

INTRODUCTION: USING THIS RESOURCE

The Deer Industry Environmental Management Handbook is a practical, online companion to the Deer Industry Environmental Management Code of Practice.

By working through the sections in this manual that apply to you, you will get most of your Farm Environment Plan done.

Each Action Plan section covers a specific area that has some environmental risk, eg, wallows, fence pacing, winter crops.





01 What information will I need?

Information resources

There's plenty of good reference material to help you. We'll give you links in each Action Plan section, but key sources include:

- Deer Industry Environmental Management Code of Practice (2018)
- The Deer Hub
- Deer Facts
- Your local catchment group
- Your regional council
- National Essential Freshwater rules
- Farmsonline for basic farm data
- DairyNZ environment information
- Beef + Lamb NZ
- NZ Landcare Trust deer videos

Tools

Management tools you're already using could also be helpful when you're going through each section. These could include:

- FarmIQ
- LandscapeDNA
- Your farm diary or farm recording software
- Regional council maps and website
- Google Earth (for mapping)
- Soil maps
- Slope maps
- Your smartphone's camera (also recording time/date/location)



02 Part 1: Toolbox

First things
first
.....

Before you start working through the Action Plan sections there are several “big picture” farm-level sections to work through:

1. Farm description
2. Farm map
3. Risk assessment
4. The rules
5. Action Plans – an introduction
6. Good management practice toolbox
7. Farm planning example
8. Te Mana o te Wai – what that means for our environmental planning

These will take a bit of time but will help when you’re working through the Action Plans. They’ll be a resource you can dip into and will also be an important part of your overall Farm Environment Plan.



03 Part 2: Action plans

The main job
.....

There are 14 Action Plans. Each one focuses on a particular area such as fence pacing, play sites or wallowing. The full list is:

1. Waterways
2. Nitrogen
3. Phosphorus
4. Waste management
5. Soil erosion
6. Winter forage crops
7. Point sources – tracks and crossings
8. Point sources – sheds and yards
9. Fence pacing
10. Camp and play sites
11. Wallows
12. Irrigation
13. Greenhouse gases
14. Biodiversity

The main job cont.

Because each area is different, the Action Plan sections won't all look the same. Some will be bigger than others, e.g. Waterways is a big one so there's more to look at there.

But the process for each section will be much the same. Each one will have:

- A list of what you'll need
- Goals (with examples)
- Describing and assessing level of risk (with examples)
- Action plans (with examples):
 - what you've already done
 - what you still have to do

In each Action Plan section we also have:

- Where you can get more key information
- Handy hints and examples of Goals, Risk assessment and Actions
- Photos
- The Action Plan template for you to fill in your own Goals, Risks identified and Actions and how you'll monitor them.



04 On paper or online?

Each part of the manual is online. This makes it easier to keep material up to date as rules and regulations change.

You can print out the Action Plans if you prefer working on paper, but the Action Plans are designed so you can fill them in on screen and then save them.

We've also provided links to many useful resources throughout this manual, and these can be easily accessed just by clicking on them.

We recommend you fill out your Action Plan templates on screen and save them, because you can come back and make additions and changes. Once you're happy with your plan you can start printing out sections if you need to so you can keep things like your maps and soil tests together with your Action Plans, or you can just keep them stored in a folder on your computer.



05 Summary: Working through each Action Plan

