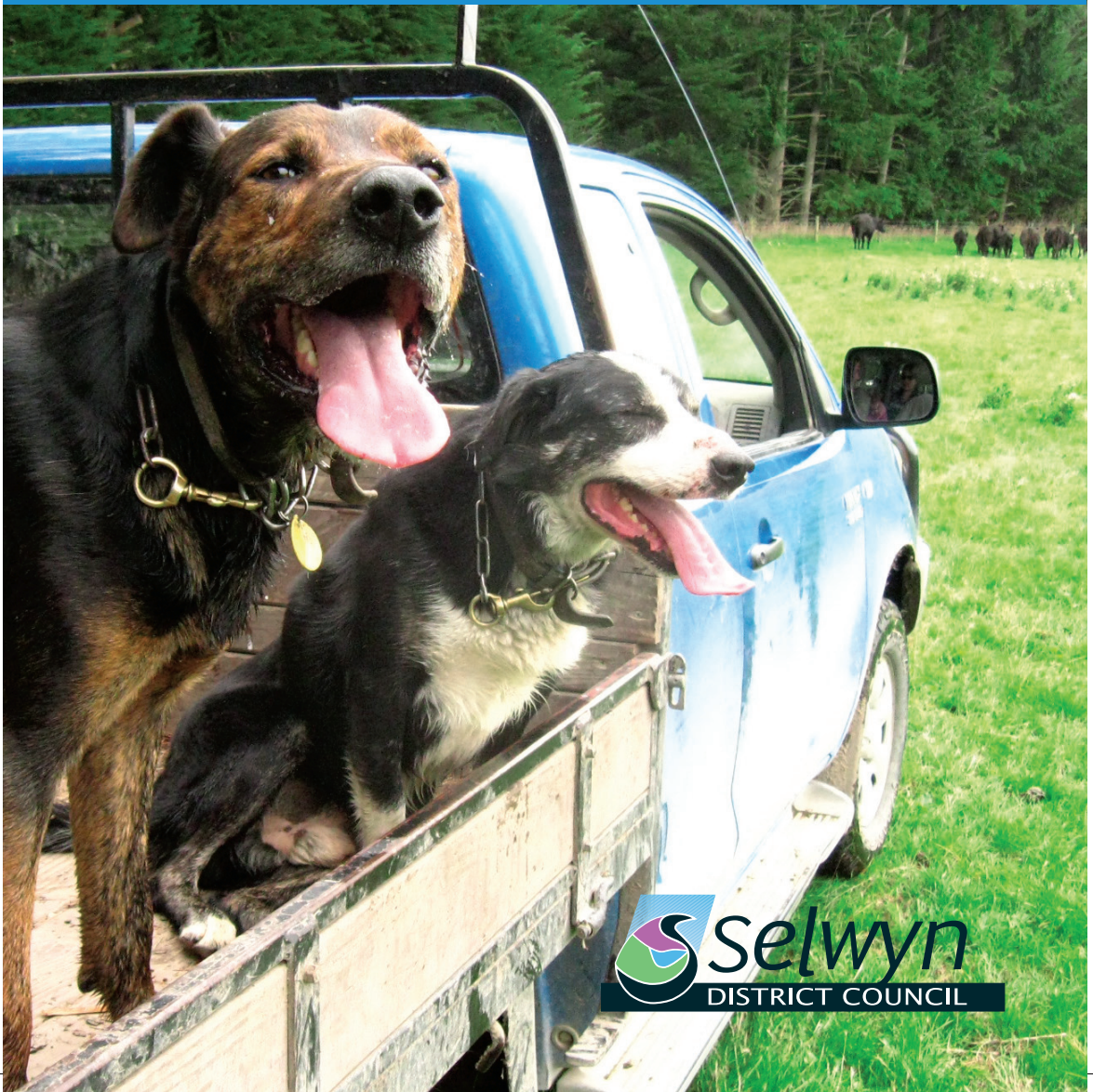


a guide

to the management of stock droving
and stock control in the selwyn district



1

The management of stock droving and stock control in the selwyn district





This information booklet sets out the general responsibilities and rights of people to drive stock on roads and the management of stock control on road reserves and should be read in conjunction with the Council Stock Driving Bylaw.

