



I'm a marine farmer – what do I need to know about the Fish Farmer Register?

This factsheet provides information on your obligations as a marine farmer to register and maintain up to date details on the Fish Farmer Register.

Background

Fisheries New Zealand and other parts of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) use the Fish Farmer Register to identify marine farms operating in New Zealand. MPI needs to be able to identify farms for a number of reasons, including managing biosecurity risks to marine aquaculture. The register is managed by FishServe on behalf of Fisheries New Zealand.

Do I need to register?

If you are a marine farmer you must be registered on the Fish Farmer Register for all sites you are farming. If you are the resource consent holder of a site but are not farming it because you have leased it out, it is the parties leasing the site who must be registered.

All parties farming independently on a marine farm must maintain a separate registration for their activities on that farm. For example, if the marine farm is run as two distinct operations, both farmers must include the farm on their fish farmer registration.

If multiple parties are jointly farming on a marine farm, it is that joint entity that is the fish farmer and must include the farm on its fish farmer registration.

When must I register?

New Marine Farmer

If you are a new marine farmer, you must register on the Fish Farmer Register before you commence farming.

Existing Marine Farmer

If you are an existing marine farmer you must update your registration when you:

- are establishing a new marine farm;
- are leasing a marine farm, or part of a marine farm, from another marine farmer;
- change the species that the resource consent allows you to farm on the site;
- renew the resource consent for a marine farm;
- are no longer farming all or part of a site; or
- receive your annual update request from FishServe. (Note: if you are not receiving an update request, please contact FishServe and update your client information).

How to register or vary my registration

To register or vary your registration you can download the Application for Registration of a Fish Farmer form from the FishServe website (www.fishserve.co.nz).

With your application you'll also need to supply:

- a copy of the resource consent; or
- if the consent is not in your name, proof that you have permission from the consent holder.

Send the completed documents to FishServe:

FishServe
PO Box 297
Wellington 6140.

If you are not a client of Fisheries New Zealand, you must first register as a client with FishServe. You can do this by downloading the Application for Client Registration from the FishServe website.

What do I have to pay?

There is no cost for an application to register or vary a Fish Farmer Registration.

All fish farmers on the Fish Farmer Register are charged an annual levy for each site they are farming, which covers maintenance of the Fish Farmer Register by FishServe. For example, the levy for the 2017/18 fishing year is \$99.38 per site.

Further information

For more information on the Fish Farmer Register contact FishServe (www.fishserve.co.nz or 04 460 9555).

For more information on marine farming in New Zealand, see the Aquaculture pages on the Fisheries New Zealand website (www.fisheries.govt.nz).

Disclaimer

This document is intended to give general guidance on aspects of Fish Farmer Register. It is not legal advice. For legal advice on any aspect of fisheries or aquaculture legislation you should consult your lawyer.

The general disclaimer on the MPI website (www.mpi.govt.nz/disclaimer) also applies to this document and should be read in conjunction with it.