

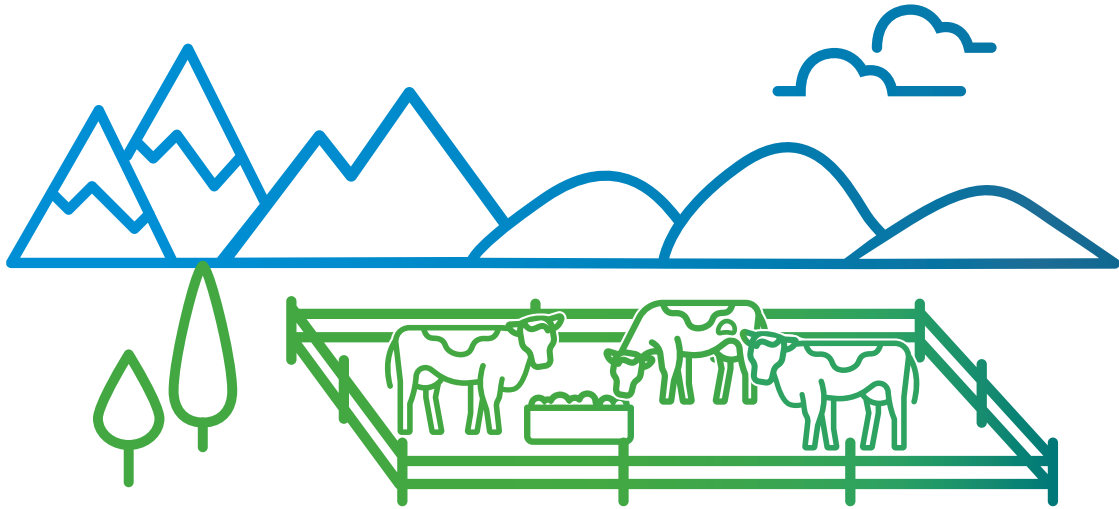
Essential Freshwater package

Feedlots and stockholding areas

Guardianship of our waterways:

What the new rules and regulations mean for you





Feedlots and stockholding areas

Feedlots and stockholding areas must be an appropriate distance from waterbodies, while meeting minimum permeability standards, and providing for effluent management.

In August 2020, the Government released the Essential Freshwater package. The package includes, among other regulations, the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater 2020 (NES-F). The NES-F introduces essential environmental protections for a consistent approach to improving environmental outcomes nationwide.

Feedlots and other stockholding areas can pose high environmental risks to freshwater. Designing and managing them appropriately helps to avoid erosion and contamination of nearby waterbodies. Provided they meet the permitted activity status under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP), stockholding areas and feedlots are

permitted activities that do not require consent under the NES-F if at least 90% of the cattle are under 4 months old or weigh less than 120kg.

The regulations introduced in the NES-F must be considered alongside the rules in the LWRP. In general, regulations in the NES-F are prioritised over rules in the LWRP, unless the rules in the LWRP are more stringent.

