collected animal effluent storage, effluent disposal paddocks, offal pits, farm refuse dumps, burning holes, chemical and fertiliser storage locations)
- Consultation with landowner regarding infrastructure after assessing imagery data (Google Earth, LiDAR) or any council plans that could detail infrastructure

Land and soil management

- The boundaries of the main land management units or land uses on the land being farmed

Cropping practices

- Areas under cultivation
- Crops grown

Nutrient/Contaminant management

- Fertiliser records provided by farmer or possibly through access to software (ie, MyBallance)

Other farm management practice

- Any other farm management practice necessary to assess the risk factors set out in Tables 1 to 3 (ie, nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment losses)

Irrigation and effluent management

- Irrigation area and application rates
- Where the activity involves or proposes irrigation, the location and type of irrigation take and the location, method and rate of land irrigation and evidence to demonstrate, in accordance with [Schedule Q](#) of the Natural Resource Plan, that irrigation (if any) of the land will attain 80% water use efficiency

New Rules for Irrigation and Priority Catchments

- Where the farm environment plan is required by Rules R94A, or R94B (in relation to irrigation using new water), evidence to demonstrate the nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli loss risk that:
 - was associated with the farming system on the farm in the 12 months preceding 2 September 2020, or where reliable information is available, as an annual average in the five-years prior to 2 September 2020, and
 - is predicted to occur from the farm as proposed to be managed following the use of new water for irrigation.

- Where the farm environment plan is required by Rules R94C and R94D (in relation to priority catchments) evidence of the nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli loss risk that:
 - was associated with the farming system on the farm in the 12 months preceding 2 September 2020, or as an annual average in the five-years prior to 2 September 2020, and
 - is predicted to occur on the farm as a result of the implementation of the good management practices and mitigation measures specified in the farm environment plan.

Waterways and significant area management

- Map(s) or aerial photos at a scale that clearly shows:
 - a) The location (and for named waterbodies, the names) of any permanently or intermittently flowing waterbodies on the property including rivers, streams, drains, wetlands, lakes and springs, and specifically identifying any waterbodies that meet the criteria for stock exclusion in the Regional Plan and/or Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2020
 - b) The location of any site or river included in [Schedules B, C, F1 and F3](#) of the Plan that is within, or adjacent to, the property
 - c) The location of riparian vegetation and fences (or other stock proof barriers adjacent to water bodies)
 - d) The location of any stock crossing points or structures on any water bodies where stock have access

Risk assessment and mitigations

Critical source areas (CSAs)

- Suggested inclusions:
 - Ephemeral waterways / stormwater drains
 - Cropping and grazing (stock exclusion / IWG / stock holding areas)
 - Irrigation
 - Areas undergoing application of nutrients / effluent
 - Supplement storage/feeding out
 - Infrastructure (yards, milking shed, effluent ponds, offal pits, rubbish pits etc.)
- Map(s) or aerial photos at a scale that clearly shows:
 - The location of any critical source areas, and hotspots for contaminant loss to groundwater or surface water
 - The location of any surface and (where known) sub-surface drains
 - The location(s) of the actions and practices that will be adopted to ensure the effective management of contaminant loss on the farm
 - Any other feature or characteristic of the land necessary to assess the risk factors set out in Tables 1 to 3.

Nitrogen

Risk assessment

Nitrogen loss risk shall be assessed by considering, as a minimum, the risk factors set out in Table 1 and the nutrient transport risks set out in Table 3

Mitigations

The farm environment plan must provide a description of the good management practices and mitigation measures that are taken or are planned to address the relevant risk factors in Tables 1-3:

- to **minimise** nitrogen leaching loss, phosphorus loss, sediment loss and *E.coli* loss from activities on the **farm**, and
- avoid an increased risk of loss of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or *E.coli* to water relative to the risk of loss that occurred as an annual average in the five years prior to 2 September 2020

Phosphorus / Sediment / E. coli

Risk assessment

- phosphorus loss risk shall be assessed by considering, as a minimum, the risk factors set out in Table 2 and the nutrient transport risks set out in Table 3
- sediment and *E.coli* loss risk shall be assessed by considering, as a minimum, the nutrient transport risks set out in Table 3

Mitigations

The farm environment plan must provide a description of the good management practices and mitigation measures that are taken or are planned to address the relevant risk factors in Tables 1-3:

- to **minimise** nitrogen leaching loss, phosphorus loss, sediment loss and *E.coli* loss from activities on the **farm**, and
- avoid an increased risk of loss of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or *E.coli* to water relative to the risk of loss that occurred as an annual average in the five years prior to 2 September 2020

Implementation

The evidence required by C1 1(g) and (h) above shall be as provided by a farm system risk assessment undertaken in accordance with [Policy P65E](#) and:

- Set out the time frame over which the **good management practices** and mitigation measures will be implemented and the method by which their implementation will be recorded (e.g. by photographs or electronic spreadsheet).