The Council Stock Driving Bylaw establishes a legal framework towards the promotion of best driving practices. The bylaw is intended to promote the safety of drovers, animals and other road users. It also highlights the importance of having a managed crossing where dairy cows are moved for milking purposes.

How to obtain a permit or consent



Telephone or email the Selwyn District Council for stock droving consent forms to be sent out. Forms are also available on the Selwyn District website. www.selwyn.govt.nz

One-Off Stock Droving Permit

This type of permit allows for droving on a one off basis on a road listed in schedule A, B or C of the bylaw. Council must receive the application within two working days of the proposed droving.

Moving Dairy Cows for “Gypsy Day”

This is when share milkers or contract milkers who are changing contracts move dairy cows from one property to another. A one off permit must be obtained from the Council if the cows are being moved on a road listed in the schedule A, B or C of the bylaw.

Regular Stock Droving Permit

This type of permit allows droving to occur on a regular basis on a road listed in schedule A, B or C of the bylaw. Council must receive the application within two working days of the proposed droving.

Consents for the crossing of dairy cows for milking purposes

This type of consent must be obtained for all dairy cows that cross any road in Selwyn District for milking purposes. Council will either approve or refuse consent within 20 working days of receipt of an application, or within 20 working days of receiving any further information that the Council may request.

Moving Dairy Cows during the Hours of Darkness

This is not permitted except in accordance with a permit issued in writing from the Council. This type of permit will include a requirement that the crossing point is illuminated adequately to ensure the safety of stock, drovers and other road users.

General Requirements for Stock Droving





Visibility to other road users

When motor vehicles are used to control the droving of stock the vehicles' hazard lights or an amber beacon fitted to the vehicle must be on and visible to approaching motorists.

Where a motorbike or 4 wheeler is used the headlights must be on "dip". Alternatively an amber beacon can be fitted to the motorbike or 4 wheeler.

High Visibility Garments

Although not compulsory it is highly recommended that drovers wear high visibility garments for their own safety and to increase their visibility to other road users. Farmers or operators may have obligations under the Health and Safety In Employment Act to manage hazards to themselves and any staff undertaking droving activities on roads.

Signage

Signage must comply with the Transit (New Zealand) Manual of Traffic Signs and Markings which display a picture of livestock or read "stock droving" or, "stock ahead" or "stock". Please remember to remove the signs when the stock droving activity has concluded.

State Highways

Where a permit application may relate partially or wholly to those roads listed in Schedule B of the bylaw the Council may need to consult with the NZ Transport Agency who may apply conditions relevant to the state highways. The Council is obligated to include these conditions in any permit / consent issued by the Council on behalf of that road controlling authority.

Crossing Rail Lines

Stock cannot be driven along or across railway lines, or on any part of a railway, except with the prior permission in writing of the Rail Authority and the Council.



