

# Which Forestry Guidelines should I use?

With the aim of promoting best practice within the forestry sector, Northland Regional Council recommends the use of two guidelines developed to aid both industry operation and Council monitoring for Northland:

- Forestry Earthworks and Harvesting Guidelines for Northland
- Forest Practice Guides

The 'Forestry Earthworks and Harvesting Guidelines for Northland' were developed by industry alongside Northland Regional Council and were issued in 2016. The 'Forest Practice Guides' were developed by the Forest Owners Association and released in 2018 after the NES – PF came into effect.

Both guides can be used for best practice/operation related matters and for compliance related matters, however there are some minor differences to be aware of to avoid confusion.

## Which guide should I reference in my Management Plans?

Both guides may be used and referenced in Forestry Harvest/Earthworks Management Plans required by the NES – PF. It is best to reference the specific section that is relevant i.e. 'water table drains and cut outs will be used on all tracks in accordance with Forest Practice Guides section 2.1 and 2.2'.

## Which forestry guidelines should I use for Best Practice?

Best practice hasn't changed in the time that the two guides were released, therefore you may find the information in both to be correct and useful. The information is presented a little differently and you may find one to be more useful than the other depending on the questions being asked.

## Which forestry guidelines should I use for Compliance?

It is important to note that the 'Forestry Earthworks and Harvesting Guidelines for Northland' were developed before the NES – PF came into effect; therefore, the policy and compliance guidance is out-of-date. There are resource consent flow charts and definitions in the appendices that relate to Regional Rules which should no longer be used.

If you are seeking advice for compliance matters, use the 'Forest Practice Guides' as the NES – PF is referred to throughout.