

# Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord

A commitment to New Zealand to enhance the overall performance of dairy farming as it affects freshwater.

## Who are the Accord's partners?

– committed to actions and targets in the Accord

- Industry body DairyNZ
- Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand
- New Zealand dairy companies
  - Fonterra
  - Open Country
  - Miraka
  - Synlait
  - Tatua
- Fertiliser Association of New Zealand
- Ballance Agri-Nutrients
- Ravensdown Fertiliser Co-operative
- Federated Farmers Dairy Section
- Irrigation New Zealand
- NZ Institute of Primary Industry Management

## Who are the Accord's 'friends'?

– supportive of the purpose of the Accord and committed to contribute to its success

- Westland Milk Products
- Regional/Unitary Councils
  - Northland Regional Council; Auckland Council; Waikato Regional Council; Bay of Plenty Regional Council; Hawke's Bay Regional Council; Gisborne District Council; Taranaki Regional Council; Horizons Regional Council; Greater Wellington Regional Council; Environment Canterbury; West Coast Regional Council; Marlborough District Council; Southland Regional Council; Tasman District Council; Otago Regional Council; Environment Southland
- The Federation of Māori Authorities
- Ministry for Primary Industries
- Ministry for the Environment

## Who oversees the Accord and how is progress monitored?

The Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord has been developed under the oversight of the Dairy Environment Leadership Group (DELG). DELG includes representatives from farmers, dairy companies, central government, regional councils and the Federation of Māori Authorities.

DairyNZ and the Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand report to DELG annually on progress against Accord commitments. The report will be audited by an independent third party.

## Key commitments and targets

### Stock excluded from waterways

- Rivers, streams, drains and springs over one metre wide and 30cms deep that permanently contain water
- All lakes
- Wetlands (if they are identified by a regional council in its regional plan as being significant)

**Target:** 90% exclusion by 31 May 2014; 100% exclusion by 31 May 2017; 100% exclusion from significant wetlands by 31 May 2014.

### Stock crossings bridged or culverted

All points on a waterway where cows cross and return more than once per month must be either bridged or culverted.

**Target:** 100% of regular stock crossing points bridged or culverted by 31 May 2018.

### Riparian management plans

All dairy farms with waterways must prepare a riparian management plan that sets out where riparian planting is to occur.

**Target:** 100% of farms with Accord waterways will have a riparian management plan by 31 May 2020. Planting is to be completed by 2030.

### Nutrient management

Farms must supply their dairy company with information that will allow for the modelling of Nitrogen loss and Nitrogen conversion efficiency. Companies will report comparative performance back to farmers to drive continuous improvement in nutrient management.

**Target:** Data collected and performance benchmarked for 85% of dairy farms by 30 November 2014; 100% of dairy farms by 30 November 2015.

### Effluent management and compliance

All dairy farm effluent systems must be capable of being compliant with the relevant regional council rules and/or their resource consent 365 days per year.

**Target:** 100% of farms assessed by 31 May 2014.

### Water use managed and monitored

All farms must comply with all regional rules controlling water takes.

**Target:** 85% of farms must install water meters by 2020.

### Compliance standards for conversions

New dairy farms establish and comply with an agreed set of standards before milk collection starts.

**Target:** Compliance with standards from 2013/14 season; Good practice obligations published by 31 May 2014.