

# Emergency event guide

This guide outlines the approach the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) will adopt if a leaseholder is required to undertake immediate action without written consent in an emergency event or situation.

## Emergency events

Emergency events are events outside the control of the leaseholder such as an earthquake, fire, flood, or landslide that require urgent action to minimise or avoid any impacts on the land. For example, you may need to clear a new firebreak to prevent the spread of fire in an emergency.

LINZ has not prescribed a list of emergency events. Leaseholders can apply judgement, recognising that emergency events may present in many forms.

## Emergency response

In an emergency event, you can undertake immediate action to minimise or avoid impact on the land without prior written consent from the Commissioner. In an emergency event, we want you to first focus on what matters – the safety of people, animals and property.

If the activity undertaken (in an emergency event) is a discretionary pastoral activity, the leaseholder must notify their LINZ portfolio manager as soon as practicable. LINZ recognises that timeframes will vary depending on the nature of the emergency event.

After an emergency event, you must complete the discretionary activity consent application (and any appropriate activity forms), noting on the application form that the activity was undertaken in response to an emergency event.

LINZ will consider whether the actions were reasonable and necessary. Enforcement action may be taken if the actions taken were unreasonable or not appropriate for the emergency response.

## Helpful information

The following information is likely to be helpful when completing the consent form:

- Photos or a description of the land before the emergency and before the activity

- Photos of the effects of the emergency on the land, or of the damage that was caused (if you can get these safely)
- Photos or a description of the land once you've completed the activity and details about what you did and why.

Emergency related consent applications will be processed with urgency.

Your LINZ portfolio manager is there to help.

This guide will apply from 17 November 2022 and will be reviewed periodically. LINZ will continue to work with leaseholders and other agencies to evaluate the effectiveness of our processes.