

Ruapehu District Council
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu



Stock Movement on Roads Bylaw 2026

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revisions made	Authorised
24 June 2026	Stock Movement Bylaw 2026 adopted	Resolution of Council

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PART ONE - INTRODUCTION

1. TITLE

- 1.1 The title of this bylaw is *The Ruapehu District Council Stock Movement on Roads Bylaw 2026 (the Bylaw)*.

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of this bylaw is to regulate the movement of Stock on Roads in the Ruapehu District, in order to protect traffic safety and minimise damage to Roads and Road assets.
- 2.2 This Bylaw will be administered by Council in accordance with its *Use of Council Roads and Road Reserve Policy* which sets out further information on how Council manages the use of its Roads and Road Reserve.

3. AUTHORITY TO MAKE THIS BYLAW

- 3.1 This Bylaw is made under section 22AB of the *Land Transport Act 1998*.

4. COMMENCEMENT

- 4.1 This bylaw comes into force on 25 June 2026.

5. DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 In this Bylaw:

CARRIAGEWAY	means the part of a Road intended for movement of Vehicles. It does not include the Road Verge or footpath but does include a Vehicle crossing.
COUNCIL	means the Ruapehu District Council, or any person with delegated authority and authorised to act on its behalf.
DROVER	means a person who is in charge of, and actively driving or managing, Stock along a Road, whether on foot, horseback, or using a Vehicle, and includes any person assisting with such Movement.
GRAZING	To allow stock to feed on herbage.
HOURS OF DARKNESS	has the same meaning as in clause 1.6 of the <i>Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004</i> .
MAINTAINED ROAD	means any Road for which Council currently funds the improvement or renewal.
MOB	means a group of Stock (more than one) being Moved from one place to another.

MOVE, MOVEMENT	means to drive or lead Stock along a Road under their own Movement and under human control, whether on foot, horseback or by use of a vehicle, for the purpose of relocating them from one location to another. It excludes the transport of Stock by Vehicle or the incidental crossing of a Road between adjacent paddocks.
OWNER	means, in relation to Stock, includes the person for the time being having the care, custody, or control of the Stock.
ROAD	has the meaning provided in section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> . For the avoidance of doubt, Road includes unformed legal roads, sometimes referred to as paper roads, that are legally vested in, or under the care, control, or management of the Council, whether or not they are formed or maintained.
ROAD RESERVE	means land that has been legally designated for Road purposes, including formed and unformed portions, and typically includes the full Road corridor from boundary to boundary—even if only a portion is physically used as a Road.
ROAD VERGE	means any margin of a Road adjacent to, but not forming part of, the Carriageway or footpath (if any).
STOCK	means animal which may be farmed for the production of meat, milk, fibre or hides, extends to include a horse, donkey or mule and, for the avoidance of doubt, includes any animal kept as a pet
STOCK CROSSING	means the part of any Road and associated drainage system used for the purpose of moving Stock from property on one side of the road to property on the other. This definition excludes stock underpasses which are managed by the District Plan, and also excludes incidental crossing of a Road between adjacent paddocks.
VEHICLE	has the same meaning as in section 2(1) the Land Transport Act 1998.

- 5.2 Any undefined words, phrases, or expressions used in this Bylaw have the same meaning as in the Land Transport Act 1998 unless the context plainly requires a different meaning.

6. RESOLUTIONS MADE UNDER THIS BYLAW

- 6.1 Council may, by resolution, impose prohibitions, restrictions, or controls under this Bylaw, including (without limitation) Stock Movement or Grazing restrictions; or
- 6.2 Council may amend or revoke any resolution made under this Bylaw, in whole or in part, at any time by further resolution.

- 6.3 Every resolution made under this Bylaw will be recorded in the Ruapehu District Council Stock Movement on Roads Bylaw Resolutions Register, which is available for public inspection at Council offices and on Council's website.
- 6.4 A breach of any resolution made under this Bylaw is a breach of the Bylaw.

