

Support and incentives

The nitrogen reductions needed from rural land are large and challenging. Support and advice will be provided to help landowners achieve their part of the 270 tonne nitrogen reduction needed.

An integrated programme of property nitrogen limits and incentives will be used to achieve the nitrogen reductions needed from rural land.

The programme cost will be shared between the community and landowners. The community is contributing \$45.5 million, funded equally by Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the Crown. Landowners are contributing by making significant on-farm reductions in nitrogen. Programme funding has been approved for:

- \$5.5m for support and advice to landowners in the catchment
- \$40m for an incentives scheme to purchase 100 tonnes of nitrogen discharge reductions from landowners.

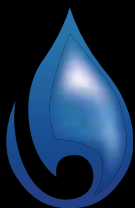
Support and advice

We will help landowners to make informed decisions about meeting their property's Nitrogen Discharge Allowance (NDA) by 2032.

Landowners will have access to expert advice for business planning and development of Farm Nutrient Plans. A Farm Nutrient Plan will show how a property will progress towards its NDA. The expert advice from farm consultants and others will include assessment of options to change farm practices and land use to get their property to the NDA and possibly sell permanent reductions in nitrogen to the incentives scheme.

Funding will also be provided for the investigation of low nutrient land uses, including trials in the catchment to provide additional alternatives for landowners.

Contact the Regional Council to access the support and advice.



Ko te wai te ora o
ngā mea katoa
Water is the life
giver of all things

Fact sheets in this series:

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ROTORUA TE ARAWA LAKES PROGRAMME

For more information
call 0800 884 880 or
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The incentives scheme

Incentives funding is available for landowners who want to permanently reduce nitrogen discharges below their NDA. The scheme enables landowners to 'sell' some or most of their property's NDA to permanently remove this nitrogen from the catchment.

Involvement in the incentive scheme is voluntary. For landowners who get involved in the incentives scheme it is likely to mean changing the type of activity they are doing on part or all of their land. For example, converting pasture to forestry, or changing to some other low nitrogen land use.

Selling nitrogen discharges is about permanent reductions. Landowners will sign an agreement which includes a deed that survives in perpetuity, records the change and secures the nitrogen reduction.

How will the incentives scheme work?

A Board is being set up to manage the scheme and will appoint an independent professional manager. The funding will be available until 2022.

Early applications for the incentives scheme

The Board will be established in late 2014. It will be seeking and processing applications for reducing nitrogen discharges on farms in the Lake Rotorua catchment from early 2015. The Regional Council is keen to work with landowners who are interested in applying to the incentives scheme.

Interested landowners can approach the Regional Council prior to establishment of the Board to register their interest, find out what needs to happen to get proposals ready, and be kept up-to-date with progress in establishing the Board.

As yet, NDAs have not been formally set as this requires changes to the rules in the Regional Water and Land Plan. This does not prevent property owners from participating in the incentives scheme, but until NDAs are issued the Board will have a preference for proposals providing nitrogen discharge reductions using tried and trusted techniques. Examples of this include converting larger areas of pasture to forestry or to proven low nitrogen discharge activities.

More information

To find out how to access the support and advice or express an interest in the incentive scheme:

- Contact the Regional Council on 0800 884 880
- Visit the Regional Council Rotorua office and ask to speak to a land management officer
- Visit www.rotorualakes.co.nz

Want to know more?

For more information on the draft rules see the Have Your Say brochure or supporting information fact sheets on www.rotorualakes.co.nz

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