Form 3d: Discharge permit application/land use consent application for intensive winter grazing

Please answer all questions fully. The questions provide a guide in order to satisfy the minimum information requirements that must be included with your application as prescribed in Schedule 4 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). Depending on the scale of your proposed activity, more detailed information and an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) will be required to support the resource consent application.

Officers from the Greater Wellington Regional Council's (GWRC) Environmental Regulation department are available to assist with filling out this form or to clarify information to include with your application.

The initial fixed application fee for land use consents is $2,530.00 (incl. GST). If you can meet the following requirements GWRC will accept a lower initial fee of $1,242.00 (incl. GST):
– All sections of this application form are completed in full
– A farm map and satisfactory Intensive Winter Grazing Management Plan is submitted (see section B)
– The activity is on land and of no greater scale than that where intensive winter grazing took place between 1 June 2014 and 30 June 2019
If additional information / written approvals are required or if there are non-standard matters to address, the application fee will likely to be exceeded and actual and reasonable charges for processing the application will apply.

This form covers land use and discharge activities associated with intensive winter grazing. **This form is required to be filled out in conjunction with Form 1 Resource Consent Application**

Part A: General information on nature and scale of your activity

1. What is the reason you require consent?

		I can comply	*I can't comply*
a)	At all times the area of the farm that is used for intensive winter grazing must be no greater than 50 ha or 10% of the area of the farm, whichever is greater	☐	☐
b)	The slope of any land under an annual forage crop that is used for intensive winter grazing must be 10 degrees or less, determined by measuring the slope over any 20m distance of the land	☐	☐
c)	Livestock must be kept at least 5m away from the bed of any river, lake, wetland, or drain (regardless of whether there is any water in it at the time)	☐	☐
d)	On and from 1 May to 1 September of any year, in relation to any critical source area that is within, or adjacent to, any area of land that is used for intensive winter grazing on a farm	☐	☐
	(i) the critical source area must not be grazed; and		
	(ii) vegetation must be maintained as ground cover over all of the critical source area: and		
	(iii) maintaining that vegetation must not include any cultivation or harvesting of annual forage crops		
e)	the land on the farm must have been used for intensive winter grazing between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2019	☐	☐
f)	the area used for intensive winter grazing is no greater that the maximum area of intensive winter grazing between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2019	☐	☐

*Note: If you **do comply** with all of items above **a resource consent is not required**.*

*Note: If you **cannot comply** with any of items a) to d), your activity will be considered a **restricted discretionary activity**. If you cannot comply with either e) or f), your activity will be considered a **discretionary activity**.*

Note: Resource consents for intensive winter grazing will only be issued for up to 5 years as the activity can be covered in the future by a certified freshwater farm plan, if the adverse effects of your intensive winter grazing activity are no greater than those identified in 1 a) to d) above,

2. What total land area will be used for intensive winter grazing:

Over next five years: _____ ha Max. area each season: _____ ha

3. **On the paddocks where you will be intensive winter grazing:**

   a) What is the slope?

   b) What is the soil type?

4. **What are the drainage properties of the soil that you will be intensive winter grazing on:**

   ☐ Free draining ☐ Artificially drained or coarse soil structure

   ☐ Well drained flat land ☐ Impeded draining or low infiltration rate

   Other:

5. **List the stock type, stock intensity, and duration of intensive winter grazing below:**

Stock type/class	Stock intensity	Duration of grazing (days)

Part B: Farm map and management plan for intensive winter grazing areas

1. **Please attach a farm map or aerial image of where you will be undertaking intensive winter grazing**. This map needs to show the features listed below. You can print plans at different scales at http://mapping.gw.govt.nz/. Some of the features required below are included in this mapping tool.

   a) The farm boundary

   b) All areas within your property that may be used for intensive winter grazing

   c) Adjacent to and downslope from your grazing areas, identify the following:

      (i) any critical source areas (ie, a gully, swale, or depression)

      (ii) any water bodies (including rivers, lakes, ponds, wetlands, and streams) including areas where food is gathered or recreational activities are undertaken eg, swimming