PART TWO – STOCK MOVEMENT AND GRAZING IN THE ROAD RESERVE

7. STOCK MOVEMENT

- 7.1 A person must not Move Stock along any Maintained Road:
- (a) during the Hours of Darkness,
 - (b) at any time when weather or other conditions restrict visibility to such an extent that a person or Vehicle is not clearly visible at a distance of at least 170 metres,
 - (c) within an urban area as identified by resolution of Council.
- 7.2 Clause 7.1 does not apply in an emergency, including an accident, natural hazard, or similar urgent situation, or when Stock have accidentally escaped onto the Road.
- 7.3 Council may, by resolution, close the Road for the droving of Stock where it considers this may constitute danger/damage.
- 7.4 A person in charge of Stock Movement on Council Roads must ensure that the following conditions are met:
- (a) Where there are two or more Drovers, one must be in front and one must be behind the Mob at all times, for the purpose of alerting traffic and controlling Stock.
 - (b) Each Drover must wear a brightly coloured reflective jacket, vest, or similar for visibility.
 - (c) The Stock must be kept under control at all times and driven in such a manner as to minimise potential danger and inconvenience to other Road users.
 - (d) The Drover(s) must keep the animals moving along the Road to make progress towards the destination at an average speed that is appropriate for the type and condition of the animals.
 - (e) The Road must be kept clear of debris and other matter that may cause danger or inconvenience to other Road users.
 - (f) Drovers must facilitate the passing of Vehicles through a Mob where and when the drover deems appropriate.
 - (g) Crossing of Stock from one side of the Maintained Road to the other is to be completed by droving the herd with a minimum of delay and inconvenience to other Road users.
- 7.5 As near as possible, signs/warning signals should be located as per the following table to warn other road users with time to respond:

Traffic Speed	50 km/h	70 km/h	80 km/h	100 km/h
Distance of sign prior to the stock crossing	65 metres	100 metres	140 metres	170 metres
Approaching drivers uninterrupted viewing distance of the sign	60 metres	80 metres	100 metres	120 metres

7.6 The following conditions must be met for all Stock Crossings:

- a) Only one Stock Crossing is permitted per property.
- b) The exit and entry points of any Stock Crossings are to be installed directly opposite one another in the road, and fences are to be fitted with gates.
- c) Stock Crossings must be positioned with a minimum of 170 metres clear visibility in both directions and no closer than 60 metres to an intersection. If no practical Stock Crossing location can be found that satisfies this criteria, then appropriate signage must be positioned to ensure that road users are aware of Stock Crossing.

8. TEMPORARY SIGNAGE MUST BE DISPLAYED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW ZEALAND GUIDE TO TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT (NZGTTM)

- 8.1 The tethering of Stock is permitted on the Road Verge directly adjacent to the Owner's property provided that Stock are unable to stray within 2.0 metres of the carriageway.
- 8.2 Grazing the Maintained Road Verge is permitted subject to the requirements outlined below.
 - (a) For reasons of Road safety and traffic volumes, grazing is not permitted on state highways, or on arterial or collector Roads.
 - (b) Stock and horses must be constrained by a secure fence, temporary fence or tethered so that they cannot get closer than:
 - i. 2 metres to the edge of the carriageway, or
 - ii. 0.5 metres from the edge of the water table, or
 - iii. a distance equal to the height of any cut batter back from the top of that batter
 - (c) Grazing is not permitted on both sides of the Road at the same time.
 - (d) Stock must not be grazed on the Maintained Road margin during the Hours of Darkness.
 - (e) Horses and cattle must not be tethered on the Maintained Road margin during the Hours of Darkness.

- (f) Pigs must not be grazed or tethered on the Maintained Road margin at any time.
 - (g) Only temporary Stock-proof electric fences are permitted.
 - (h) All temporary fences must be erected in compliance with the requirements of the Electricity Act 1992 and subsequent Electricity Regulations. Fences must be clearly labelled to notify the public that the fence is live.
 - (i) Temporary fences must remain in position while the Maintained Road margin is being grazed and must be completely removed within one week of use.
- 8.3 A person grazing Stock on a Road Verge must take all reasonable steps to prevent damage to the Road Verge, drainage channels, or other Council assets within the Road Reserve.

9. GENERAL

- 9.1 A person in charge of Stock grazing or Stock Movement must ensure that:
- (a) damage within the Road Reserve resulting from the presence of Stock must be remedied.
 - (b) there is no build-up of mud or faecal matter on the carriageway over time.

PART THREE - ADMINISTRATION

10. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- 10.1 Every person who breaches this bylaw (including any control, restriction, limitation, or prohibition made under this bylaw) commits an offence under the *Land Transport Act 1998* and is liable to the penalties set out in the *Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999*, or any replacement regulations.