7



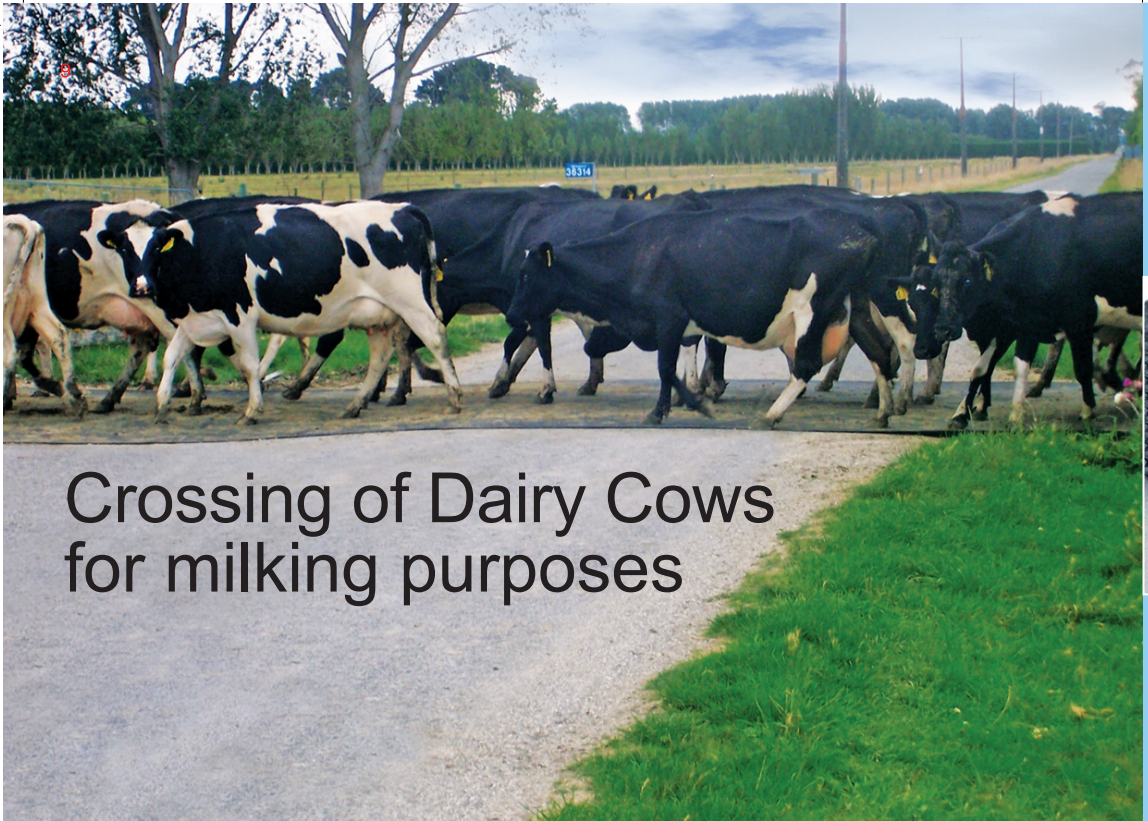
Top Tips for stock droving

for the farmer or operator

1. Make sure you are seen and provide adequate warning for traffic.
2. Plan ahead to reduce potential risks and hazards.
3. Keep stock under control and progressing towards the destination with a competent drover.
4. Close gates to prevent stock entering private property but remember to open the gate afterwards as a courtesy measure.

for persons approaching stock on the road

1. Patience – stock droving can be a stressful event, not only for the stock but also for the drovers, their assistants and motorists. But it is with patience and respect that we can aim to have as little impact on one another's activities as possible.
2. Make sure you watch out for the dogs that may be assisting with the drove. These dogs are hard at work and may not see or hear your vehicle approaching.

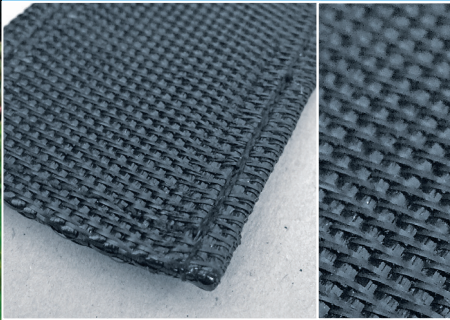


Crossing of Dairy Cows for milking purposes



Cow Mats

Council strongly recommends that a cow mat is used on all dairy crossings. Council has an approved supplier of cow mats.



NUMAT INDUSTRIES
11 Chelmer Street,
P.O. Box 400, Oamaru 9444
Phone 0800 686 287
www.numat.co.nz

Numat Industries supply a mat called the 'Cow-Trax' mat which is lightweight and made of synthetic material. This is placed over roadways for the cows to walk upon. It optimises grip for the animals, keeps the roadways clean and reduces the risk of tarmac erosion.