      (iii) subsurface drainage (eg, tile drains)

      (iv) any bores/wells

      (v) areas of particular cultural value

      (vi) any other relevant features of the surrounding environment

   If any of the above features area present, please provide some further details below:

2. **Please attach an intensive winter grazing management plan**. As a minimum your management plan will need to contain the following:

   - Contact details
   - Paddock scale wintering plan for the paddocks to be used for the next wintering seasons which show critical source areas, buffer zones, areas of slope, gateways, troughs, shelter fencing, and baleage placement
   - How you will undertake grazing in any particular paddock (eg, direction of grazing if break or block feeding)
   - Risk assessment (at the paddock scale) that outlines what could go wrong with grazing paddocks
   - Management strategies and practices used to minimise pugging, soil, damage, and erosion
   - How you will monitor your activity including how you will record what you did and what variances there were to your wintering plan, and how you will assess and document the effectiveness of your wintering plan and strategies

   As starting point your management plan you can use the resources provided the MPI Intensive Winter Grazing Module and the possible management and mitigation options list provided in section D of this application form.

Part C: Assessment of effects on the environment (AEE)

If your activity is considered a discretionary activity ie, you ticked that you can't comply in question 1 e) and f), you will need to seek professional resource management advice and provide a full AEE. If your activity is a restricted discretionary activity, you can use the assessment of effects template provided below.

Please tick what effects could potentially happen as a result of your IWG in questions 1-3 below:

1. Effects on ecosystems, freshwater and water bodies, and susceptibility of land to erosion

- IWG (particularly if not carefully managed) can result in soil compaction and increase erosion susceptibility, which can increase contaminants entering waterbodies. ☐
- IWG (particularly if not carefully managed) of forage crops can result in animals trampling paddocks to deep mud and stripping the land of vegetative cover, which can increase water quality issues due to increased runoff, erosion, and leaching of contaminants ☐
- Grazing close to waterways and wetlands and not leaving appropriate sized buffers, can increase water quality issues due to sediment, bacteria, and other nutrients entering water as a result of the grazing activity ☐
- Grazing on slopes over 10 degrees, depending on the soil type and management practices may increase the risk of overland flow of contaminants and increase the losses of sediment and contaminants to water ☐
- Soils where grazing will be undertaken may be of high risk to erosion, pugging, or overland flow. There is the risk of sedimentation of waterways and the discharge of contaminants ☐
- The use of land for IWG has the potential to negatively impact water quality through leaching and run-off of nutrients and sediment ☐
- Cumulative effects can arise over time, in combination with other effects. Water quality in the wider catchment or downstream environments (eg, estuaries) may be affected by IWG ☐

2. Effects on water that affect the ability of people that come into contact with the water safely

- Water can support native fish and invertebrates, sports fish and game, have cultural values, be used for communal/domestic use, and contact recreation activities. IWG (particularly if not carefully managed) can affect these uses of water where people come into contact with water due to increased volume of sedimentation and other possible contaminants. ☐

3. Effects on Maori cultural values

- IWG can affect kaitiakitanga (the exercise of guardianship and ethic of stewardship) and the mauri (life force) nearby waterways ☐
- There are areas where food is gathered (eg, watercress, fish, kaimoana) that IWG could potentially effect affect ☐

If you would like to expand on any potential effects selected above, please do so here:

4. List any other potential effects of your IWG activity (including positive effects) on the environment not identified above

5. Have any alternative to intensive winter grazing been considered?

☐ Yes. I considered other options but IWG is the best option and my activity will be carefully managed

