Stock water management
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

beef+lamb new zealand

The following are issues/items you need to consider when investigating/ installing a stock water reticulation system. The items below are not necessarily in sequential order.

- [ ] Identify requirement for water—how much water is required, whereabouts on the farm?
- [ ] Identify a source of water. Will it provide a reliable enough supply over the summer period?
- [ ] Consider the energy source for any pumps. Is the source of water near an electricity line? Will a diesel motor be required? Is solar a possibility?

  Get a farm map and identify:
  - [ ] Source of water
  - [ ] Source of electricity if this is to be the energy source
  - [ ] Storage areas—where is the best place on the farm to pump to, to allow for gravity-feed over the rest of the farm
  - [ ] Identify which areas of the farm need to be reticulated
  - [ ] Identify post-water scheme subdivision.
- [ ] Identify any environmental components with your scheme, ensuring that you have consent to take water (if required) and that environmental opportunities are optimised in your sub-division plan and farm system design (e.g. fencing sensitive areas such as waterways or wetlands).
- [ ] Talk to a stock water engineer/ pipe company—consider the specification requirements for the system; pump requirements, size of storage tanks, pipe density, size/number of troughs and break pressure tanks.
- [ ] Do a financial analysis on the proposed scheme—estimate of costs and benefits. Identify implications for farm system/ change in stock numbers/type.
- [ ] Prepare a loan proposal for your bank.
- [ ] Finalise the design of the system—order the required pipes, troughs, tanks etc. Better to over-spec than under-spec.
- [ ] Organise a contractor to install the system.
- [ ] Install the water system.
- [ ] Check the system is working and check for any leaks.
- [ ] Start on any new fencing subdivision.
- [ ] Destroy previous dams as required.

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Identify requirement for reticulated water

Identify source of water

Consider energy source for pumps

Farm map—identify source, storage, distribution of water & subdivision

Understand environmental implications

Develop specifications of the system

Financial analysis/ bank loan proposal

Order material, organise contractor to install

Install

Initiate fencing subdivision

Test system for leaks/water flow