

1 November 2021

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment
Private Bag
Wellington 6140

Who's
putting local
issues on
the national
agenda?

**We are.
LGNZ.**
Te Kāhui Kaunihera o Aotearoa.

Dear Minister Parker

Regional council report on Intensive Winter Grazing

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the second Intensive Winter Grazing (IWG) report on behalf of Regional Councils as requested in your letter to Environment Southland dated 16 March 2021. This is our second quarterly report and covers measured activities undertaken between 1 July and 30 September 2021. We present data on compliance and monitoring activity undertaken by Council's during the three-month period, alongside the continuing efforts of regional councils, MPI and primary sector organisations to encourage uptake of good management practice for intensive winter grazing.

The report highlights the seriousness with which Regionals Councils have taken this matter. It demonstrates our commitment to addressing Intensive Winter Grazing working alongside the primary sector. We do acknowledge that there are still individual farms that are not demonstrating good management practice and these need to be the focus of compliance and monitoring activities by Council's in coming years.

Strong collaboration between primary sector organisations and Council's has continued and overall there has been significant improvements in intensive winter grazing practices observed during the 2021 winter as compared to previous winters. Work is already underway ahead of the 2022 winter grazing season to make further progress on the uptake of good management practice.

Winter grazing was one focus of the video by Geoff Reid that first aired at the EDS conference. We have proactively contacted Geoff Reid and Angus Robson and are continuing a dialogue about their concerns and the regional sector response.

Yours sincerely



Doug Leeder
Chair, LGNZ Regional Sector
Local Government New Zealand

Cc: Minister O'Connor

Appendix 1 IWG report to Minister Parker November 2021
Appendix 2 Regional council compliance data
Appendix 3 Primary Sector groups activity