☐ No. I did not consider other options but IWG will be carefully managed

Part D: Mitigation measures / on farm actions

To appropriately manage environmental effects that have been identified in Part C, the following mitigation measures / on farm actions will be adopted:	*Tick if adopted*
• The winter grazing area will be checked at least once daily during grazing to ensure all environmental effects are being minimised and avoided	☐
• Groundcover will be planted and established as soon as is practicable after IWG to reduce the risk of sediment discharge and erosion	☐
• Long and narrow breaks will be used so that stock utilise crop more efficiently and reduce food wastage	☐
• Portable troughs and supplementary feed will be placed in a dry part of the paddock away from waterways and CSA's	☐
• Un-grazed buffers of a minimum of 5 metres from waterways will be in place	☐
• For slopes over 10 degrees, buffer zones to waterways and CSA's of 10 metres will be in place	☐
• CSA's will not be cultivated or grazed during the IWG season	☐
• Blocks prone to erosion will not be grazed	☐
• CSA's will not be cultivated or grazed during the IWG season	☐
• A catch crop (eg, oats) will be planted to reduce nitrogen loss and reduce sediment loss by stabilising loss be stabilising the soil	☐
• Back fencing will be used to minimise animal movement but does not restrict access to shelter or drier lying areas where possible. (Note: Back fencing is not appropriate for deer)	☐
• Back fencing will ensure animals cannot access land which has already been grazed (bare soil) to minimise pugging will be minimised only to the area animals are confined to	☐
• Back fencing will happen every 4-5 days and final time restricted grazing will happen when soil conditions are suitable	☐
• A nutrient modelling tool will be used to check and manage nitrogen losses occurring on-farm over winter and spring.	☐
• Soil nutrient testing will be done prior to establishing the crop to help ensure fertiliser inputs align with crop requirements	☐
• Sediment traps / constructed wetlands / retention bunds will be installed to minimise soil run-off from the cropped area into waterways and CSA's	☐
• Grass strips have been left across slopes or cultivated paddocks to act as filters to trap sediment running off cultivated areas	☐
• A stand off area will be used if conditions are unsuitable	☐
• Stock will enter at the top end of the paddock and be striped grazed moving in a downhill direction	☐
• Are there other mitigation measure that are appropriate to implement? If so please list below	☐

Part E: Assessment against statutory documents

The Resource Management Act 1991 required you to make your own assessment of your proposed activity against statutory documents. You can either do your own or agree to the assessment outlined below.

Tick one

a) I agree with the assessment below and adopt it as my own. It applies to my application **OR** ☐

b) I have written my own policy assessment and it is attached ☐

1. Part 2 of Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)

The discharge and use of land for IWG is consistent with the purposes and principles of the RMA as outlined in Sections 5-8. My IWG activity is consistent with sustaining the potential of natural resources to meet the needs of future generations, the safeguarding of the life-supporting capacity of water and avoiding, remedying, and mitigating adverse effects on the environment. The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi have been taken into account. Overall my application is consistent with Part 2 of the RMA.

2. National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM)

The NPS-FM sets out a national framework of objectives and policies to manage activities affecting freshwater in a way that priorities (1) the health and wellbeing of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems, (2) the health needs of people; and (3) the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing, now and in the future. My application is consistent with Objective 1 and Policies 1, 2, 3, , 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, & 15 of the NPS-FW. This is because of how I will undertake my IWG and the mitigation measures I am using. As a result, my activity will aid in improving water quality through improvements in the management of IWG activity from the status quo.

3. Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP)

The RPS and PNRP sets out a regional framework of objectives and policies to manage activities effects on the natural environment. My application is consistent relevant objectives and policies in the RPS including Objectives 12, 13 and Policies 40, 43, 48, 49. My application is also consistent with relevant objectives and policies in the PNRP including Objectives 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 21, 33, 34, 35, 36, & 37 and Policies 6, 9, 18, 20, 30, 31, 65, 66, 68, 70, 108, 109 This is because my mitigation measures combined with standard conditions of consent for IWG will ensure these objectives and policies are appropriately satisfied.

CHECKLIST

Please tick if you can confirm the following

I have fully completed all sections of forms 1 and 3d ☐

I have submitted a farm map and Intensive Winter Grazing Management Plan ☐

My activity is a **restricted discretionary activity** (ie, I can't comply with one or more of question 1a to 1d in Part A) and therefore the reduced initial fixed application fee of $1,242.00 (incl. GST) applies ☐

My activity is a **discretionary activity** (ie, I can't comply with one or more of question 1e or 1f in Part A) and therefore the initial fixed application fee of $2,530.00 (incl. GST) applies ☐