

Opportunity Symposium

Lake Rotorua Nitrogen Rules Context and History

Tuesday 16 June 2015



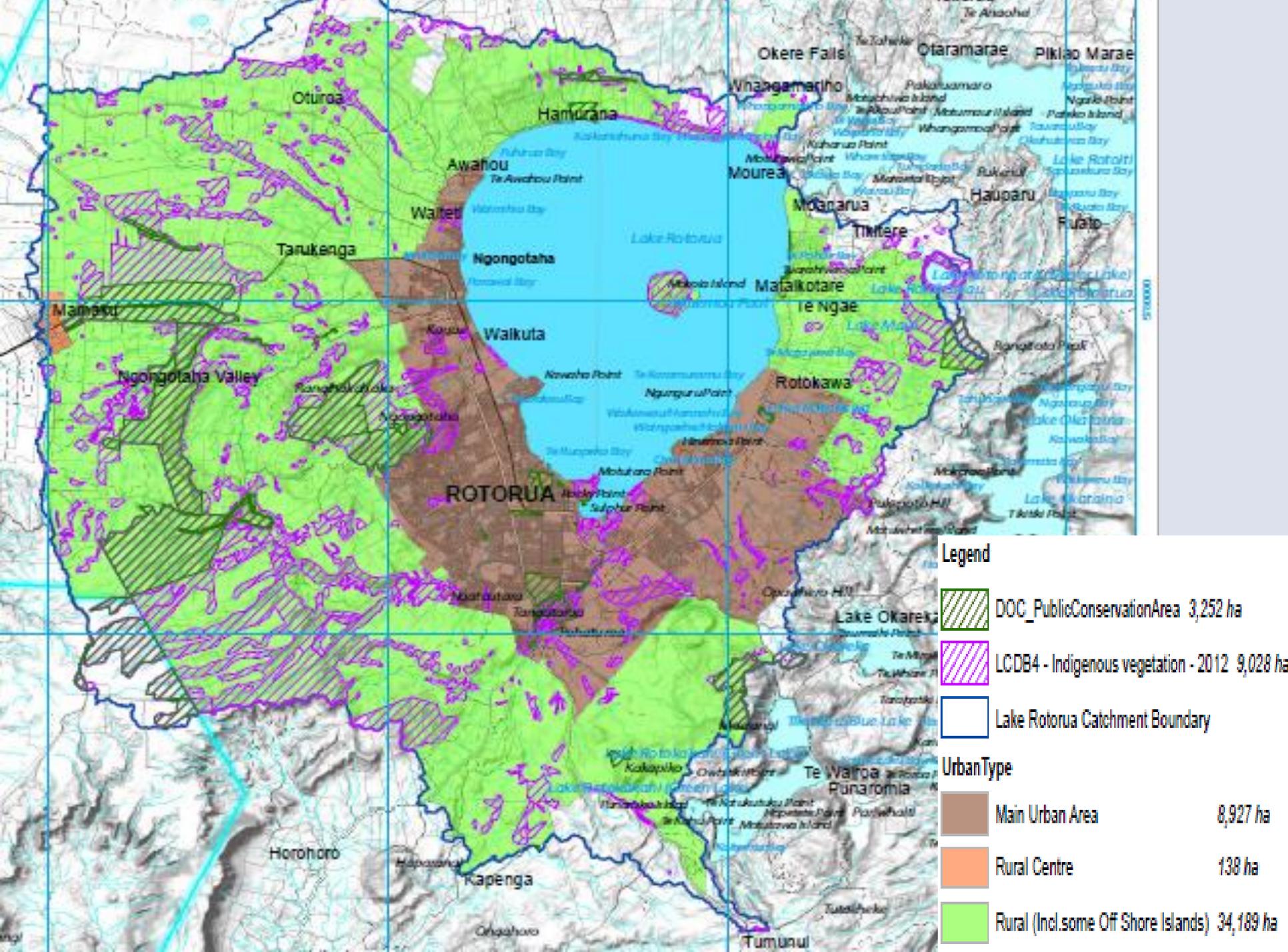
Proud Partners

The logo for Rotorua Lakes Council, consisting of a solid teal rectangle with the text "ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL







Legend

-  DOC_PublicConservationArea 3,252 ha
-  LCDB4 - Indigenous vegetation - 2012 9,028 ha
-  Lake Rotorua Catchment Boundary

Urban Type

-  Main Urban Area 8,927 ha
-  Rural Centre 138 ha
-  Rural (Incl. some Off Shore Islands) 34,189 ha