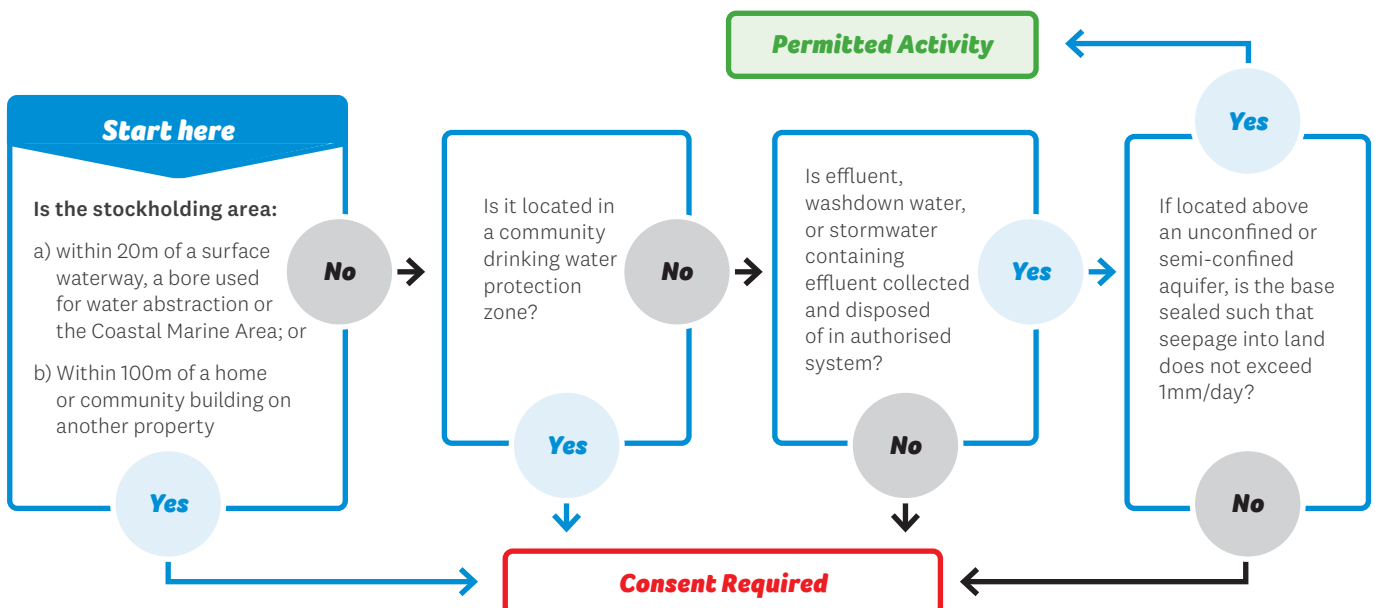
We've developed the following flowcharts to help you distinguish your responsibilities under these different rules. However, there are many complexities here, and you are welcome to contact us to discuss your individual situation.

Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan - Stockholding areas

The LWRP defines a stockholding area as an area of land in which the construction of the holding area or stocking density precludes maintenance of pasture or vegetative groundcover, and is used for confining livestock for more than 30 days in any 12 month period or for more than 10 consecutive 24-hour days at any time.

This definition of stockholding areas includes milking platforms, feedpads, wintering pads, and farm raceways used for stockholding purposes during milking, but excludes sheep and cattle yards constructed on pasture or bare soil.