The mats come in one standard size of 8m x 4.5m, but custom made sizes to suit can be produced.

Council offers a subsidy to contribute to 50% of the cost of an approved mat. (Please refer to Selwyn District Council Policy Manual, policy R419 for entitlements)

Stock Underpasses

Selwyn District Council strongly encourages farm owners to consider alternatives such as installing an underpass rather than allowing the cows to cross on the road. A Stock underpass is not only safer for road users but also safer for the drovers and the well being of their stock. If farm owners cannot meet the requirements for droving of dairy cows across roads, then Council will request the installation of an underpass. Financial assistance may be available from the Council, (Please refer to Selwyn District Council Policy Manual, policy R419 for entitlements).

Consideration to other road users and protection of stock

Please ensure that:

- there is always an experienced person in attendance that has control of the dairy cows while they cross the road.
- the drover must be able to stop the cows to allow vehicles to proceed along the road.

Road Reserves





Use of road reserves

Road reserves are owned by the Council and form part of the public road. At times motorists, walkers, runners or horse riders may require the use of road reserves, along with contractors that may require access to maintain or install infrastructure.

Council have no problem with road reserves being grazed by stock as a means of keeping them tidy as long as this activity is carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in the Stock Droving Bylaw.

If you wish to use the road reserves for storage, eg. baleage, approval must be obtained from the Council.

Grazing of road reserves

Stock may graze on the road verge if the land adjoining the road verge is owned or occupied by the owner of the stock or permission is granted by the owner of the land.

Guidelines to follow when grazing your stock:

