Calculating Nitrogen Discharge Allowances

What is a Nitrogen **Discharge Allowance?**

A Nitrogen Discharge Allowance (NDA) sets out the maximum amount of nitrogen loss that is allowed to occur from a property after 2032. All properties that need consent will receive an NDA.

What is the approach to Nitrogen Allocation in the draft rules?

The approach to allocating nitrogen in the draft rules is guided by the principles within the Regional Policy Statement and the Lake Rotorua Stakeholder Advisory Group. It is acknowledged that any allocation approach will have implications for land owners.

There is no 'right way' to allocate nitrogen discharge allowances. The allocation within the draft rules recognises that everyone needs to be part of the solution to reduce nitrogen loss within the catchment.

A range of options were explored and assessed. In the end, a hybrid approach - sector averaging with ranges adjusted on the basis of Rule 11 benchmarking - was chosen.

What do the draft rules say?

The draft rules set out how the Start Point and the NDA for 2032 are set for a property (see Schedule One of the Draft Rules for detail).

NDAs will be calculated using the following steps:

START POINT

Take vour benchmark (actual or derived)

Rules category	Rule 11 status	2017 Nitrogen start point
	Benchmarked	Actual Benchmark
40 ha or greater	Not benchmarked	Derived Benchmark. Function of 2002-03 landuse and 2001-04 sector average unless evidence of substantial change
	Benchmarked	Actual Benchmark
Between 10-40 ha Consented	Not Benchmarked	Derived Benchmark. Function of 2002/03 landuse and 2001-04 sector average unless evidence of substantial change
Rules category	Rule 11 status	2022 Nitrogen start point
	status	Nitrogen start point Actual

Subtract the standard ■ sector % reduction

	Dairy	Drystock
Standard sector % reduction	31.3%	20%

If your actual or derived benchmark is below

the relevant NDA sector range in the table

the relevant sector becomes your NDA.

under Step 3, then the lower range value of

NDA - END POINT

Find your NDA by checking your figure against the following table

	Lower Range Value		Upper Range Value
Dairy	54.6		72.8
Drystock	18	If your figure is between the lower	54.6
	If your figure is below the lower range value, then the lower range value becomes your NDA	range/upper range values then that figure becomes your NDA	If your figure is above the upper range value, then the upper range value becomes your NDA

A property's Nitrogen Discharge Allowance equals the sum of the allowable nitrogen losses for all of the blocks within the property (drystock, dairy, bush/scrub, plantation forestry and house block).

Examples

All of the calculations are done on the basis of farm management blocks. Different blocks will have physical and productivity differences and this will be reflected in the nitrogen loss rates. Mixed farms will have separate dairy/drystock blocks that make up a combined total NDA.

	Benchmar kg N/ha		Standard sector %	Move to up to lower range value OR down to upper range value?	NDA
Dairy Farm	66	-	31.3 % = 45.3	Up	54.6
Dairy Farm	90	-	31.3 % = 61.8	None	61.8
Dairy Farm	110	-	31.3 % = 75.6	Down	72.8
Drystock Farm	22	-	20% = 17.6	Up	18.0
Drystock Farm	23	-	20% = 18.4	None	18.4
Drystock Farm	75	-	20% = 60	Down	54.6

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