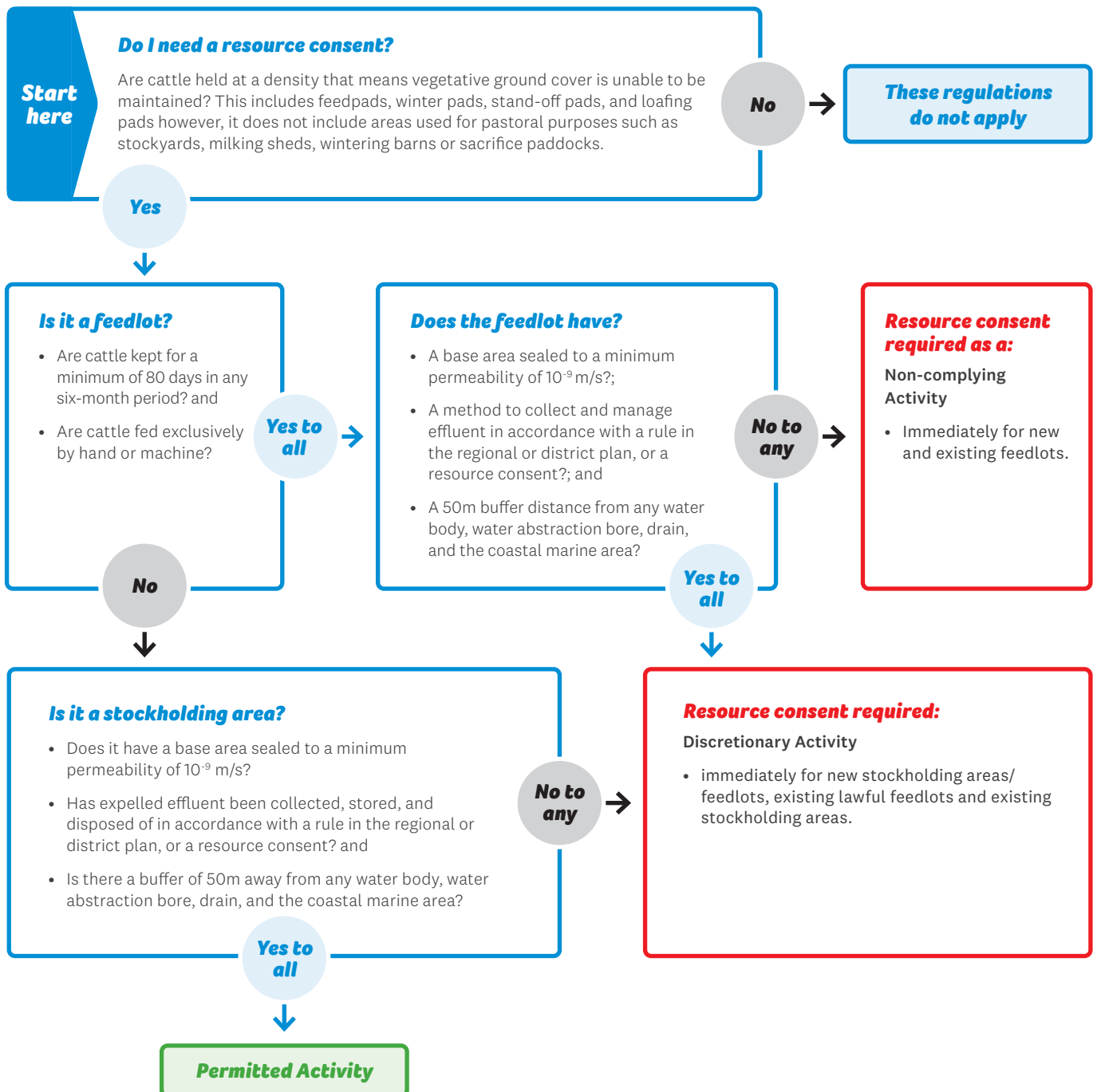
The Land and Water Regional Plan does not have rules for feedlots.



National requirements for feedlots and stockholding areas

There is a degree of overlap between feedlots and stockholding areas. The NES-F defines a feedlot as a form of stockholding area, while there are many different forms of stockholding areas. A feedlot is defined as a stockholding area where cattle: a) are kept for at least 80 days in any 6-month period; and b) are fed exclusively by hand or machine.

A stockholding area is defined as an area for holding cattle at a density that means pasture or other vegetative ground cover cannot be maintained.





Important note

This guide does not represent the full detail of the Government and Environment Canterbury rules that could apply to your activity. For more information visit ecan.govt.nz/essential-freshwater.

Need a hand?

We know there is a lot to think about in the new Essential Freshwater package. If you're not sure where to next, or how to apply for your resource consent, check out our website ecan.govt.nz/essential-freshwater or give us a call. We're here to help.

Talk to your Zone team

We have expert staff to provide localised assistance and advice regarding land management, consents and compliance. For support in your local area, give us a call on **0800 324 636**. We can arrange for your local land management advisor to pop out for a chat, or to catch up with you online or via email to help sort things out.

Names and contact details are also available at ecan.govt.nz/farmers-hub

Industry support

Farming industry bodies provide assistance to farmers. They also have useful information on their websites, which can be a great place to start for industry-specific advice.