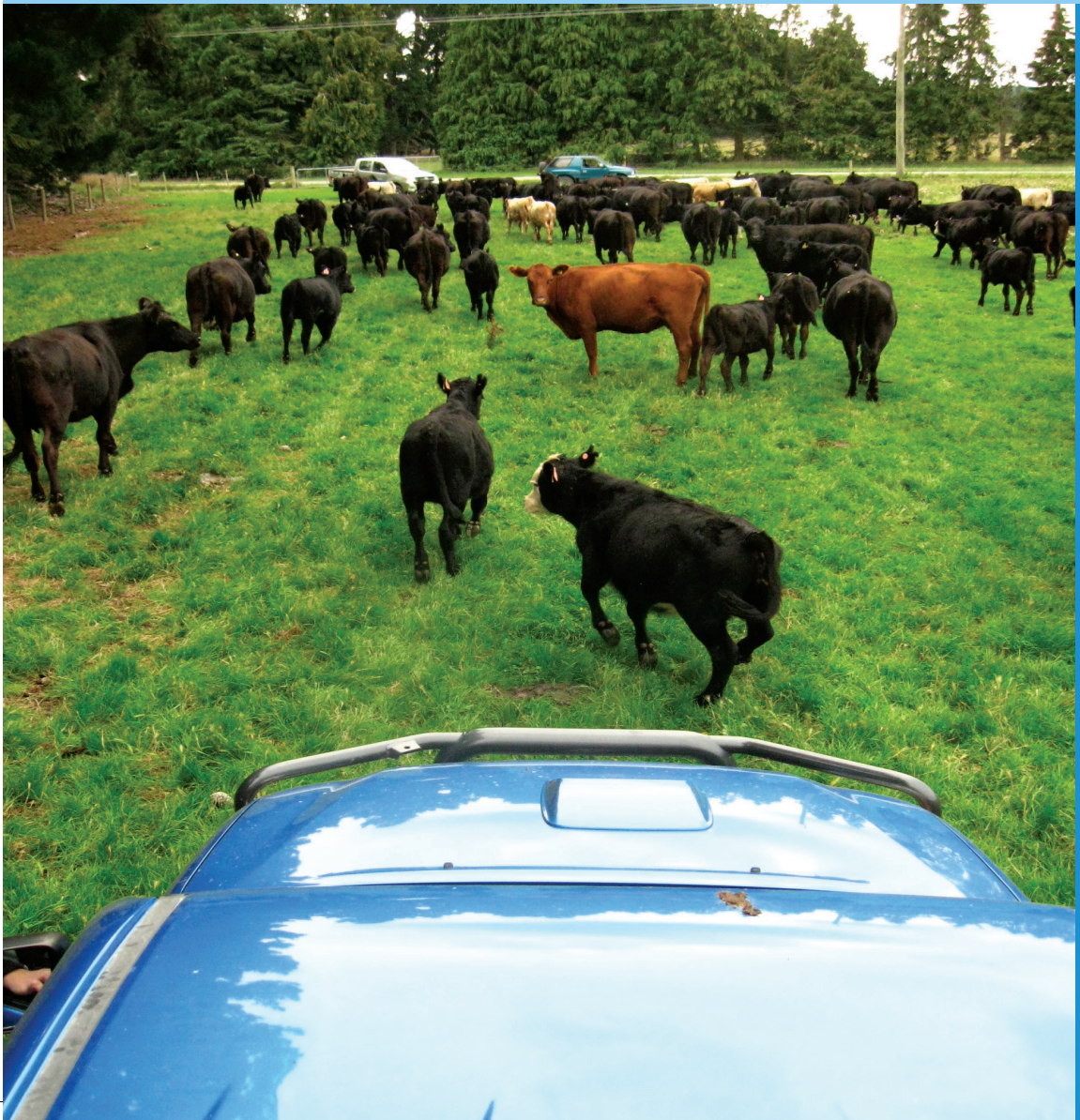
do

- Erect a temporary fence at least one metre back from the edge of the road, so walkers, cyclists and horse riders have room to come off the road when vehicles are approaching.
- Construct a temporary fence with stakes or posts made from only frangible material eg. Plastic or Fiberglass only.
- Install safety reflectors so the fence is visible to approaching traffic.

do not

- Graze stock on the roadside during the hours of darkness.
- Erect a temporary fence on both sides of the road at any one time.
- Leave the fence in place for longer than 30 days in any 3 month period without prior approval from the Council.

Change of circumstances or contact details



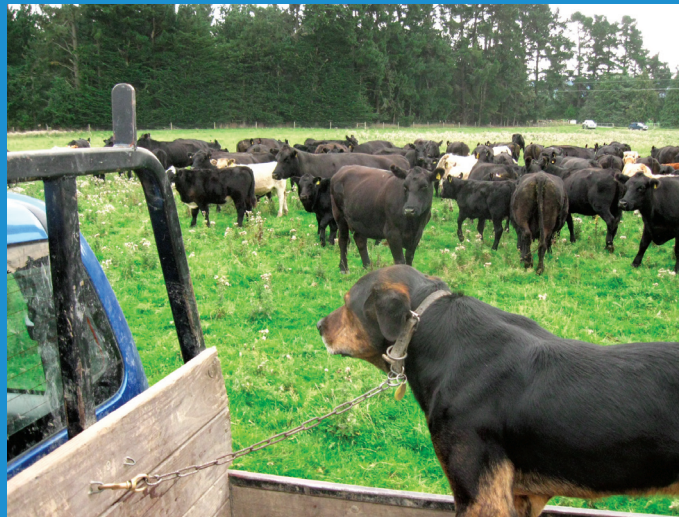
Please inform the Council of any change of information that will result in any change to your existing permit conditions. Changes may include change of ownership, increase in herd size, change of crossing frequency or a change to the Head Drover contact details (which are required in the event of an emergency).

Public concerns with Stock Droving in the District

Public Enquires and Concerns relating to stock droving and dairy crossings are logged on Councils Service Request System.

(Via the Council's phone number (03) 347 2800 or Darfield residents call free on (03) 318 8338).

These calls are logged to enable Council to compile a computerised record of public concerns, to ensure a prompt response and to enable staff to identify and rectify issues. Calls are answered 24 hours a day.



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For further information
www.selwyn.govt.nz