



## April 2024 Newsletter | Freshwater farm plan certifier and auditor programme

Dear contact,

Welcome to the April issue of our newsletter.

This month the Horizons Region (Manawatū – Whanganui) is joining the freshwater farm plan system, and we look forward to welcoming applicants from that region. More information from Horizons Regional Council is below.

As we mentioned in our previous update, the Government has indicated their intention to improve freshwater farm plans to ensure they are cost effective and pragmatic for farmers, and we will communicate any updates there may be to the certifier and auditor appointment process as we receive this information. In the meantime, the appointment programme remains open to new applications. The national and regional training programmes provide a comprehensive base of knowledge about farm systems, policy, regulation and cultural competencies for future certifiers and auditors working in the freshwater farm planning system, and we are continuing to assist applicants who are currently working through these training programmes.

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### Horizons Region

Freshwater farm plan regulations came into effect in the Horizons Region on 1 April 2024, starting with the Rangitikei-Turakina freshwater management unit.

Horizons Regional Council is ready to start the process of appointing freshwater farm plan certifiers and auditors. They're working to have the first certifiers for the region ready by 1 July 2024.

If you're interested in becoming a freshwater farm plan certifier or auditor in the Horizons Region, visit [www.farmplancertifiers.nz](http://www.farmplancertifiers.nz), email [FreshwaterFarmPlans@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:FreshwaterFarmPlans@horizons.govt.nz) with 'Certifier/Auditor/Assessor' as the subject, or call free phone 0508 800 800 and ask for Rural Advice.

You can also learn more about the freshwater farm plan programme in the Horizons Region at [horizons.govt.nz](http://horizons.govt.nz).

This message is covered by the disclaimers which can be found here: <https://www.horizons.govt.nz/about-our-region-and-council/terms-conditions>

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### How to contact us

AsureQuality is responsible for the freshwater farm plan certifier and auditor appointment programme. You can contact us about this on [farmplancertifiers@asurequality.com](mailto:farmplancertifiers@asurequality.com).

For any questions about the Resource Management (Freshwater Farm Plans) Regulations 2023, please contact the Ministry for the Environment – [freshwaterfarmplans@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:freshwaterfarmplans@mfe.govt.nz).

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