Policy history

2001: Trophic Level Index target set at 4.2

2008: “Rule 11”: N & P discharges capped at 2001-04

2009: Lake Rotorua and Rotoiti Action Plan

2010: Regional Policy Statement notified

2012: Oturoa Agreement

2013: Regional Policy Statement operative



Policy direction



- RPS sustainable nitrogen limit

435 tN/yr = 320t reduction

To be achieved by 2032; intermediate catchment-wide target to achieve 70% by 2022

Require, including by way of rules, the managed reduction of any nutrient losses that are in excess of the limits

- 50% reduction in pastoral load

526 tN/yr → 256 tN/yr

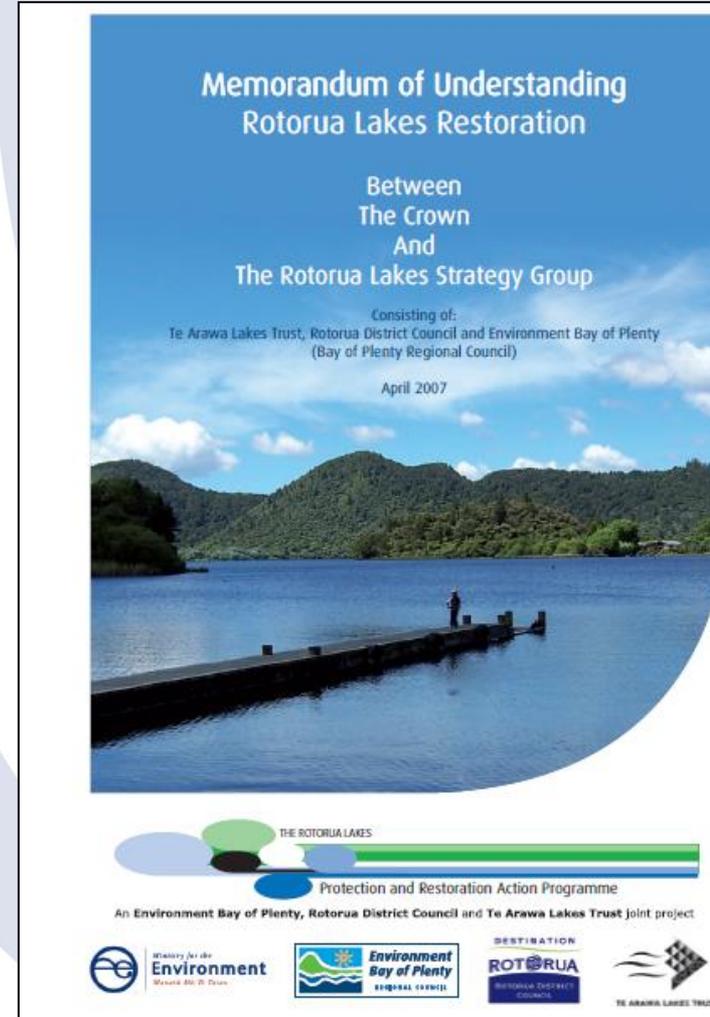
- Existing rules not enough (Rule 11 capping)

- Rules and incentives project initiated

- Stakeholder Advisory Group established

Crown Funding

- \$144 million programme
- MOU 2006
- Crown funding 50%
- 2014 Revised Funding Deed – from projects to outcomes
- \$45.5 million for “incentives”



Integrated Framework

Rules Programme – 140 tonne reduction

By 2015	Farm Nutrient Plans	Plans will be put in place for every farm, setting out a practical pathway of staged nitrogen reductions.
By 2017	Resource consents	Farms will be consented, with a Farm Nutrient Plan as a consent condition.
By 2032	Nitrogen Discharge Allowances	Average of 35 kgN/ha/yr for dairy and 13 kgN/ha/yr for drystock, with adjustments made for geophysical and farm system characteristics.

\$5.5m available to support meeting the requirements of the rules and to engage with the incentives fund.

