

National Environmental Standards

National Environmental Standards are prepared by central government and can prescribe technical standards, methods (including rules) and/or other requirements for environmental matters throughout the whole country or specific areas. If an activity doesn't comply with a National Environmental Standard, it is likely to require a resource consent. National Environmental Standards must be observed and enforced by local authorities.

The following National Environmental Standards are currently in force:

- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Regulations 2017
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Regulations 2008
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities) Regulations 2009
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Sources of Human Drinking Water) Regulations 2007
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004 (amended 2011)
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Regulations 2020