

Changes to Definitions Arising from the Environment Court Decision on Plan Change 18

The following changes to definitions have been made through the decision of the Environment Court - Decision No. [2026] NZEnvC 120.

Delete the definition of 'improved pasture', as follows:

~~means an area of land where exotic pasture species have been deliberately sown or maintained for the purpose of pasture production, and species composition and growth has been modified and is being managed for livestock grazing.~~

Delete the definition of 'pastoral intensification', as follows:

~~means topdressing and oversowing.~~

Amend the definition of 'indigenous vegetation' as follows:

~~means a community of vascular plants, mosses and/or lichens that includes species native to the ecological district and many include exotic species.~~

Amend the definition of 'vegetation clearance' as follows:

~~means the felling, clearing or modification of trees or any vegetation by cutting, crushing, cultivation, spraying, burning, irrigation, artificial drainage, and mob stocking. It includes oversowing, topdressing or and overplanting on land that is not improved pasture. Clearance of vegetation shall have the same meaning.~~

Consequential Changes Arising from the Environment Court Decision on Plan Change 18

The Council, under Clause 16(2) and Clause 20(A) of the Resource Management Act 1991, have made the following corrections to the Mackenzie District Plan, as a consequence of the the decision of the Environment Court - Decision No. [2026] NZEnvC 120, and reflecting the interim decision (Decision No. [2025] NZEnvC 125).

Natural Features and Landscapes Chapter (NFL)	
NFL-O2	<i>Te Manahuna/Mackenzie Basin ONL</i>
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2.	<i>Subject to NFL-O2.1 above and to the rural objectives:</i>
	<i>a. to enable pastoral farming;</i>
	<i>b. to manage pastoral intensification <u>topdressing, oversowing</u> and/or agricultural conversion throughout Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie Basin and to identify areas where they may be enabled (such as Farm Base Areas); and</i>
	<i>c. to enable rural residential subdivision, cluster housing and farm buildings within Farm Base Areas around existing homesteads (where they are outside hazard areas).</i>
NFL-P6	<i>Views from State Highways and Tourist Roads</i>
...	
3.	<i>To avoid clearance, pastoral intensification <u>topdressing, oversowing</u> and/or agricultural conversion of Scenic Viewing Areas and Scenic Grasslands.</i>
NFL-P8	<i><u>Pastoral Intensification Topdressing, Oversowing and Agricultural Conversion</u></i>
1.	<i>To ensure areas in Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie Basin which are proposed for pastoral intensification <u>topdressing, oversowing</u> and/or agricultural conversion maintain the outstanding natural landscape of Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie Basin and meet all the other relevant objectives and policies for Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie Basin ONL (including NFL-O2 and implementing policies).</i>
2.	<i>To avoid pastoral intensification <u>topdressing, oversowing</u> and/or agricultural conversion in Sites of Natural Significance.</i>
3.	<i>Enabling pastoral intensification <u>topdressing and oversowing</u> (subject to any further conditions necessary to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the characteristics and/or values in NFL-O2.1.a to f) in specific areas where water permits for irrigation activities have been approved before 14 November 2015.</i>
4.	<i>To manage pastoral intensification <u>topdressing, oversowing</u> and/or agricultural conversion elsewhere in order to retain the valued characteristics of Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie Basin ONL.</i>
5.	<i>To take into account any agreement between the Mackenzie Country Charitable Trust and landowners that secures protection of landscape and biodiversity values as compensation for intensification of production.</i>

NFL-R3	<i>Pastoral Intensification Topdressing, Oversowing and Agricultural Conversion (except as provided under NFL-R7 and NFL-R8)</i>	
<i>Te Manahuna /Mackenzie Basin ONL</i>	<p>Activity Status: PER</p> <p>Where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Located within a Farm Base Area and which is set back at least 20m from the bank of a river and 50m from a wetland. 2. There shall be no pastoral intensification topdressing, oversowing or agricultural conversion within the following areas identified on the Planning Maps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites of Natural Significance • Scenic Viewing Areas • Scenic Grasslands • Lakeside Protection Areas 	<p>Activity status when compliance is not achieved with R3.1: CON</p> <p>Where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Pastoral intensification topdressing, oversowing and/or Agricultural Conversion (refer Definitions) within the Te Manahuna/Mackenzie Basin ONL which is within an area for which a water permit to take and use water for the purpose of irrigation has been granted by Canterbury Regional Council prior to 14 November 2015 and the consent has not lapsed, subject to compliance with the following standard: <p>Matters over which control are reserved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The location and visibility of irrigation equipment relative to public vantage points including State Highways. b. The screening and/or mitigation of visual effects associated with the pastoral intensification topdressing, oversowing and/or agricultural conversion in relation to public vantage points. c. The extent and form of pastoral intensification topdressing, oversowing and/or agricultural conversion taking into account: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The extent to which there is compensatory protection and enhancement of stream corridors on the application property ii. The extent to which wilding trees are removed and controlled in future on the

		<p>application property</p> <p>iii. Any agreement between the Mackenzie Country Charitable Trust and landowners that secures protection of significant landscape and biodiversity values as compensation for intensification of production</p> <p>d. Whether any threatened or at risk plants are present, including the at-risk species listed in Appendix W.</p> <p>Activity status when compliance is not achieved with R3.3: DIS</p> <p>Activity status when compliance is not achieved with R3.2: NC</p>
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Glentanner Special Purpose Zone Chapter (GSPZ)

GSPZ-P3 Ecological Open Space

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2. Provide for the continuation of the level of ~~pastoral intensification~~ topdressing, oversowing and agricultural conversion activities existing as of 5 November 2024 in the area south of Twin Stream;

Pūkaki Downs Special Purpose Zone Chapter (PDSPZ)

PDSPZ-R9	Primary Production Activities	
Pūkaki Downs Special Purpose Zone LMA 1-5	<p>Activity Status: PER</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>1. No pastoral intensification <u>topdressing, oversowing or agricultural conversion</u> occurs within a Site of Natural Significance; and</p> <p>2. The activity is not intensive primary production, mining, or quarrying.</p>	<p>Activity status when compliance is not achieved with R9.1 and R9.2: NC</p>