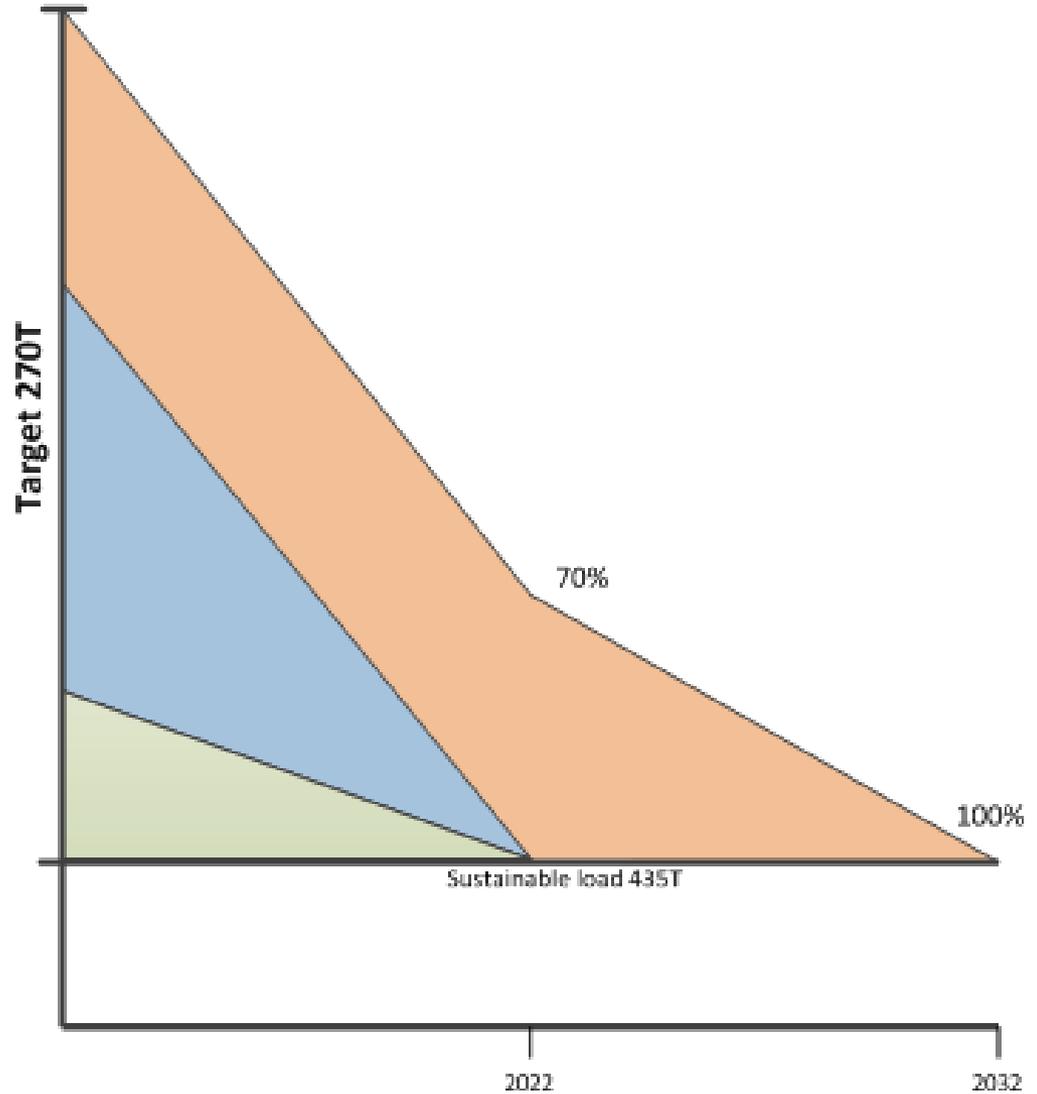
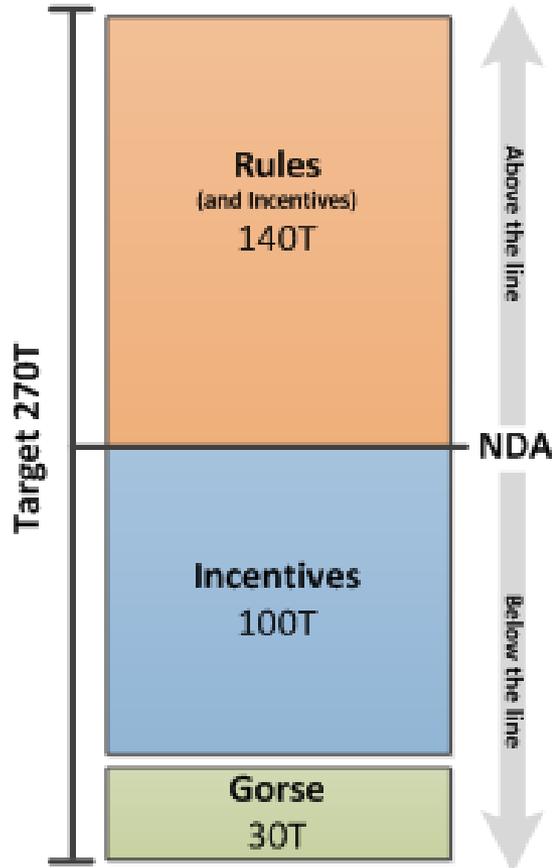
Incentives Programme – 100 tonne reduction

By 2022	Incentives fund	\$40m “below the line” to remove 100 tonnes of nitrogen.
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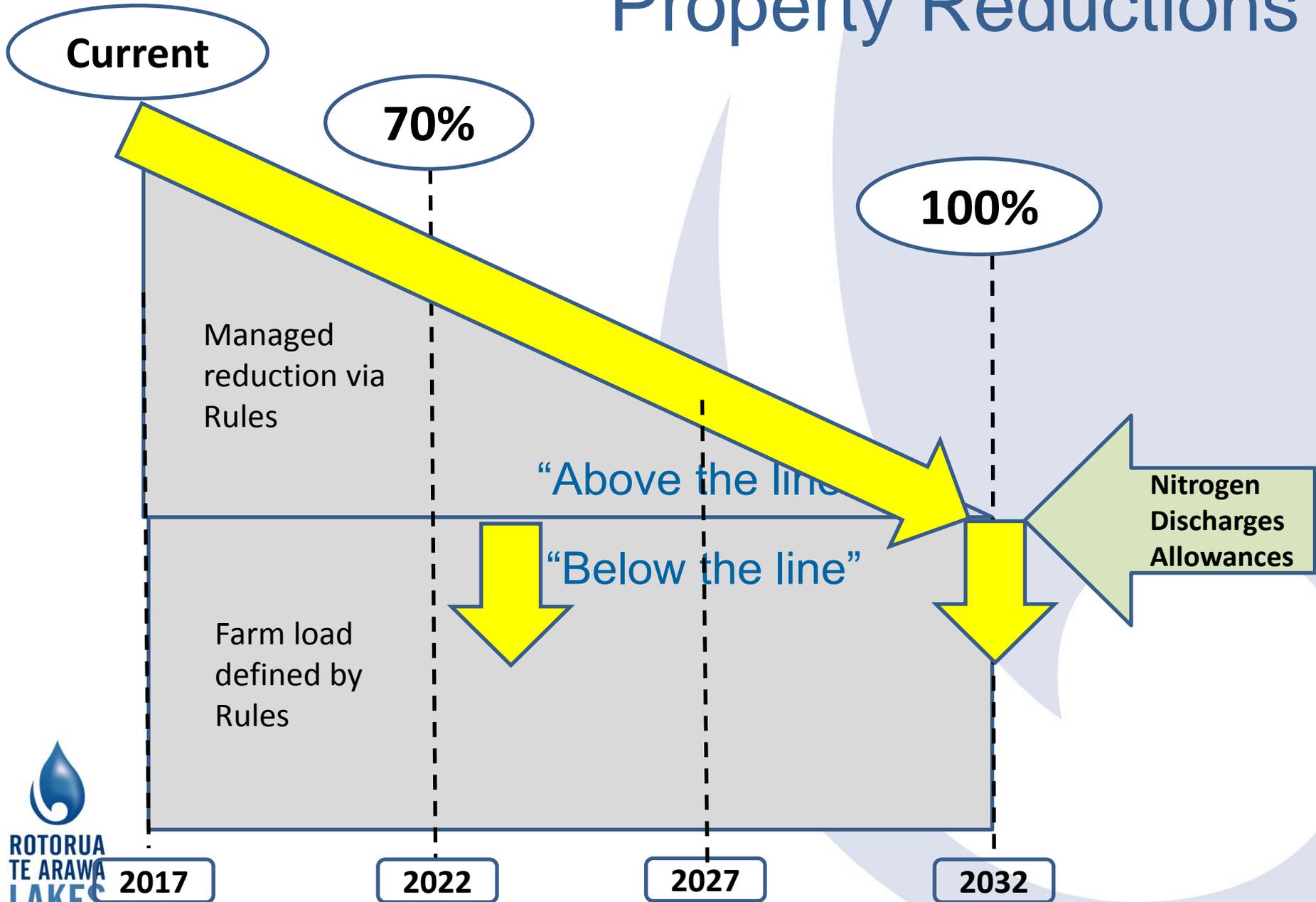
Gorse Programme – 30 tonne reduction

By 2022	Gorse fund	Separate funding to remove 30 tonnes of nitrogen from gorse.
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Pastoral Nitrogen Reductions



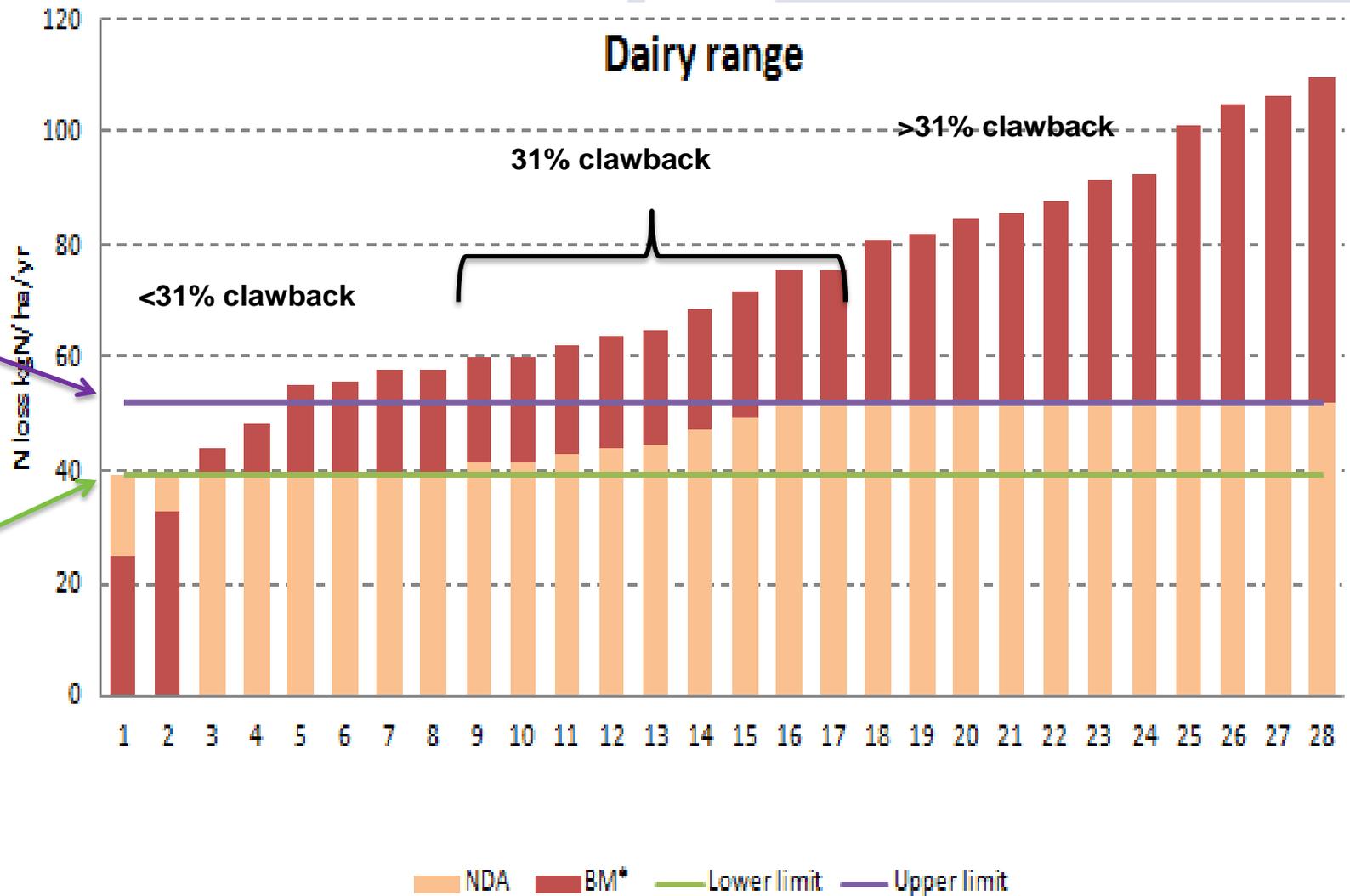
Property Reductions



Allocation

- Methodology to change Benchmark into Nutrient Discharge Allowance
- Long process of debate through Stakeholder Advisory Group (StAG)
- Options and then ranges

Dairy Proposed Allocation



and Trading...

- Can nutrient trading help?
- Short term entitlements
- Long term NDA trading
- Long term shift towards natural capital?
- Interaction with the Incentives Scheme

Process for rule development

We are here



Preparation

- Consultation



Section 32

Notification

- Submissions
- Further submissions

Hearing of submissions

- Council's decisions on submissions

Appeals on Council's decisions

- Environment Court decision

Council approves

- Becomes operative

Not just Rules.....

- Continuing science and monitoring programmes
- Engineering solutions (50 tonnes)
- Gorse Project (\$3 million)
- Advice and Support (\$5.5 million)
- Lake Rotorua Incentives Board (\$40 million)

Thank you, questions

